

For Immediate Release:

November 17, 2005

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As everyone in the construction industry knows, safety is no accident. Recently, Liberty Mutual Insurance Company awarded The Gallegos Corporation its highest commendation, The Gold Award, for its safe job sites. As a matter of fact, over the past year, The Gallegos Corporation's safety record beats the national average by 80 percent (from the Bureau of Labor Statistics, Department of Labor). With a peak workforce of more than 500 tradesmen, the company has lost only three work days due to injuries or accidents from September 2004 to September 2005.

"It's hard to beat the national average, especially when you take into account the various trades of work The Gallegos Corporation does," says Chris Volz, technical consultant for the loss prevention department at Liberty Mutual. "It's a tremendous accomplishment. The last time we gave out this award was three years ago."

The Gallegos Corporation takes the safety and health of its employees very seriously, says Mike Haller, the company's Safety Director. The Gallegos Corporation has done a lot over the past six years to increase safety on their job sites including employee safety training programs, controlling material handling, a safety incentive/recognition program, random safety audits and a zero-industry culture. Each one of the 450 field employees is essential to an effective safety program.

"I am really proud of our crews for not only logging a million man hours over the last year, but taking on projects in areas where we have never worked, and for doing all this with very few accidents, and no major injuries," says Gerald Gallegos, CEO and founder of The Gallegos Corporation.

Volz had statistics on TGC's overall performance which show lost time claim frequency has decreased by 50 percent, loss rate of payroll has decreased by 54 percent, disability day rate has decreased by 79 percent and claim frequency has decreased by 29 percent. All this means that more hours are spent on the job, getting it done right the first time.

The Gallegos Corporation was founded in 1970 by Gerald G. Gallegos as a specialty stone masonry company. In 1980, The Gallegos Corporation was integral in building the Village of Beaver Creek. Since that time, TGC has expanded trades and now also specializes in distinctive residential and commercial projects including quality plaster/stucco, concrete, marble/granite work and stone sales.

The Gallegos Corporation is headquartered in Vail, Colorado and has offices in Denver, Telluride and Aspen; Sun Valley, Idaho, as well Lake Tahoe, California and Bozeman, Montana.

