

POWER GENERATION VPP WORKGROUP

Using Others in Your Industry
to Establish Best Practices

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Presenter

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What and Who We Are

Power Generation VPP is comprised of participants from power generation sites and companies across the nation.

The group's common thread is continuous improvement in safety through participating in VPP or pursuing VPP status.



A Need Identified



Invaluable topics are presented at conferences but frequently focus from a high level or are applicable to specific sized worksites. The power generation industry is comprised of smaller individual sites.

Power generation (and many other industries) face challenges and opportunities that are unique but common throughout the industry.

We envisioned a forum where we could discuss our industry's particular challenges, opportunities and best practices.





From the Ground Up

The conversation started at a National VPPA Conference in 2018 after a presentation...

- Agreed on the concept
- Clear benefits to an industry specific workgroup
- Suspected that there was would be strong interest
- Waited a year



The Kickoff



After a year of waiting and thinking, we decided there was no better time (December of 2019) than the present to dive in headfirst!

In February of 2020 the first virtual meeting was held with approximately 25 individuals representing 7 companies.





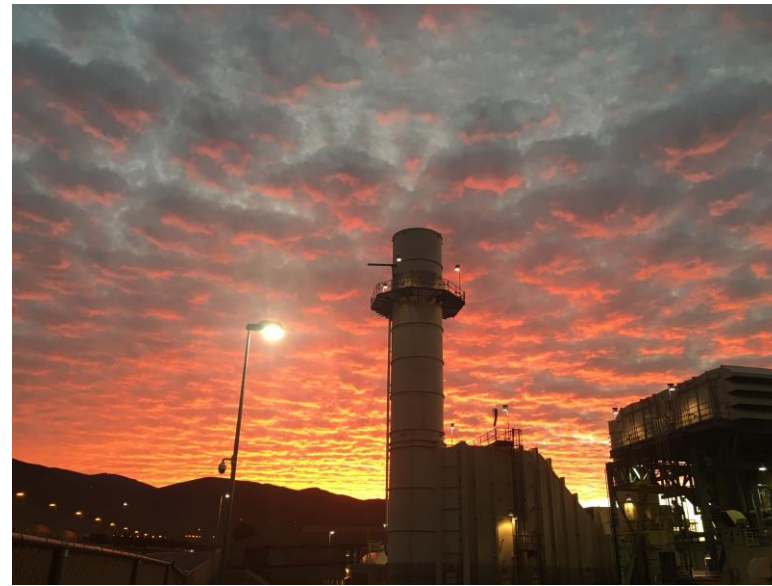
Milestones

Created a mission statement and objectives:

- Promote workplace safety excellence and OSHA's Voluntary Protection Program (VPP) participation within the power generation industry by sharing ideas, networking, and solving site and industry wide safety and health concerns.
- We will achieve this by:
 - Leverage the collective knowledge, experience and innovation in our industry
 - Create a network of power generation professionals who share a passion for safety and strive for continuous improvement
 - Cultivate relationships between our organizations and state/federal safety and health agencies



Milestones



Included OSHA in the group and they shared it across the country.

Launched a user forum and a website <https://powergenerationvpp.com/>

Meetings grew to include representation from 15 companies and numerous federal and state OSHA VPP Managers

Quarterly newsletter developed and published



Meeting Structure



At WIN Waste Innovations, nothing we do is more important than SAFETY.

Protecting the health and safety of our employees and the communities we serve is a value we will not compromise. We are proud to be part of VPPPA, working collectively to enhance and strengthen workplace safety in the U.S.



Nuts and Bolts

Set Meeting time and Schedule at least 1 month in advance.

Leveraged the power of Zoom to connect participants.

Meeting length of 1 hour but moved to 1.5 hours.

Developed and distributed an agenda several days prior to meeting.



Meeting Format

Roll Call via chat function.

Safety moment – A 3 to 5- minute safety related topic from a participant.

Special announcements, VPP updates, new or recertified VPP sites, etc.





Meeting Format

- VPP element
 - Main topic for meeting
 - Presenters volunteer with a topic in mind.
 - 30 – 40 minutes long
 - Presenting a VPP related topic counts toward SGE credit
- Open Discussion and Closing



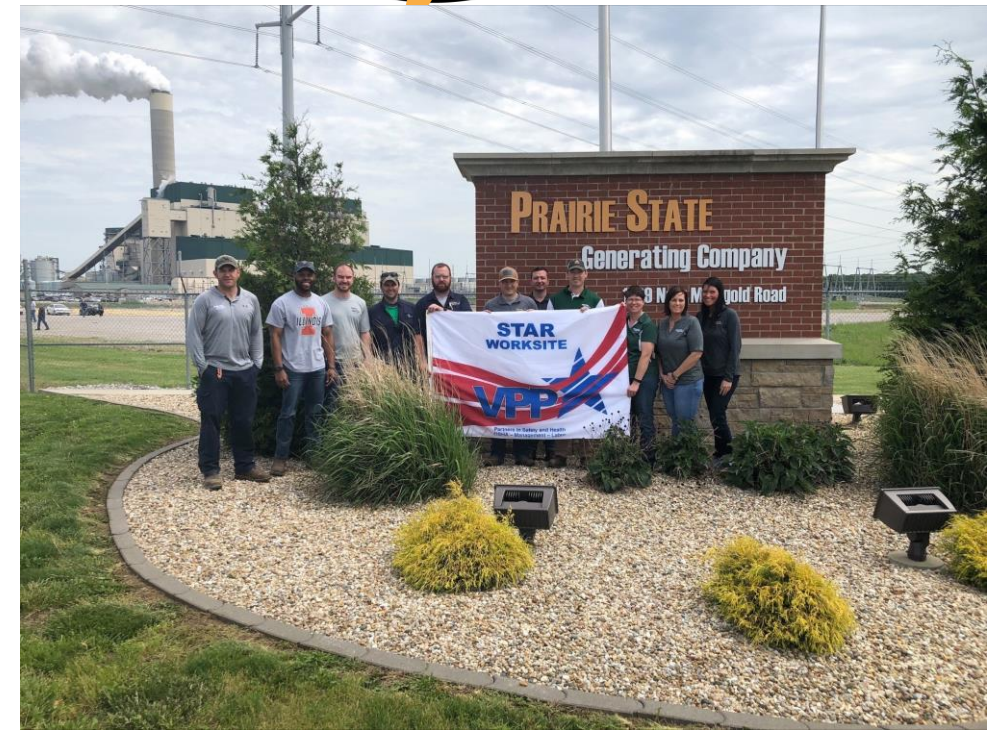
Challenges

- Getting volunteers to participate.
- Inviting sites from other companies.
- Avoiding the appearance of one or two companies running it all.
- Spreading yourself too thin.



Starting Your Industry Group

- Network at conferences and trade events!
- Expect lots of work initially until participants realize the value and get engaged.
- Identify your core group—manufacturing, construction, oil/gas, health care, etc.
- Don't limit the group to companies only in VPP.



Industry Group development

- Determine what do you want to achieve in your meetings.
- Create a sample agenda with the initial team.
- Identify who is going to do what.
- Don't try to get too fancy too fast.



Create a Game Plan

- Identify what you want to accomplish
 - Identify the purpose of the group
 - Fill a need
 - General Safety or VPP Focused
- Identify who will complete administrative tasks
 - Note taking
 - Facilitators
 - Meeting minutes
 - Mailing lists



Getting the Word Out

- Promote your group within VPPPA and OSHA.
- Leverage your networking and industry events
- Word-of-mouth works!
- Support people from other industries sitting in on your meetings.



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