



December 2017 Newsletter

In This Issue:

- "Elevate Your Business" - Make Plans to Attend the 2018 MGFA Annual Convention & Industry Trade Show
 - MGFA Convention Hotel Now Accepting Reservations
 - MGFA Meets with Lenders to Discuss Proposed Feed Lien Legislation
 - FMSCA Issues Temporary ELD Waiver for Agricultural Transporters
 - Be An Annual Sustaining Sponsor of MGFA
 - Member News
 - MGFA Offers Complete Insurance Coverage Options Through Associated Benefits & Risk Consulting
 - MDA Announces New Restrictions on Use of Dicamba Herbicide
 - OSHA Injury/Illness Tracking Rule Compliance Date Extended
 - FDA Issues Sanitary Transportation Guidance
 - OSHA Proposes \$1.8 Million Fine Against Didion Milling
 - MGFA Asks Members to Consider Placing Your Grain Bonds Through the Association
 - MGFA Safety & Health Program
 - Need An Extra 2017 MGFA Directory? Buy Your Discounted Copy Now
-

"Elevate Your Business" - Make Plans to Attend the 2018 MGFA Annual Convention & Industry Trade Show

The 111th Annual Convention & Industry Trade Show of the Minnesota Grain and Feed Association is scheduled for Tuesday-Thursday, **March 6-8, 2018, at the Mystic Lake Casino Hotel**. Their new conference center and new attached hotel annex, opening in January, will provide us with the newest and most lavish meeting location in the Twin Cities. All of the new meeting rooms, exhibit floor and annex sleeping rooms we will be using are conveniently located to each other and this new section is a short (indoor) walk to the casino and the wide variety of Casino Hotel restaurants.

The room rate will be \$129/night and includes a \$20 Mystic Lake Casino gaming voucher, free self or valet parking and wireless internet. We ask members to kindly **mark your calendar** and seriously consider joining your industry friends and colleagues at the annual "grain convention" and all it has to offer grain elevator and feed mill managers, employees, co-op elevator farmer directors and spouses. The "tentative" agenda looks like this:

Tuesday, March 6, 2018

- MGFA Board of Directors meeting
- Convention registration opens (Mystic Lake Center)
- **Casino Hotel “Behind the Scenes Tours”**, offered in the late afternoon (separate ticketed event with tour numbers limited)
- Evening open reception hosted by MGFA Board

Wednesday, March 7, 2018

- Convention registration open, 7:30 a.m.- 4:00 p.m. (Mystic Lake Center)
- **Concurrent Convention Seminars**, 8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m., Isanati Rooms 1&2 (separate ticketed event with lunch included):
 1. Seminar designed specifically to address topics and issues related to elevator and feed mill management and employees
 2. Seminar designed specifically for co-op elevator farmer directors, addressing overall duties and responsibilities
- **Spouse Luncheon**, 11:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. (separate ticketed event) – luncheon to include food, entertainment and prize drawings
- **MGFA 111th Annual Meeting** – brief meeting to be held during the concurrent seminar attendee luncheon
- **Industry Trade Show Grand Opening** – 1:30 - 5:30 p.m., Mnitanka Exhibit Area, Mystic Lake Center
- **Evening Hospitality Rooms open**– 5:30-10:30 p.m., Caske and Winuna Rooms, Mystic Lake Center (multiple industry hosts)

Thursday, March 8, 2018

- Convention registration open
- **The 111th Convention General Session**, 8:30 – 10:30 a.m., (Mystic Lake Center – Isanati Room)
- **“We Are Now Farming Food”**, Lynn Ketelsen, Farm Director, Linder Farm Network
- **Presentation TBD**
- **Key Note Speaker – Chad Greenway**, former linebacker for the Minnesota Vikings. Chad, with rural roots around Mount Vernon, South Dakota, spent 11 seasons as a Vikings outside linebacker and during that time, he was a 2-time Pro Bowl selection and a 4-time Walter Payton Man-of-the-Year award recipient, recognizing his work in the community through the Chad Greenway Lead The Way Foundation. The mission of the Foundation is to enrich the lives of individuals and families in need. Chad is currently chair of the Super Bowl LII Host Committee. We encourage you to join us as Chad recounts his storied career in football, his stories growing up in rural South Dakota and his continued commitment to improving the lives of disadvantaged Minnesotans.
- **Reopening and conclusion of the Industry Trade Show** – 10:30 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. (lunch included, with special drawings being held near the conclusion of the show)
- **Convention adjourns**

