

BLACKSTONE POST



The
Voice of
Blackstone
Security



The Secret to Our Success is in Our People

WINTER 2010



Solar Plant Construction Increasing Security Needs in the Southwest

The Southwest Region is rapidly becoming a Mecca for international solar manufacturing corporations seeking to expand into the United States, a trend that has been anticipated by Blackstone since it was founded. "The American Southwestern desert is the



SCHOTT Solar's facility in Albuquerque represents an initial investment of more than \$100 million.

logical location for solar energy plants," noted Blackstone President & CEO Dan Swindall. "The arrival of international solar companies has been something that we've been preparing for in a number of ways. We're ready."

Swindall said his company specializes in catering to the unique security needs of the southwest. Sharpening the site security skills of Blackstone personnel to handle secure buildings and construction sites is an ongoing priority.

This preparation paid dividends in 2009 when SCHOTT Solar, a worldwide leader in solar technology, chose Blackstone to provide security at the construction site of its 200,000 sf, \$100 million manufacturing facility near Albuquerque, NM. Blackstone's expertise in providing customized services, its inherent familiarity with the surrounding terrain and its knowledge of social, cultural and environmental issues unique to the southwest were major factors in its selection to provide security services. Blackstone's contract with SCHOTT Solar was recently renewed. SCHOTT has facilities in Germany, Spain and the Czech Republic.

Blackstone has established permanent Divisional offices in

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SCHOTT Solar Renews Contract with Blackstone at Albuquerque Facility

Albuquerque – Blackstone and SCHOTT Solar have renewed their contract to provide security services at the international solar equipment manufacturing giant's \$100 million facility near Albuquerque with both sides expressing satisfaction with each other's levels of performance and cooperation.

"Blackstone Security has been very responsive to the needs of our company," says SCHOTT Security Manager T.C. Garley. "Overall we are very satisfied with their personnel and communications with the local office are very good."

Garley said he would recommend Blackstone to similar companies, adding that Blackstone is in SCHOTT's future plans. "We are hoping to expand in the next few years and continue to use Blackstone with our expansion," Garley said. "Blackstone has been an asset to our company."

Blackstone was the initial company contracted by SCHOTT to provide security services during the construction of the facility in 2009. The relationship continued after the plant became operational. The facility is a secure site that produces solar panels and tubing.

Blackstone's Albuquerque District Manager Shana Kohlman said the relationship was a natural

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POST ORDERS

Dan Swindall, President & CEO

Season's Greetings to the entire Blackstone Family – employees, clients, consultants and community groups. I sincerely hope that you and yours are in the middle of your best Holiday Season ever!

What you are reading symbolizes a new theme adopted at our inaugural Manager's Meeting – Better Communication. The *Blackstone Post* is one of the first pieces of tangible evidence that communication is a top priority at Blackstone.

The *Post* will be the source of a variety of information and news of interest to our employees and to our current and future clients.

Better communication will help us establish and focus on clear goals. Better communication will help us meet the challenges of achieving those goals as a team.

Last year we embraced a full menu of items intended to improve our operations, delivery of services, employee benefits, training, interaction between divisions, business development, and the content and appearance of our proposals. Our regional offices are now called divisions: Phoenix headquarters is Division 32; Tucson is Division 34; Albuquerque is Division 42; and El Paso is Division 52.

Client services will become even more personalized and efficient because of Proprietary Scheduling, a cutting edge computer program being created exclusively for Blackstone.

Proprietary Scheduling Programming (PSP) will make it possible for Blackstone to store critical client information, such as contract provisions and duration; uniform requirements; physical and psychological demands of the assignment; desired guard traits and qualifications; site locations and client contacts.

Our future Basic Security Guard Training Series and our Supervisor Training Series will also set Blackstone apart by increasing the value of our employees to Blackstone and to our clients.

The 12-part series is endorsed by the International Foundation for Protection Officers and includes modules and testing materials on every aspect of security guard duties.

