

News Release



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ABC Virginia Members Earn National Safety Excellence Award at ABC Convention

Dulles, VA, March 11 – ABC Virginia Chapter today announced that three members, ColonialWebb Contractors, Forrester Construction and Ocean Construction Services Inc. were presented with the National Safety Excellence Award during Associated Builders and Contractors' (ABC) 31st annual Excellence in Construction® Awards celebration at ABC Convention 2021 in Grapevine, Texas.



Figure 1 – Anthony R. Gower, Sr., President, Ocean Construction Services Inc.

The 2020 National Safety Excellence Award winners were selected from ABC member firms that achieved Diamond, Platinum and Gold status in ABC's STEP Safety Management System in 2020. During the selection process, contractors were judged on self-evaluation scores, lost workday case rates, total recordable incident rates, leading indicator use, process and program innovations and video interviews conducted by members of ABC's National Health and Safety Committee.

STEP is the standard for developing world-class safety management systems in construction. STEP is designed to help both large and small contractors evaluate every aspect of their corporate safety and health programs and identify opportunities for improvement. According to ABC's annual Safety Performance Report, the average STEP Diamond company is more than six times safer than the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics' average for the entire industry based on their total recordable incident rate.

See a [complete list of winners](#) on ABC's website.

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About Associated Builders and Contractors: The Virginia Chapter of ABC represents the interests of nearly 700 contractors, specialty contractors, and suppliers throughout the Commonwealth of Virginia that supports and believes in the principles of merit shop construction and open competition. Merit Shop is a way of doing business in which companies' reward employees based on performance and encourage them to reach their highest level of achievement, and in which contracts are awarded based on safety, quality, and value, regardless of labor affiliation. An open marketplace creates efficient, cost-competitive projects, safe work sites, comparable wages and workforce training. For more information, visit our website at www.abcva.org. Follow us on Twitter [@ABCVA](https://twitter.com/ABCVA).