NIST Construction Safety Program
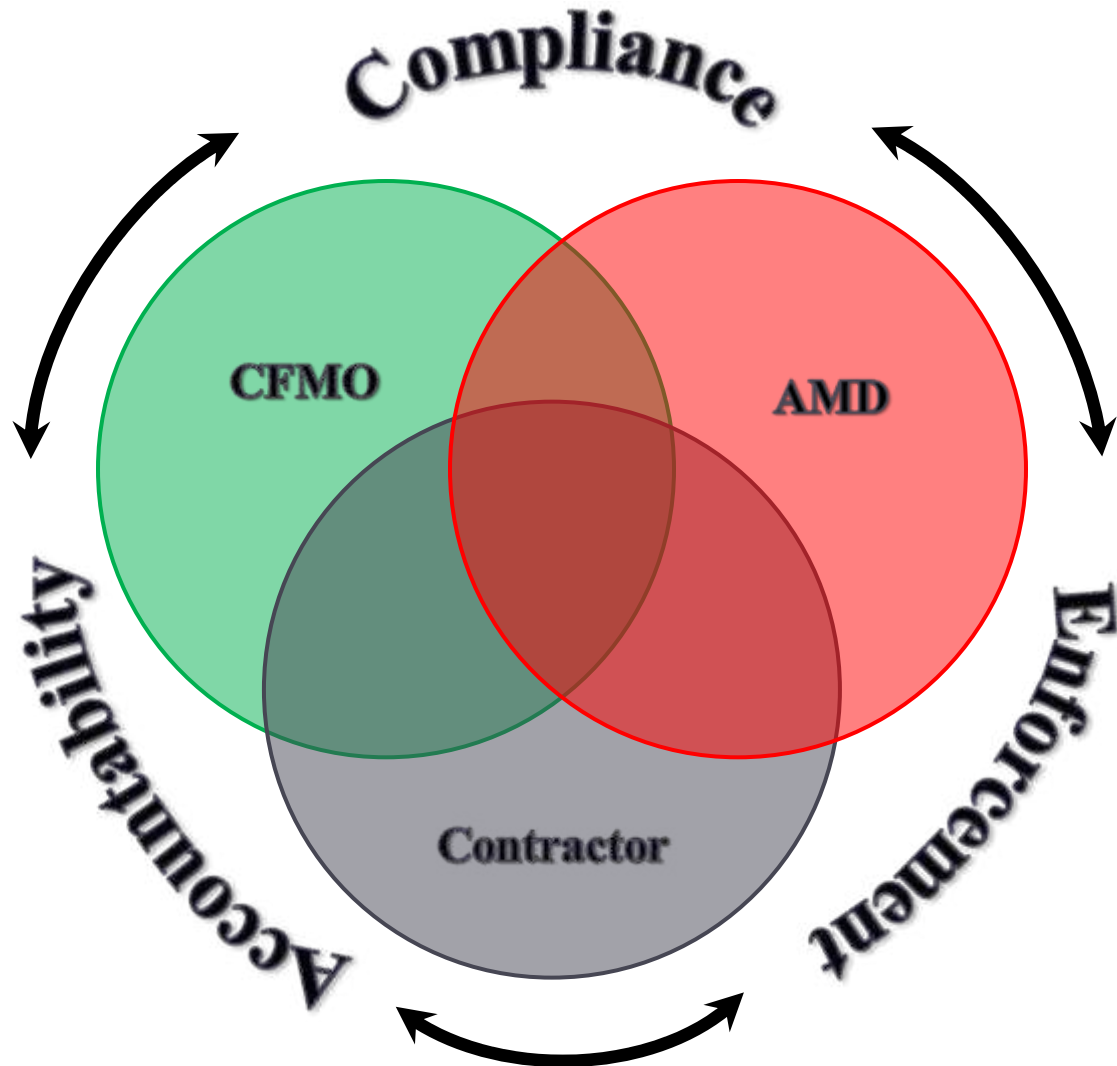
CFMO -- October 6, 2008

Scope of Construction Program

- In FY2008 approx. 450 contracts totaling over $150M

- Repairs and renovations
  - 75 major repair projects averaging $200-$500K
  - 275 smaller repair projects ranging from $1K - $200K
  - 265 lab renovation projects ranging from $1K - $3.5M

- Major Construction of Research Facilities
  - Central Utility Plant and Site Utility Distribution System ($34.9M)
  - Building 1 Extension ($66.0M)
  - NCNR Expansion ($21.5M)

Construction Safety Management

Compliance

▸ All construction contracts require that contractor comply with:

  ▸ OSHA 29CFR1926, Safety and Health Standards for Construction

  ▸ OSHA 29CFR1910, General Industry Occupational and Safety Health Standards

  ▸ Federal Acquisition Regulation 52.236-13 on Accident prevention

  ▸ NIST Health and Safety Instructions, as applicable

  ▸ Other job specific code and permit requirements

▸ Major Project contracts also require that contractor:

  ▸ Submit Project Safety and Health Plan for review and approval by the COTR

Enforcement

- Pre-construction meetings
  - Review safety requirements
  - Define safety process, roles, responsibilities and expectations
- Daily Field Inspections by CFMO staff
  - Violations documented in the field and aspect of job stopped
  - Violations reported to the Contracting Officer and Project Manager
  - Violations evaluated and follow-up inspections conducted to ensure correction

- Regular meetings between Government & Contractors (weekly for major projects)
  - Discuss safety violations and concerns
  - Review causes and corrective actions taken
  - Monitor Contractor Safety & Health Plan, if applicable
- Construction Warning Signage Posted at Jobsites
  - Keeps non-contractors out
  - List the PPE needed to enter

Accountability

- Contractor required to manage Safety and Health Plan (Major Projects)
  - Contractor required to have Safety Manager
  - Part-time or full-time Safety Representative required
- Written cause and corrective action required for violations
- Unsafe work practice stops immediately until corrected
- Immediate removal of personnel from the project for life threatening violations
- Removal of personnel from job for repeated violations
- Stop Work orders issued by Contracting Officer

Pending Improvements

▶ Compliance

  ▶ More clearly establish requirements and expectations in contract

  ▶ Develop contract language to require contractors to implement a written worker protection program as part of their project specific Safety and Health Plan (major projects)

▶ Enforcement

  ▶ Implement safety checklist to review contractor Safety and Health Plan

  ▶ Develop contract language for defaulting contractors based on poor safety performance

  ▶ Develop contract language requiring contractor to document safety and job-skill related training and certification for project work activities

Pending Improvements (cont.)

- Accountability
  - Develop contract language for incentives and penalties
  - Develop contract language that allows government to stop work if contractor fails to document training or provide certifications
  - Document safety performance in "Past Performance Information Reporting System"

Want to do more…

- Notify contractor's insurance carrier of:
  - All safety violations and incidents
  - Projects completed without violations or incident
- Reference checks with contractors' workers comp insurance company
  - Review experience modification rating
  - Review significant subcontractors
- Direct contractor on safety without financial penalty to government (i.e. claims for change orders)

Addressing Safety in Facilities Repairs

A	B	C	D = A x C
Weight (1 to 10)	Rating Categories	Ratings (0 to 5)	Scores (0 to 50)
10	Sequencing (1st Project in Related Series)		
8	Program Effectiveness		
10	Imminent Failure		
10	Personnel Safety		
10	Life Safety		
10	Environmental and Personnel Health		
10	Rules, Codes, or Laws		
10	Energy Efficiency		
5	Asset Protection		
8	System Functionality		
9	System Capacity		
(Total = 100)	Total for each Project		