



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20314-1000

REPLY TO  
ATTENTION OF:

CESO-ZA (385)

24 October 1997

MEMORANDUM FOR USACE COMMANDERS

SUBJECT: USACE Safety Structure

1. Army Regulation 385-10, The Army Safety Program.
2. The well being of the workforce is a primary responsibility of command. Safety is one responsibility you and I cannot delegate. As commanders, we are leaders who are accountable for the safety and health of the workforce. As the Safety Officer for USACE, I look to you to lead my safety effort.
3. One of the keystones of the Army Safety Program is placing the functional safety manager in a position on the commander's special staff ensuring direct access to the commander. I fully endorse this tenet. Historically, in subordinate USACE commands the safety manager has reported to the commander, typically through the deputy commander. As we restructure, this requirement continues. Each USACE command must have a full-time, qualified safety manager or safety engineer on special staff. A co-located district may employ services of a division safety manager or safety engineer. Ensure that your safety manager/engineer reports to you, the deputy commander, or chief of staff. In the case of laboratories the safety manager will report to the commander. This ensures the safety manager the freedom of action necessary for independent, unbiased, and responsive advice and assistance to the commander and staff. I want each of you to ensure your safety staff is not layered or buried at an organizational level where it loses direct access to and influence with you.
4. The Army Corps of Engineers enjoys an enviable safety and occupational health record. We are among the top organizations within all Federal agencies in providing for the safety of our employees, contractors, and members of the public visiting recreational projects. As our mission evolves over the next few years, a priority is to retain our excellent safety performance.

  
JOE N. BALLARD  
Lieutenant General, USA  
Commanding

CF:  
Directors and Office Chiefs, HQUSACE