MGFA Convention Hotel Now Accepting Reservations

The Mystic Lake Casino Hotel, site of the 111th annual MGFA Convention and Industry Trade Show, is now accepting reservations for lodging. Don't delay – make those reservations today! Each reservation at the \$129

single/double rate includes a \$20 Mystic Lake Casino gaming voucher, free self or valet parking and wireless internet. To reserve lodging at the Mystic Lake Casino Hotel, follow the link to Mystic's booking website at <https://aws.passkey.com/e/49518130>. You can also call Mystic Lake's reservation line at **1-800-262-7799** and request the **Minnesota Grain & Feed Association** room block.

MGFA Meets with Lenders to Discuss Proposed Feed Lien Legislation

The MGFA staff, board member Gordy Elliott, attorney Jared Peterson and representatives from the MN Pork Producers and Cooperative Network, met with representatives of the MN Bankers Assn., Independent Bankers Association and Farm Credit System, to discuss legislation introduced by the MGFA, in pursuit of a "priority lien" for feed provided for livestock. The bill, introduced last winter during the first year of the biennium, was heard in a House Ag Committee but ran into stiff opposition from the lender lobby. The bill was tabled and both sides were encouraged to meet during the interim, to see if there was any room for compromise. As you may expect, the lenders are unwilling to relinquish the priority position they have held for many years under the Feeder Lien Statute (514.966). They instead stressed the importance of good communication between lenders and feed providers in assessing and mitigating risk with particular customers. The only clear alternative is for feed providers to continue tightening your credit policy and insist on receiving payment prior to feed delivery or demand immediate wire transfer of funds (ACH), as unpopular and unrealistic as that may be.

NOTE: The only clear priority position offered to a feed provider in the Feeder Lien Statute is one we successfully lobbied for back in 2009, with the help of the MN Pork Producers Assn. but only comes into play when a livestock producer is in Farmer/Lender Mediation. It reads as follows:

Subd. 3a. Temporary livestock production input lien; debtor in mediation.

(a) A supplier furnishing livestock production inputs in the ordinary course of business to a debtor who has filed a mediation request under chapter 583 has a temporary livestock production input lien for the unpaid retail cost of the livestock production input. A perfected temporary livestock production input lien that attaches to livestock may not exceed the amount, if any, that the sales price of the livestock for which the inputs were received exceeds the greater of the fair market value of the livestock at the time the lien attaches or the acquisition price of the livestock. A temporary livestock production input lien becomes effective when the agricultural production inputs are furnished by the supplier to the purchaser.

(b) A temporary livestock production input lien under this subdivision applies to livestock production inputs provided to the debtor during the **45 days** following a mediation request under chapter 583.

(c) A person who supplies livestock production inputs under this subdivision shall provide a lien-notification statement as required under subdivision 3, paragraphs (b) and (c), but is not subject to subdivision 3, paragraphs (d) to (f). A perfected temporary livestock production input lien corresponding to the lien-notification statement has priority over any security interest of the lender in the same livestock or their proceeds for the lesser of:

- (1) the amount stated in the lien-notification statement; or
- (2) the unpaid retail cost of the livestock production input identified in the lien-notification statement, subject to any limitation in paragraph (a).

To learn more about farmer/lender mediation, go to www.extension.umn.edu/agriculture/farmer-lender-mediation/ or contact Kent Olson at kdolson@umn.edu. We will continue to work with the MGFA Feed Committee in addressing issues and risks associated with feed production and sales and discuss meaningful ways to mitigate risk.

