



CONNECT 2015

ISN's biennial conference, **ISN CONNECT**, was held on April 9-10, 2015 in Grapevine, Texas. ISN President & CEO, Joseph Eastin, opened the conference by welcoming over 2,000 attendees from around the globe. As of this year, the conference's name has changed to ISN CONNECT, which reflects the goal of the conference - to connect with each other. Mr. Eastin recapped the evolution of ISN's products and services and highlighted the 18-month long ISNetworld functionality enhancement project, ISN 11.0, that concluded this quarter.

During the opening session, Dr. David Michaels, Assistant Secretary of Labor for Occupational Safety and Health (OSHA), and Darren Woods, Senior Vice President of Exxon Mobil Corporation, shared compelling messages urging organizations to build responsible safety cultures and programs that go beyond minimum regulatory standards.

Following the general session, a variety of breakout sessions were offered to conference attendees featuring industry leaders, such as Ed Foulke, Partner at Fisher & Phillips LLP and Former Assistant Secretary of Labor for OSHA, Dr. Adam Pickens, Texas A&M Health Science Center, Steve Greene, National Center for Construction Education (NCCER), James Kendrick, OSHA Trainer and Jim Gavin, Independent Insurance Agents of Texas, Hiring Client and contractor customer representatives and the ISN Team.

Hiring Clients gathered to review ISN 11.0 functionality and service enhancements, listen to their peers speak about how they integrated ISNetworld into their contractor management process and how their scorecard configurations strengthened their contractor qualification processes. Several Hiring Clients spoke on contractor performance benchmarking, insurance best practices and trends, and how ISNetworld improved their ability to track employee-level data. Speakers also shared their use of other ISNetworld tools, such as the Job Bid Tool, Evaluation Reports and Site Tracker.

Contractor customers participated in a wide range of sessions. Subjects discussed included ISN 11.0 functionality enhancements, safety performance benchmarking data and best practices for establishing a company-wide safety culture. Contractor customers also learned about best practices for promoting their company through ISNetworld and tips for maintaining compliance with industry and Hiring Client standards. Associates from contractor organizations spoke on how to track employee-level training and qualifications within ISNetworld using Training Manager and Training Qualifications (TQ).

To conclude the first day of ISN CONNECT, President Bill Clinton, Founder of the Clinton Foundation and 42nd President of the United States, spoke on the Clinton Foundation's mission to improve global health, strengthen economies and protect the environment through fostering partnerships among governments, businesses and non-governmental organizations.



CONNECT 2015

Major Dan Rooney opened the second day of the conference and spoke of his experiences as an F-16 Fighter Pilot in the United States Air Force, serving three combat tours in Iraq. These experiences led him to establish the Folds of Honor Foundation (<https://www.foldsofhonor.org>) which helps provide educational scholarships to military families of those who have been killed or disabled while on active duty.

Following the general session, Hiring Clients and contractor customers participated in industry breakout sessions that covered topics such as Operator Qualifications (OQ), Safety and Environmental Management Systems (SEMS) and Training Qualifications (TQ). Additionally, Michael Flynn, from the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH), discussed promoting safety within diverse workforces.

The conference closed with six industry-specific panels. Representatives from more than 40 Hiring Client and Contractor Operator organizations shared their use of ISNetworld to streamline and improve their contractor evaluation processes.

Throughout the conference, the ISN Team hosted Help Desks assisting more than 250 customers. Hands-on labs offered guidance to ISNetworld users on various functionality and an opportunity to participate in ISNetworld usability sessions. In addition, several live functionality kiosk demonstrations were provided.

Attendees also had the opportunity to assemble World Vision (<http://www.worldvision.org/>) donation kits during the conference, which included hygiene supplies to help families affected by poverty or natural disasters in the local Dallas-Fort Worth community and promise packs to aid children in developing countries.

ISN would like to thank all of the participants and the 90+ speakers and panelists that attended the 2015 ISN CONNECT Conference. We look forward to seeing you at future ISN meetings and events.

To request an electronic copy of the publications offered at ISN CONNECT, please [click here](#).