

# Safety, Environment and Health

Safety is the number-one priority for CHS businesses, as it is for our cooperative- and farmer-owners and the communities in which we do business. We raised the bar on that long-standing commitment to safety in 2013, adding it to the performance accountability of our leadership team and business leaders, ramping up training and launching the Safety Zone awareness campaign. Safety is so important that we revised our CHS Values for the first time in 15 years to state our commitment to “Managing our business safely and with the highest level of integrity.”

- **Recordable injury rate: 4.4.** For every 100 CHS U.S. employees, 4.4 had a recordable injury last year.
- **Lost workday case rate: 1.57.** For every 100 CHS U.S. employees, fewer than two had injuries serious enough to miss work one or more days.
- **Crash rate per million miles: 3.2.** The CHS fleet of more than 4,000 vehicles logged more than 96 million miles in 2013. The crash rate of 3.2 per million miles was better than two-thirds of the fleets reporting to the Network of Employers for Traffic Safety.



## Striving for Safety Excellence

CHS businesses maintained their commitment to customer service and safety performance while achieving new marks in 2013. Highlights include:

- Within CHS Country Operations, 29 of 65 business units ended fiscal 2013 (3.3 million hours) without a lost-time injury and with a significant improvement in reportable vehicle accidents and at-fault crash rate. Farmers Alliance, Mitchell, S.D., won a South Dakota Governor’s Workplace Safety and Health Award. Country Operations locations provided anhydrous ammonia emergency response training to more than 120 local fire departments and 40 safety organizations.
- The CHS Laurel, Mont., refinery celebrated four years without a lost-time accident. CHS Processing and Food Ingredients plants at Mankato and Fairmont, Minn., each crossed the three-year mark with no accidents.
- CHS Transportation and Distribution achieved a 53 percent decrease in recordable crash rate from fiscal 2012, a performance that put CHS in the top 5 percent of the industry. Recordable incidents declined 55 percent and workdays lost to injury were down 71 percent, while logging 35 million miles and 1.2 million hours.
- Norfolk Southern Corporation, a major U.S. railway, awarded CHS Renewable Fuels Marketing the Thoroughbred Chemical Safety Award for safe handling of chemical products, making CHS one of 54 companies and plants to ship more than 1,000 carloads of hazardous material over the rail network in 2012 with no incidents.
- CHS Grain Marketing and Crop Nutrients increased collaboration with local fire departments and first responders, and stepped up safety audits to find possible problems.

## Protecting Our Environment

Three CHS Country Operations units received Environmental Respect Awards: CHS Agri Service Center (three-time winner), Holdrege, Neb.; United Plains Ag, Sharon Springs, Kan.; and Central Montana Co-op, Lewiston, Mont.

### Other highlights:

- The CHS Refinery at Laurel, Mont., recycled more than 6 million pounds of scrap metal.
- The McPherson, Kan., refinery reduced its reported sulfur dioxide emissions by 95 percent and volatile organic compounds emissions by 70 percent over the past decade. It will spend more than \$40 million to build a water treatment plant to treat and reuse refinery and city wastewater.
- The CHS Lubricants plant at Inver Grove Heights, Minn., upgraded its tank farm to maintain storage safety and prevent spills. The plant and the Amarillo, Texas, facility passed EPA emergency response plan reviews.
- Cenex® Zip Trip convenience stores saved energy with more efficient lighting and new cooler and freezer compressors. CHS Lubricants plants updated lighting to improve the work environment and conserve energy.
- Electronic systems were updated by CHS Grain Marketing and Crop Nutrients to improve efficiency and reduce energy consumption.
- CHS Propane worked with the Propane Education & Research Council to promote new technologies using propane to reduce emissions.

95%

less sulfur dioxide emissions at McPherson, Kan., refinery

Learn more about CHS programs supporting safety, the environment and health at [chsinc.com/stewardship](http://chsinc.com/stewardship).

# Community

## Putting Safety First

CHS believes building a strong future requires developing a new generation of ag leadership, strong safety programs for farm families and agriculture employees, and ongoing efforts to build vibrant rural communities.

CHS and the CHS Foundation supported that goal in 2013, committing \$3 million to agricultural safety.

“As U.S. agriculture ramps up to feed the 9 billion people projected to inhabit this planet by 2050, we have new technologies and safety risks to address, plus a growing

workforce to train,” said CHS President and CEO Carl Casale, as he announced the initiative.

**\$3 million**  
for agricultural safety

The investment includes \$1 million for competitive grants in rural safety and \$2 million for safety programs with five partner organizations.



## CHS Foundation Supports Commodities Trading Education

To prepare the next generation of agribusiness professionals, the CHS Foundation provided \$250,000 to the University of Idaho and \$150,000 to the University of Nebraska-Lincoln to help build commodities training rooms. The rooms give students real-time commodity marketing and advanced training in markets, merchandising, futures and options. The foundation also provided \$150,000 for the Precision Ag Center at Bismarck State College.

## Helping Close to Home

Here's a sampling of how CHS locations gave back to local communities:

- The Laurel, Mont., refinery sponsored the Honor Flight program, which takes World War II veterans to Washington, D.C., to visit the war memorial.
- Country Operations locations purchased three emergency response trailers for the Mutual Aid Response Network and trained 101 emergency responders and 403 others in rescue strategies.



## CHS Day of Service

The CHS Legal and Compliance Team and Singapore-based CHS Asia Pacific headquarters staff were among hundreds of employees who made a difference during the second annual CHS Day of Service volunteer release time program. The legal team packed holiday boxes for needy children overseas as part of Operation Christmas Child, while the Asia Pacific staff in Singapore collected and delivered food to those in need.

## Corporate Giving \$1.9 million

- Contributions to enhance agricultural education
- Support to ag safety organizations
- Grants for cooperative education and councils
- United Way employee match

## CHS Foundation \$6.9 million

### Developing future ag leaders

#### COOPERATIVE EDUCATION

- \$2 million through annual competitive grants program
- \$863,314 to support nine universities

#### UNIVERSITY PARTNERSHIPS

- \$327,000 in scholarships to 230 students at 70 universities
- 81 minigrants totaling \$80,930

#### RURAL YOUTH LEADERSHIP

- \$1 million to support 45 organizations, including National Teach Ag Campaign

### Improving ag safety

### Building vibrant rural communities



## United Way Support

- CHS raised \$1.1 million for the Greater Twin Cities United Way, combining employee pledges, a match of \$1.50 from CHS for each employee dollar pledged and the company's Basic Needs Challenge Grant.
- More than a dozen other CHS locations, including the CHS refinery at Laurel, Mont., contributed to local United Way campaigns and added a CHS match of \$1.50 for each dollar pledged for communities.

## Harvest for Hunger

The third annual CHS Country Operations Harvest for Hunger program raised the equivalent of 3.2 million meals, as employees and communities contributed 742,000 pounds of canned and fresh foods, plus \$490,000 in cash and grain. The program has provided more than 7.5 million meals since 2011.

## Disaster Relief

- When an October blizzard devastated Midwest livestock operations, the CHS Foundation contributed \$100,000 to the South Dakota Rancher Relief Fund and \$25,000 to Nebraska relief efforts. CHS provided feed and other assistance.
- With the American Red Cross Annual Disaster Giving Program, CHS helped bring rapid relief after natural disasters, including tornadoes in Oklahoma.

**\$8.8 MILLION TOTAL GIVING**