FMCSA Issues Temporary ELD Waiver for Agricultural Transporters

National Cattlemen's Beef Association President Craig Uden was pleased with the 90-day waiver of the ELD mandate for agricultural commodity transporters, saying how there is still major confusion on the agricultural exemption on hours-of-service, known as the 150 air-mile rule. The U.S. Department of Transportation's Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA) revealed last week that for agricultural commodity transporters, it will issue a 90-day temporary waiver from the electronic logging device (ELD) mandate, which is scheduled to kick into gear on December 18.

The FMCSA said it has heard concerns specific to the transportation of agricultural commodities, especially regarding the transportation of livestock. Such concerns are specifically related to the hours-of-service (HOS) requirements and not the ELD device itself, the FMCSA explained. In the coming weeks, the FMCSA will publish guidance for comment regarding the application of the agriculture commodity HOS exemption. The FMCSA will also provide guidance on the existing 150 air miles HOS exemption. It said it will consider comments received before publishing final guidance. In addition, the FMCSA will publish guidance on another HOS issue, known as personal conveyance.

[Back in September](#), the National Pork Producers Council (NPPC) sent a petition to the U.S. Department of Transportation on behalf of the nation's pork industry and other livestock sectors, requesting a waiver and limited exemption from the ELD mandate. The NPPC said in the petition that livestock haulers are not and will not be prepared for the Dec. 18 deadline, and asked DOT to address incompatibilities between the transportation of livestock and the department's HOS rules.

Commenting on the 90-day waiver, National Cattlemen's Beef Association President Craig Uden said Monday, "This is very good news for cattle and beef producers, and it's a sign that the Administration is listening to the concerns that we have been raising. We've maintained for a long time that FMSCA is not prepared for this ELD rollout, that there needs to be more outreach from the Department of Transportation to the agricultural community, and that there's currently still major confusion on the agricultural exemption on hours-of-service, known as the 150 air-mile rule."

Despite the controversial ELD mandate kicking off next month, FMCSA's partners at the Commercial Vehicle Safety Alliance have previously announced that all motor vehicles not in compliance with the mandate will not be placed out of service until April 1, 2018, giving the industry time to become acclimated with the new legislation. As far as the outlook goes, long-haul carriers generally appear to not only be prepared for the ELD mandate, but have typically expressed support for ELDs. However, the drayage industry appears to be less prepared for the upcoming deadline, which could potentially drive up drayage costs and lead to delays at ports across the nation

Be An Annual Sustaining Sponsor of MGFA

A few years ago, MGFA unveiled an **Annual Sustaining Sponsor Program**, which offers nearly unlimited exposure and access to the decision makers and leaders in the Minnesota grain and feed industry. As you develop your budget for 2018 or have room in your existing budget, we are hopeful that you will consider being a Sustaining Sponsor of the Minnesota Grain and Feed Association.

The MGFA Sustaining Sponsor Program offers the ease of writing just one check in support of all 2018 MGFA programs and events, versus the time and hassle of obtaining approval for multiple contributions and sponsorships throughout the year. In return for becoming a sustaining sponsor, your firm name and logo would prominently appear on all materials and on-site signage related to the various events, (such as annual convention & tradeshow, grain grading schools, feed mill short course, golf outings, etc.), posted on the home page of our website and listed in each issue of the MGFA member magazine. In addition, Sustaining Sponsors are entitled to certain perks, such as, complimentary convention registrations, trade show booth discounts and complimentary golf registrations. The Sustaining Sponsor Form, which lays out the different categories of program support, is available [here](#).

Representing over 200 grain and feed companies, the MGFA proudly reflects nearly 95% of the Minnesota federal and state licensed grain storage and handling facilities and over 80% of Minnesota licensed commercial feed dealers. Sponsorship is fundamental to the quality of events, membership services, special projects and industry representation that members have come to expect. Because the MGFA values and appreciates partners and key stakeholders, the annual sponsorship program is designed to provide the best value for MGFA supporters. This annual sustaining sponsor program will enhance your company exposure and allow you to support a plethora of association programs and its role as an industry advocate and defender.