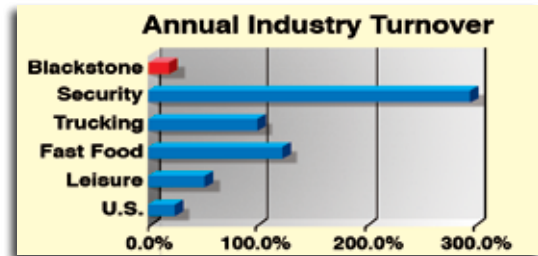
Our Field Inspectors will benefit further by attending a 10-part Supervisor Training Series offered online by Professional Security Training Network (PSTN). These training programs are in addition to meeting company and state standards.

It is now time to gauge our progress and map new strategies to make Blackstone the gold standard of security guard services in the Southwest Region. We are financially strong, respected by a client base that represents local, state and international profiles. Contracts are being renewed and we are growing. Our employee retention rate is so high we still have five of the original 10 security officers that started with us in 1993. Our future is as bright as the Southwestern sun. But we must embrace it by communicating the Blackstone story as a team with a single voice that reaches from Phoenix to Tucson to Albuquerque to El Paso and beyond.

Have a very Merry Christmas and a Happy and Safe New Year!

Blackstone Employee Retention Surpasses Industry Rate

Attrition impacts everyone in the security industry. While the industry average for turnover hovers at 300 percent, according to the American Society for Industrial Security (ASIS), overall turnover at Blackstone was at 25 percent or less for the years 2005, 2006 and 2007. Seventy-five percent of Blackstone's security guards have been with the company for three years or more. Five of Blackstone's original 10 security guards are still with the company.



"Our personnel seem very happy with their working conditions and with their coworkers," says Mitzi Hagan, human resources manager. "I attribute that to our policy of matching each assignment with an employee's particular skills. No one is ever in over their head. This benefits everyone."

At Blackstone, continuity means quality service that just gets better. Hagan says that is why employee retention is a major priority.

According to the U.S. Department of Labor, it can cost a company the equivalent of one-third of an employee's annual salary to replace that individual. High turnover is a major liability in an industry charged with the protection of human and material assets.

"Clients must be confident that employees assigned by a security vendor are dependable, loyal and trustworthy and will be there everyday, Hagan says. "Frequent turnover cannot be tolerated in a competitive industry where success is measured by consistency."

Team Blackstone www.blackstonesecurity.com

PHOENIX

Corporate – Division 32

Dan Swindall – President & CEO
 Jeanne Croft – Executive Vice Pres.
 Hugh Hall – District Operations Mgr.
 Bill Richards – Quality Control Mgr.
 Mitzi Hagan – Human Resources Mgr.

TUCSON

Division 34

Tony Browe – District Mgr.
 Peter Stuyen – District Sales Mgr.

ALBUQUERQUE, NM

Division 42

Shana Kohlman – District Mgr.

EL PASO, TX

Division 52

Vanessa Polanco – District Mgr.
 Cynthia Trujillo – District Sales Mgr.



Blackstone Post Editorial Staff

EDITOR: Diane Gonzalez
 EXECUTIVE EDITOR: Dan Swindall
 CONTRIBUTOR: Art Gissendaner
 GRAPHIC DESIGN: Bruce VanderJagt

This newsletter is produced at Blackstone Corporate Headquarters for the use and enjoyment of our employees and clients.

NATIONAL

ASIS Receives GSA Federal Supply Contract

Alexandria, VA – ASIS International is now an authorized General Services Administration (GSA) federal supply schedule vendor of educational programs, materials, exhibits and seminars for security professionals, ASIS officials have announced. “ASIS is excited about the opportunity to partner with the federal government to offer a broad array of training programs to keep security professional abreast of industry changes,” says the Society’s President, Joseph R. Granger, CPP. “Our programs include national and international conferences, regional workshops, certification review courses, webinars, published materials and much more.”

GSA schedules are open-ended, five-year contracts listing the prices the government has negotiated to pay for suppliers’ products and services. Vendors must pass through a strict review process to be approved for GSA listing. Federal buyers save time by procuring through the preapproved list of suppliers.

The approval of ASIS for a GSA schedule allows federal agencies, along with state and local entities, to more easily contract for ASIS’s security educational and training services. Government agencies and other organizations using the GSA schedule for purchases may now contract for ASIS’s board-certified, security training courses for protection professionals and investigators through GSA Contract #GS-02F-0186W, Schedule 874, Mission Oriented Business Integrated Services (MOBIS). For more information on the GSA schedules program, visit www.gsa.gov.

