

Black & Veatch recognised for innovation in health and safety

Behavioural safety scheme wins Chris Jopling Award for Risk Management Innovation

London, UK (January 2010) –The effectiveness of Black & Veatch’s approach to health and safety has been recognised with an award from one of the construction industry’s leading insurance underwriters.

Black & Veatch received the Chris Jopling Award for Innovation in Risk Management from Mitsui Sumitomo Insurance Underwriting at Lloyd’s Ltd (MSIUL) for its Behaviour on Safe Sites (BOSS) for Designers safety and health programme.



Photograph: Ruth Powell, Safety & Health Manager Black & Veatch Water Europe receiving the Chris Jopling Award

The award is in memory of Chris Jopling, a key member of MSIUL’s Risk Engineering Team, who died suddenly in 2008. It recognizes and rewards initiatives that show a unique and distinctive approach to controlling risks, together with evidence of their actual or expected outcomes.

Speaking on behalf of MSIUL, Andrew McKee, Chief Executive Officer commented: “Chris was a valued and respected member of our Risk Engineering team and was instrumental in developing our market-leading casualty and construction risk management propositions. We are very pleased to present the inaugural award in his memory to Black & Veatch for their innovative approach to behavioural safety and its application to their design team. Mitsui Sumitomo Insurance Underwriting at Lloyd’s firmly believes in rewarding clients with a positive attitude to risk management and an appetite for working with us to control risks and prevent losses.”

The award recognises Black & Veatch’s continued commitment toward improving safety for those working on its projects. In particular, it recognises the company’s efforts to drive forward a behavioural safety scheme that reduces risk-taking behaviours and empowers its workforce to adopt zero tolerance of anything that may create an unsafe situation in every area of the business. The MSIUL Judging Panel was particularly impressed with the ambitious approach which has resulted in this initiative being applied to the Black & Veatch design teams.

Since the launch of BOSS in 2008, Black & Veatch has continued its drive to improve safety by extending the scheme to include designers as well as site staff. The award citation stated, “Black & Veatch is innovatively extending its successful BOSS programme into its design teams with obvious ‘buy in’ from those teams. This has resulted in a BOSS scorecard specifically developed for design activities with the aim of directly influencing and enhancing standards on site through the design process.”

Black & Veatch’s ability to offer clients an extensive integrated design and construction capability has a positive influence on health and safety performance according to Tony Collins, Black & Veatch Water Europe’s Director of Health & Safety and Environment.

“The way we approach this vital area is common throughout our global business,” Collins said. “As a result, all of our clients receive the same dedication to health and safety that has been so generously recognised by MSIUL and our clients within the water industry.”

In addition to receiving an award trophy, Black & Veatch was presented with a £2,500 award prize to put towards its health and safety projects at a recent ceremony hosted by MSIUL in Birmingham.

Prior to receiving this recognition from risk management experts MSIUL, Black & Veatch’s BOSS programme received awards from clients within the water industry including Best Innovative Idea from Dwr Cymru Welsh Water, and Excellence in Health & Safety award from Scottish Water.

About Mitsui Sumitomo Insurance Underwriting at Lloyd’s Ltd

In the UK, MSIUL, which is part of the Mitsui Sumitomo Insurance Group, has established an outstanding reputation for a uniquely innovative approach to underwriting, risk engineering and claims management. The approach is designed to mitigate exposure, reduce losses and save costs. MSIUL works closely with expert, specialist and experienced consultants. Through secure website portals, our clients have access to a whole range of risk management information and data on many issues relating to potential risks and exposures.

About Black & Veatch

Black & Veatch is a leading global engineering, consulting and construction company specializing in infrastructure development in energy, water, telecommunications, management consulting, federal and environmental markets. Founded in 1915, Black & Veatch develops tailored infrastructure solutions that meet clients’ needs and provide sustainable benefits. Solutions are provided from the broad line of service expertise available within Black & Veatch, including conceptual and preliminary engineering services, engineering design, procurement, construction, financial management, asset management, program management, construction management, environmental, security design and consulting, management consulting and infrastructure planning. With \$3.2 billion in revenue, the employee-owned company has more than 100 offices worldwide and has completed projects in more than 100 countries on six continents.