Thank you to the current list of 2018 MGFA Annual Sustaining Sponsors: **Ag Country Farm Credit Services, Ag Processing Inc. (AGP), Bergan KDV, LTD (CPA), BNSF Railway, CHS, Inc., CoBank, Dorsey & Whitney LLP, Gardiner Thomsen CPA's, Minnesota Corn Growers Association and VAA, LLC.**

Member News

* Safety Director Position Open At All American Co-op

Job Title: Safety Director Posting ID#: 1120417

Location: Stewartville, MN

Hiring Manager: Glenn Lutteke, General Manager (507) 533-4222

Submit Resumes to: Cheryl Simpson, HR Supervisor, csimpson@allamericancoop.com

Job Summary:

The Safety Director is responsible for the development, implementation, training and documentation of employee and work safety at All American Co-op Progressive Ag Center locations. The safety director is responsible to ensure state, federal and company policies and regulations are followed.

Job Responsibilities:

- Develop and conduct up-to-date and current safety and compliance training to educate employees at all locations on job safety, health hazards, emergency action plan, risk management system and methods of reducing and/or eliminating workplace hazards to maintain compliance with federal, state, partner/vendor, insurance and Co-op requirements.
- Perform location inspections. Review results with management and employees to prioritize discovered issue correction and secure options and costs of proposed corrections.
- Facilitate quarterly (or more often if needed) safety committee meetings utilizing minutes and agendas. Keep committee members on track and focused on the issues assigned, and document progress.
- Assist managers/supervisors with accident investigations (injuries, vehicle accidents and property damage) and safety complaints or concerns from employees. Together determine root causes and corrective action plans, and maintain files of such reports and responses.
- Facilitate relationships with regulatory personnel and agencies (state, federal, insurance, etc.); provide compliance information and respond to any concerns they may have. Lead efforts to correct environmental, safety and health problems identified.
- Manage safety training records and other documents/files (DOT and fleet safety files, DOT driver files, drug and alcohol testing files) at locations and ensure they are kept up-to-date and complete with information needed for regulatory and/or Co-op requirements.
- Complete recordkeeping and reporting for company regarding OSHA, EPA, Chemical Tier 2, DHS.
- Perform license, certification and registration requirements for all locations, products and operations.
- Demonstrate work habits that develop, build and support team concept within the Co-op.
- Perform other related duties as needed or assigned

Job Requirements:

- Working knowledge of OSHA, EPA, DOT, MN Dept of Ag, NFPA codes, and liability/insurability issues as pertains to the agriculture industry.
- Strong verbal, written, analytical and leadership skills, ability to interact with all levels of employees and management, and ability to speak in front of groups.
- Ability to sit, stand, walk, bend, occasionally lift up to 60 lbs, climb ladders and operate equipment needed to inspect facilities, including performing position at heights.
- Hold a valid driver's license for the state in which they reside

* CHS Closes Three Facilities Including One in Minnesota

CHS, Inc. on Dec. 1 said it has closed three U.S. facilities as part of its effort to restore financial flexibility. The closings include soy processing plants in Hutchinson, Kansas, U.S., and Creston, Iowa, U.S., as well as an Innovation and Technology Center in Eagan, Minnesota, U.S.

“CHS will continue to focus on operations which are more closely aligned with other CHS commodity-based core businesses,” the company said. “CHS remains committed to helping its owners strengthen and grow their operations.” CHS’s statement echoes comments made in July by chief executive officer Jay Debertin, who outlined five key areas of focus for the cooperative. One of the areas of focus is to fine-tune existing businesses and processes.

“We will learn from the one-time events that distract us from the underlying, steady performance of our core day-to-day businesses,” Debertin said. “This will allow us to increase business discipline, focus and profitability.”

CHS acquired the Hutchinson facility in April 2008 from Legacy Foods. The plant employed 77 and made Ultra-Soy brand textured soy proteins, an ingredient used by food service and food manufacturers as a nutritional supplement in processed foods containing meat, and in snacks and health foods. Ultra-Soy helped food manufacturers extend meat, which reduced meat and seafood costs while adding protein to enhance the nutritional profile.