ASIS International is the world’s largest organization for security management professionals.



INTERNATIONAL

India Deploys Monkeys as Security Guards for Commonwealth Games

New Delhi - Authorities in Delhi, India were set to deploy a contingent of Langurs -- a large breed of monkey -- at Commonwealth Games venues to help chase away smaller simians from the sporting extravaganza.



Ten Langurs were put on duty outside several Games venues in the Indian capital, with the swimming complex seen as particularly vulnerable to monkey misbehavior, an official said.

The New Delhi Municipal Council (NDMC) has a regular team of 28 Langurs which are used to scare away their weaker brethren in VIP areas of the city.

“The number of Langurs were increased from 28 to 38. The additional Langurs took care of the Games venues and other important areas,” an NDMC official told the Press Trust of India news agency.

Animals have posed major headaches for the under-fire organizers, with stray dogs found in venues and a snake captured at the tennis complex.

Monkeys are a common sight in the verdant Indian capital, where they routinely scamper through government offices, courts and even police stations and hospitals.

In 2007, the deputy mayor of New Delhi died from a fall after being attacked by a group on the terrace of his home.

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Holiday Security Tips

No matter what name your holiday season is called, a thief is still a thief in any language or culture. Blackstone is offering some suggestions to keep your loved ones and property safe and secure so that you may fully enjoy the blessings this season brings, free from the worries of someone taking those ties, sweaters and other stylish gifts you’ve always never wanted before you’ve had a chance to exchange them.

Blackstone’s top 10 holiday shopping security suggestions:

1. Carry small amounts of cash and only the credit cards you need
2. Visit ATMs during the day and avoid ATMs in secluded locations
3. Carry cash, keys and credit cards separately
4. Carry your purse close to your body and zipped
5. Carry wallets in front pockets
6. Park in lighted areas and as close to store or mall entrance as possible
7. Complete your shopping before closing time and try to shop with a buddy
8. Avoid remote stairways
9. Store packages in car trunk
10. Drive to another area to remove any fliers from windshield. Fliers are used in carjacking

DIVISION NEWS



Division 32 • Phoenix

Community Involvement is Blackstone Aim

Blackstone's community involvement begins at the top. President & CEO Dan Swindall has involved Blackstone in a number of projects supporting community groups and nonprofit organizations.

This year Swindall undertook an ongoing project assisting veterans at several American Legion posts in the greater Phoenix area. These posts support a number of community initiatives including student groups, homeless veterans, elderly services and Toys for Tots. Swindall, himself a veteran, brought together a group of professionals who donated their time and expertise to advise the American Legion posts on financial matters, public relations and fund raising.

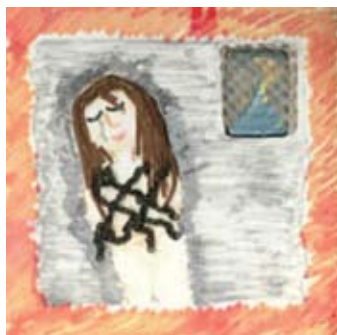
Blackstone also is actively involved in providing in-kind services to charitable organizations in Phoenix, Tucson, Albuquerque and El Paso. They include shelters for battered women, an international refugee center, an international rescue center and the National Multiple Sclerosis Society. Free seminars on personal safety, workplace safety and workplace violence are also provided.

Blackstone also supports the Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, the National Association of Women-owned Businesses, Lura Turner Homes (group home for mentally handicapped adults) and Eagles Charities (Civitan Group). The Delta Pi Chapter of Epsilon Sigma Alpha, an international philanthropic sorority that supports many charitable causes, including Easter Seals and St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, is also supported by Blackstone.



Blackstone proudly supports the American Legion.

Swindall says Blackstone's hiring practices reflect the cultural composition of the communities that support Blackstone.



Blackstone supports shelters for homeless and battered women.

"We look to align ourselves with business partners who are good corporate citizens that actively support their communities," Swindall says. "Businesses thrive when communities are healthy, but more than that, it's the right thing to do."



