OSHA’s Safety and Health Program Management Guidelines are a voluntary management system designed to help employers prevent occupational injuries and illnesses. The program contains the following major elements:

- Hazard Anticipation & Detection
- Hazard Prevention & Control
- Planning & Evaluation
- Administration & Supervision
- Safety & Health Training
- Management Leadership
- Employee Participation

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What is SHARP?

SHARP is a federal recognition and exemption program that rewards employers with fixed worksites who have exemplary safety and health management systems and safe workplaces. It honors companies that exhibit excellence through the implementation of outstanding safety and health programs.

Who is eligible?

Employers who meet the following criteria can apply for SHARP status:

- Be in an industry that OSHA considers a high-hazard industry.
- Have at least one year of operating history.
- Have a single, fixed worksite.
- Employ not more than 250 employees at the site and not more than 500 at all sites, corporation-wide in the U.S. (in most cases).
- Have Lost Workday Injury and Illness Incidence (DART) and Total Recordable Case (TRC) Rates below the industry average.

What do companies have to do?

- Request a full service, comprehensive safety and health visit and correct all the hazards found.
- Have implemented and maintain a safety and health management system. The system must address at least the major elements of OSHA’s Safety and Health Program Management Guidelines.
- Score at least a 2 on all of the basic attributes of the Safety and Health Program Assessment Worksheet.
- Agree to notify the Arkansas Department of Labor and Licensing prior to making any changes in working conditions or work processes that might introduce new hazards into the workplace.
- Agree to have a comprehensive survey of safety and health hazards.
- Agree to correct all hazards identified in the consultation visits.
- Agree to implement all the elements of a safety and health program.

For more information:

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Why should companies want to be SHARP?

Employers who meet all of the eligibility and ongoing program requirements will be removed from OSHA’s Programmed Inspection Schedule - one year of exemption for the first year of meeting SHARP requirements, and two years of exemption for the second.