The Creston facility was acquired by CHS from Creston Bean Processing in 2011. Creston’s operations included soybean crushing, and manufacturing soybean meal and soy flour used by consumer and pet food manufacturers. CHS employed 53 at the Creston plant. CHS opened the Innovation and Technology Center in Eagan in 2013. The facility, which employed 4, provided product application research and development for the cooperative’s customers and marketing and sales staff. CHS posted net income of \$127.9 million in the year ended Aug. 31, which compared with \$424.2 million in fiscal 2016.

MGFA Offers Complete Insurance Coverage Options Through Associated Benefits & Risk Consulting

The Minnesota Grain and Feed Association has been in an alliance with Associated Benefits & Risk Consulting for a couple years now and we’ve seen a growing level of interest in their complete insurance product line. They offer members a very competitive insurance package alternative to the few that exist in our industry. We want to encourage members to take a look at what they can offer you and your firm. Associated Benefits & Risk Consulting is a premier employee benefits, business insurance and HR consulting agency based in Wisconsin, Minnesota and Illinois, with over 350 colleagues promoting and supporting their product line. In these times of tight margins and low commodity prices, you own it to yourself and your firm to shop and compare insurances coverages. Our contact is Mike Korf at Mike.Korf@associatedbrc.com. Drop Mike an e-mail to see what he can do for you!

MDA Announces New Restrictions on Use of Dicamba Herbicide

The Minnesota Department of Agriculture (MDA) announced yesterday, new restrictions on the use of the herbicide dicamba in Minnesota for the 2018 growing season. Dicamba is primarily used for controlling post-emergence broadleaf weeds. The new restrictions are in addition to those announced by the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) in October. The affected formulations are XtendiMax by Monsanto, Engenia by BASF, and FeXapan by DuPont. The decision follows the MDA’s ongoing investigation and an informal survey last summer into reports of crop damage from alleged dicamba off-target movement.

In an effort to prevent dicamba-related complaints in 2018, Minnesota Agriculture Commissioner Dave Frederickson thoroughly reviewed the new EPA label restrictions, the MDA’s survey results, peer reviewed literature, and sought extensive input from the Minnesota Soybean Growers Association Drift Task Force, University of Minnesota Extension weed scientists, and the pesticide manufacturers on the underlying causes of damage. Based on the review, the Commissioner set forth these additional protocols for dicamba use for the 2018 growing season:

Cutoff date: Do not apply after June 20. Setting an application cutoff date of June 20 is expected to help reduce the potential for volatility (movement). The majority of Minnesota soybeans are still in the vegetative growth stage by June 20 and research has shown that plants in the vegetative stage are less affected than those in the reproductive stage.

Cutoff temperature: Do not apply if the air temperature of the field, at the time of application, is over 85 degrees Fahrenheit or if the National Weather Service's forecasted high temperature for the nearest available location for the day exceeds 85 degrees Fahrenheit. Research has shown that dicamba volatilization injury increased with an increase in temperatures.

"Dicamba is an important tool for soybean growers to manage weeds and I believe these additional restrictions will minimize the off-target movement," Agriculture Commissioner Dave Frederickson said. "I want to thank University of Minnesota Extension, and in particular Professor Jeff Gunsolus, for his research report on dicamba, and the Minnesota Soybean Growers for their input on this important issue. We will be closely monitoring the herbicide's performance with these restrictions in 2018."

In Minnesota, the XtendiMax, Engenia, and FeXapan formulations of dicamba are "Restricted Use Pesticides" for retail sale to and for use only by Certified Applicators.

OSHA Injury/Illness Tracking Rule Compliance Date Extended

As we reported in last week's Washington Weekly, the compliance date for OSHA's new rule requiring employers to electronically report injury and illness information to the agency has been extended to December 15, the agency said. The original deadline was December 1. The new reporting system – the Injury Tracking Application (ITA) – was launched by OSHA August 1, but the agency said more time is needed for employers to familiarize themselves with the new system.

