

General Press Release

The following press statement has been released by the Contract Services Administration Trust Fund:

LOS ANGELES - Contract Services Administration Trust Fund ("CSATF") has been serving the motion picture industry with a range of safety and support services since its creation in 1965. The organization draws on the expertise of the Industry-Wide Labor-Management Safety Committee, which includes representatives from the major Hollywood studios as well as the International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employees, the Basic Crafts Unions, SAG-AFTRA and the Directors Guild of America. Through the Safety Committee, labor and management have created a General Code of Safe Practices, 41 Industry Safety Bulletins, 4 Safety Fact Sheets, and Procedural Guidelines as resources for film and television productions. These guidelines, which are available at CSATF.org, address a wide-range of production safety issues, including stunts, firearms, helicopters, animal handling, vehicles, lift platforms, camera safety, and severe weather.

CSATF, through a related Training Trust, is also responsible for the Safety Pass training program, which recently celebrated its 10 year anniversary. Safety Pass offers a comprehensive and diverse training program to members of the IATSE Hollywood Locals, Basic Crafts Unions, and Directors Guild of America. Approximately 30,000 technicians and craftspersons are trained by the program each year through a present curriculum of 30 courses. The uniform curriculum ensures that the training is consistent, up-to-date and verifiable. Course examples include safety practices relating to aerial lift equipment, fall protection, power tools, scaffolding, noise exposure, electrical work, firearms and hazard communication. Safety Pass has been endorsed by the IATSE and Basic Crafts Unions and has been commended by the California Occupational Safety and Health Administration as a successful model for training a large transitory workforce in a consistent and reliable way.

CSATF and the Training Trust's Safety Pass programs demonstrate the studios' ongoing commitment to safe production practices and training. The Safety Bulletins and guidelines are updated to stay current with the needs of the modern production industry, and crew members are required to keep their Safety Pass training current. The Safety Pass training program is actively seeking to enhance and expand its services, including developing new courses and increasing the availability of safety training through online access and other initiatives. With the support of the major studios and unions, CSATF will continue to encourage and support safe production practices throughout the industry.