

# Unitrans Warehousing and Distribution BP Lubes Contract receives coveted BP HSSE Award

The Warehousing and Distribution (W&D) operation of Freight and Logistics was recently awarded the BP Transcon HSSE (SHEQ) award for its innovative **Blueprints** concept. **Blueprints** was introduced to the Durban Distribution Centre and provides the tools that have instilled a cultural approach towards health, safety and environmental awareness. The centre "went live" in September 2006 and has been swift to adopt a practical and workable SHEQ management system.

The Transcon Award for HSSE innovation is made annually and entries are submitted from BP operations within the Transcon Region covering Africa, India, the Middle East and Turkey.

Allistair Kay, Logistics Manager BP Africa comments, "This award is a tribute to the innovation and the commitment that was shown by everyone involved in the implementation of the BP contract, to HSSE in general and to this contract in particular."

The **Blueprints** 'BP HSSE Formula' was developed over many months with frequent participation by the workforces (drivers, fork lift operators, warehouse staffs, order-takers, managers, supervisors and blend plant operators, etc.) of both BP and Unitrans. The result is a mathematical formula of factors, behaviours, practices and principles that are differentiated by 'Enablers' above the line and 'Disablers' below the line. The 'Enablers' are good for business and must be maximised. 'Disablers' are bad for business and must be minimised. Each 'Enabler' and 'Disabler' is depicted in the form of an icon and explained in a dictionary of language and sentences developed by the workforces. The icons are boldly displayed in the various work places as constant reminders of the formula.

A series of training and engagement sessions was undertaken to immerse the concept. '**Blueprints Champions**' were nominated by the diverse teams, which included managers, and who now lead the process from within the organisation.

A celebration to unveil the icons was held at the new Unitrans premises in October 2006 at which the Champions spoke about each icon and explained how they will personally live the culture.

The process going forward is for the workforce to utilise various tools on a monthly basis to confirm the degree of success in embedding

the HSSE formula and to recognise individuals who excel at this, allowing early interventions for improvements. Intentions include eliciting ideas and encouraging innovation from the floor, and allowing the workforce to choose an improvement every month that they can commit to.

Allistair Kay concludes, "Whilst the **Blueprints** concept is still in its early stages of feedback; the results are showing some interesting trends and we eagerly look forward to HSSE becoming a lifestyle choice for all our staff. This in turn should translate into lower incident and accident rates, resulting in a happier workforce."

Transcon Logistical Supply Chain Director, Ian Hodgkinson, comments, "I am particularly excited by the work our joint teams have done on safety and, more particularly, by the role of **Blueprints** in that area. **Blueprints** gives the whole organisation an opportunity to actively participate in safety. The award was presented to the Unitrans team by Buck Jones, BP's HSE Manager for Africa, and I was able to participate. The presentation took place at one of the regular safety meetings at the new Durban warehouse and included a **Blueprints** feedback session to the staff. Attending this safety session once again reinforced for me that we are on the right track and that our safety record will continue to go from strength to strength."

**Congratulations to all on winning the award and please keep the focus on safety.**

*Steve Ford, MD Freight and Logistics, received the award on behalf of Unitrans. Steve is flanked by Zane Peters on his left and Ryan Brooke, BP Hub depot manager, W&D.*



The BP HSSE award