The new rule applies to companies with 250 or more employees which are currently required to keep OSHA injury and illness records. It also applies to companies with 20-249 workers classified by the agency as "certain industries" with historically high rates of occupational injuries and illnesses. Feed and equipment manufacturing facilities are covered under "manufacturing" and are required to comply with the new rule, according to the American Feed Industry Assn. (AFIA).

Several states with OSHA-approved state plans have not yet adopted the ITA, and establishments in these state are not currently required to submit summary data through the ITA. OSHA said its reviewing other portions of the proposed rule and may go to proposed rulemaking to "reconsider, revise or remove" some portions. Details can be found at www.osha.gov.

FDA Issues Sanitary Transportation Guidance

The Food and Drug Administration recently issued a [guidance for industry](#) to assist small businesses in complying with the Food Safety Modernization Act [Sanitary Transportation of Human and Animal Food](#) final rule. Small businesses must be in compliance with the rule by **April 6, 2018**.

The sanitary transportation rule requires rail and motor vehicle carriers to provide food safety training to transportation operations personnel to ensure the safety of the livestock feed and animal food products throughout shipment. The FDA defines a "carrier" as "a person who physically moves food in commerce," but does not include "any person who transports food while operating as a parcel service." The training requirement applies when the carrier and shipper have agreed, via a written contract, that the carrier is responsible for the sanitary conditions during transport. It is the carrier's responsibility to establish the necessary training and maintain the required training records.

In general terms, each shipper has the ultimate responsibility of determining the necessary sanitary specifications required to prevent the animal food from becoming unsafe during transportation. The FDA defines a "shipper" as a manufacturer or a freight broker that arranges for the transportation of food in the United States by a carrier or multiple carriers sequentially. The agency requires the shipper to have written procedures in place that detail how they will prevent the animal food from becoming unsafe during transportation.

The loaders and carriers are responsible for following the shipper's written specifications. The shipper and carrier can also have a written agreement on which party is responsible for which parts of the sanitary conditions

during transportation. The shipper can require the carrier to identify the previous cargo it has hauled as well as a description of the most recent "cleaning" of the vehicle, and the carrier is required to provide this information. The carrier is required to develop written procedures for cleaning, sanitizing (if necessary) and inspecting vehicles and transportation equipment to ensure that it meets the shipper's written specifications. This could include a wash out, particularly if the previous load could create a hazard. Written specifications should address, at minimum, cross-contamination, pest infestation, identification of previously hauled material, and inspection procedures prior to loading.

Although the FDA-developed guidance document is intended to assist small entities in complying with [the rule](#), firms of all sizes can benefit from reviewing the information.

The guidance document covers:

- Who must comply
- Compliance dates
- Vehicles and transportation equipment
- Transportation operations
- Training
- Records
- Waivers

Large-sized firms (those with more than 500 employees) should already be in compliance with the regulations as of April 6, 2017. Small businesses must be in compliance with the regulations on April 6, 2018.

Source: AFIA

OSHA Proposes \$1.8 Million Fine Against Didion Milling

The U.S. Department of Labor's Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) on Nov. 17 proposed \$1,837,861 in fines against Didion Milling Inc. of Cambria Wisconsin, following a May 31 explosion that killed 5 workers and injured 12 others.

As part of its findings, OSHA determined that the explosion likely resulted from Didion's failures to correct the leakage and accumulation of highly combustible grain dust throughout the facility and to properly maintain equipment to control ignition sources. OSHA cited Didion with 14 [willful](#) citations, including 8 willful per-instance egregious citations. Didion also was cited with 5 serious citations, most involving fire and explosion hazards. The company has been placed in OSHA's Severe Violator Enforcement Program.

"Didion Milling could have prevented this tragedy if it had addressed hazards that are well-known in this industry," said Ken Nishiyama Atha, OSHA's regional administrator in Chicago. "Instead, their disregard for the law led to an explosion that claimed the lives of workers, and heartbreak for their families and the community."

