

Workers' Compensation Excellence Since 1987



AFFILIATED WITH NEW MEXICO HOME BUILDERS ASSOCIATION

BLUEPRINTS

Your Newsletter for Quality Worker's Compensation Information

Second Quarter Edition 2021

REGISTER FOR IBS - A TRULY FANTASTIC OPPORTUNITY

Builders Trust is again offering to send one member from each local HBA in New Mexico to the International Builders' Show (IBS.) For over a decade, BT has offered this exciting opportunity for Builders Trust Participants who have never attended the National Home Builders Association's International Builders Show. If you have never been – **You May Qualify!**

HOW TO REGISTER: The registration form is included in this edition of Blueprints. Please read the document carefully and simply follow the directions if you wish to qualify for IBS 2022.

As our guest, and a registered attendee of the IBS, you will have full access to the show! This mega-event is estimated to host over 50,000 attendees mingling among over 4,500 exhibitors. **Yes - This is Huge!**

Builders Trust Participants who have never attended IBS should seriously consider this incredible opportunity. Every year the contest winners come back to New Mexico raving about the experience. Builders Trust Participants who have attended IBS in past years have always come back re-energized and excited about new building trends and techniques, new building materials, tools, and equipment and so much more! IBS keeps contractors from across the U.S. and from around the world coming back year after year for incredible networking opportunities and access to over one hundred educational sessions conducted by renowned industry experts.

The 2022 International Builders Show will take place in Orlando, Florida and will run from February Eighth through February Tenth (8th-10th) and exhibitor space will cover over four football fields, so pack some comfortable shoes. Past Participant winners have reported that they never realized how much they would get out of the experience, and they definitely recommend spending the full three days at IBS.

One winner from each Local HBA will be chosen in September. Your registration form is in this issue of our quarterly Blueprints newsletter. Eligible Participants should complete the form and promptly submit it per registration form guidelines. **But wait – there's more!** If your name is drawn and you attend the IBS, Builders Trust will reimburse you up to \$1,100 toward your airfare, conference registration, and hotel expenses. Winners must agree to take photos and report back to their Local HBA, Builders Trust and New Mexico Home Builders Association, about their International Builders Show experience. Winners will be listed in the October issue of the NMHBA *Housing Journal* and Builders Trust Blueprints newsletter.

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Our Goal Should Be Your Goal - Everyone Goes Home Safely Each Day

The Little Known Story of the BT Claims Department

At Builders Trust, our entire claims department staff is located right here in New Mexico, at our Albuquerque office. However, that has not always been the case. From Builders Trust's inception in 1986, through 2003, injury claims were outsourced to a third-party administrator. It is hard to imagine that for 16 years Builders Trust farmed out our claims management operations to a third-party administrator.

However, at the time it made perfect sense, as no one at Builders Trust had an adjuster license, much less any experience handling workplace injuries.

In 2001 the Builders Trust Board of Trustees, along with management, began discussions about creating our own claims department, wherein claims from our Participants would be handled by Builders Trust employees, thus completely departing from the third-party administration model.

A business plan was created and throughout 2002 and 2003 plans were shaping up in every facet of the project. We evaluated several software systems and we ultimately selected Tropics (now Insurity), as their policy system had served Builders Trust very well for several years.

We needed space, and we got lucky when the Central New Mexico Home Builders Association moved out of our current building, providing the perfect space to locate our new claims department.

We got lucky again when it came to hiring staff. A national claims third party administrator announced they were closing their New Mexico office. It was fortuitous that we were able to hire and fill several positions with experienced employees. We were able to bring them on board two to three months prior to our go live date, to allow time for training on our new software system.

As a bonus, the organization that closed their New Mexico office did not want their local staff to send office supplies back to their headquarters, so we saved quite a bit of money when our new employees came with boxes of basic office supplies.

Builders Trust took all claims operations in house January 1, 2004

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Keep your employees
safe. Beat the Heat with
rest, shade, water and
electrolytes.

A Tool to Document and Manage Injuries

For many years Builders Trust has encouraged our Participants to use the INI form daily, or at minimum weekly. INI is an abbreviation for “Injured / Not Injured”

As a supervisor or person in charge on a construction site, your tools may look different than those of your front-line workers. The Builders Trust **INI** form is a perfect example of such a tool. Each day on the job site, one of your most important tools is a simple piece of paper: the easy-to-fill-out INI form.

All it takes is a clipboard and a pen. Each employee, at the end of each shift, simply signs off that he/she was injured, or not injured, that day. It is so easy and so fast that there is no reason not to use this form.

Most businesses, at some point, have had this situation: an employee arrives at work and wants to report that he/she was injured on the jobsite the day prior. The supervisor begins to investigate, but no one on the site remembers seeing or hearing about any injuries the day before. You would like to investigate further, but you don't have much to go on. The **INI** form would have been handy in this situation.

Another benefit of the using the **INI** form is the person in charge can rest easy that the crew had a good day of injury free work, or, if someone was hurt, the injury can be addressed, investigated, and documented before everyone leaves the jobsite. As the person in charge, you leave the jobsite knowing the injury status, injured or not injured, of every employee on the site. Now that is piece of mind!



If you would like to talk to someone at Builders Trust about use of the INI form, or any safety issues, please contact our Field Safety Services Department.

505-345-3477 or Toll Free at 1-800 640 3369

Past IBS Attendees Comment on This Amazing Event

- **Every contractor should go to the International Builders Show at least once**
- **I spent three days checking out all the booths and displays and talking to supply representatives**
- **The IBS allowed us to gather a lot of information in a short amount of time**
- **It was an awesome experience to see all the displays, innovations, and networking**
- **The main thing that struck us is that there are continual advancements being made in Builders Products**
- **If your name is not drawn, you should still make plans to attend the show**

PLEASE ENJOY THIS COMPLIMENTARY ISSUE OF BT BLUEPRINTS

To find out how you can join Builders Trust of New Mexico AND receive the best value in workers' compensation coverage for New Mexico Home Builders Association members, please contact us at
PH: 505-345-3477 or 1-800-640-3369 or www.builderstrust.com

Have A Plan To Beat The Heat

According to OSHA, millions of workers across the U.S. are exposed to heat in their workplaces, and thousands succumb to some form of heat illness each year. Unfortunately, heat related illnesses can result in death. Recent numbers show that from 2004 to 2018 an average of 702 employees in each of these years died due to heat related exposure.

When working in high heat it is important that your employees take the time to get acclimated to the heat. This means gradually working in high heat conditions, allowing your body to tolerate high temperatures.

Always remember the three keys to battle heat: >>> Water >>> Rest >>> Shade

As a business owner you are responsible for providing a workplace free of known safety hazards which, of course, includes protecting workers from extreme heat. An employer with workers exposed to excessive high temperatures and/or humidity, could find themselves in hot water, so to speak.

- > In addition to water, provide workers with drinks high in electrolytes (sports drinks)
- Allow new or returning workers to gradually increase workloads and take more
- > frequent breaks as they become acclimated to high temperatures and build a tolerance for working in the heat
- > Provide training for your workers on Heat Illness Prevention, and how to recognize and respond to someone who may be having a heat related episode
- > Plan and train for emergencies
- > Monitor workers for signs of illness