OSHA said the egregious willful citations were issued for violating OSHA's Grain Handling standard by failing to perform required maintenance on operating equipment and implementing a housekeeping program to control dust accumulations. Meanwhile, willful citations were issued for failure to shut down ignition sources, prevent static electricity discharge, provide adequate personal protective equipment to employees, correct malfunctioning dust collection systems, maintain equipment safety controls, and have an emergency alarm system. Serious citations addressed hazards associated with fires and explosions, and the lack of employee training, OSHA said.

Didion Milling has 15 business days from receipt of its [citations](#) and penalties to comply, request an informal conference with OSHA's area director, or contest the findings before the independent Occupational Safety and Health Review Commission.

Responding to the OSHA citation document, Didion Milling issued a statement on Nov. 17 saying it disagrees with the severity of the fines. "Didion does not agree with the severity of the penalties levied against our family-owned business or the conclusions released by OSHA today," said Aisha Bachlani, a company spokesperson.

“We are working with our legal counsel to determine how to address the findings from this federal agency. Regardless of how we address OSHA’s decision, it is our intent to rebuild our corn milling facility in Cambria. As a family-owned company that has operated in the community for more than 45 years, we recognize how important our mill is for creating new jobs and adding economic value to the area, as well as providing an important source of revenue for area farmers, and offering our customers high-quality products.”

Bachlani said Didion remains committed to its pledge to build a “state-of-the-art”, best in class facility. “The new mill will utilize the latest technology and industry best practices, creating one of the most efficient, effective and safe operational systems available,” Bachlani said, adding that Didion is continuing to work with industry experts and other agencies to determine the cause of the incident.

MGFA Asks Members to Consider Placing Your Grain Bonds Through the Association

The Minnesota Grain and Feed Association, through its in-house (MGFA) insurance agency, has been providing grain warehouse, grain buyer and deferred payment (surety) bonds for country grain elevators for over 80 years. It is important to note that ***100% of the agency commission is retained by the association and returned to MGFA members in the form of legislative and regulatory representation, timely industry information and pertinent industry education.*** You are already paying a premium to some agent and underwriter somewhere so why not consider getting your Federal and/or State grain bonds through YOUR association!

We certainly appreciate the additional financial support this bond program provides for the (your) Association, especially in these times of continued consolidation. It is simple to separate your surety bond coverage from your other insurance coverages or to change agencies if necessary. In addition, bonds are continuous (in-force until cancelled) so they can be changed at any time during the license year. To receive a quote from us, simply contact the MGFA office at 651-454-8212 or e-mail us at info@mgfa.org. Thanks for the consideration of another (painless) way to support the Minnesota Grain and Feed Association!

MGFA Safety & Health Program

The Minnesota Grain and Feed Association has an agreement with the North Dakota Grain Dealers Association, to extend their highly successful safety and health program into Minnesota. The MGFA Safety and Health Program features an experienced staff whose focus is centered upon grain elevator and feed mill safety and health compliance. This limited industry focus provides for a good working relationship with the regulatory agencies impacting our industry and for an excellent understanding of regulatory priorities and issues specifically affecting a grain and feed handling facility. The MGFA Safety & Health Program is competitively priced and offers a level of service unmatched in the industry.

The MGFA Safety and Health Program is directed by Dave Nelson. We invite you to take a good look at what this program can do to help you improve safety and health for your employees, friends and colleagues. ([Click here](#) for the brochure.) You can’t afford to jeopardize the safety in and around your facility. This program can enhance an existing safety program and can bring members into compliance who have fallen behind or who are confused about compliance.

For more information, feel free to contact Dave Nelson, Program Director, at (218) 784-8140 or contact MGFA.

Need An Extra 2017 MGFA Directory? Buy Your Discounted Copy Now

Looking for an extra copy of the 2017 MGFA Directory for your desk or your truck? You're in luck! The MGFA office has a limited supply of 2017 MGFA Directories for sale at the discounted rate of **\$45 each** (regularly \$98). If you'd like to purchase an extra copy or two, just complete the [attached form](#) and send it to our office with your payment.



STAY CONNECTED WITH US:

[Visit our Website](#)