Division 34 • Tucson

Blackstone Workshop Teaches Workplace Survival Skills

Security is not limited to walking a post or providing a uniformed professional to watch over a client. It also involves educating members of the community on how to recognize potentially dangerous situations and reduce their risk. This is the spirit behind a series of workshops offered by Blackstone on Workplace Violence.

Workplace violence heads the list of the top 10 security threats identified by the largest corporations in the United States, according to Security Letter Inc., a New York-based company that conducts market research on security industry activities.

No one is more aware of this ranking than Tucson District Manager Tony Browe. Browe has been teaching Workplace Violence workshops for 20 years in the United States and abroad. He knows that workplace violence can happen anytime and anyplace to those who are unable to recognize the signs. "Incidents of violence in the workplace are on the rise," Browe observed. Pressure from stresses at home and those caused by today's economy are contributing factors."

Browe said the country is still suffering a hangover from the tragic workplace incidences in the 70's and 80's that gave rise to the term, "going postal." He said his workshops focus on how to recognize violent tendencies in ourselves and others and how to address the situation with company management and human resources.

"Most of these situations can be dealt with by recognizing the symptoms and taking corrective or preventative actions," Browe said. "But you do not ignore it." Browe's workshop covers a variety of topics such as the causes of workplace violence; performing self-assessments to gauge your proclivity for violence; recognizing the symptoms in others; how to stay calm and outlets to relieve stress; and what to do when someone brandishes a weapon.

"Take an extra break if you feel pressured to your breaking point," Browe advises. "Likewise if you notice a coworker becoming withdrawn, taciturn and threatening people, you might want to notify someone, especially if they've had a drastic change in wardrobe." Browe said violence can come from anyone such as a former disgruntled employee, a customer, a vendor or an ex-spouse.

Browe says that employees should know their company's crisis plan. For those working at a company without a crisis plan, thorough knowledge of the floor plan and the location of exits is recommended.

Workshops are available throughout the Southwest Region. Contact Tony Browe at: 2030 E. Broadway Blvd., Tucson, AZ 85719, (520) 622.2610, or tony@blackstonesecurity.com.



DIVISION NEWS



Division 42 • Albuquerque

Project New Day Gives Kids a New Start

Blackstone's Division 42 put up some impressive numbers in 2010, providing security services for new clients and resigning existing clients. However, District Manager Shana Kohlman and her crew still found the time to donate some time and effort to charitable causes that strengthen the greater Albuquerque community.

Chief among these charitable causes is Blackstone's support for Project New Day Youth & Family Services, a nonprofit social services organization that helps troubled youths and their families put together a plan to become productive, contributing members of their communities.



Project New Day students engage in a water fight at a Safe Home in Albuquerque

Kohlman and her guards donated their time to provide security for the organization's annual fundraiser held July 30 at the Hotel Albuquerque. Project New Day officials said the event, which was open to the public, was a complete success that attracted a standing room only crowd, the largest in the event's history.

"Project New Day was a great success this year and we're hoping to have an even greater success next year," said Project New Day Executive Director Steve Johnson. "We extend our thanks to Blackstone Security Services and everyone else that made Project New Day a success."

Activities included a fashion show, entertainment, silent and live auctions and individual success stories. A raffle was held with a two-year lease on a BMW as the main prize. Money raised helps fund the organization's programs, including a Safe Home for youth 11-17; Counseling & Case Management; Equine Assisted Learning; A Life Skills Academy and Detention Diversion.

Kohlman said donating security for such a large crowd really helped the event's organizers. "Blackstone has a vested interest in this community because we live here," Kohlman said. "Guarding businesses keeps it safe, and supporting organizations such as Project New Day keeps it strong."



Division 52 • El Paso

Blackstone Celebrates a Year of Securing, Nurturing El Paso Community

Blackstone's El Paso Division 52 recently celebrated its one-year anniversary of providing security to the greater business community of El Paso. During that time Blackstone has sprouted some strong roots that have touched professional groups and community members who need help the most.

District Manager Vanessa Polanco is an El Paso native who embodies Blackstone's policy of employing local residents who are familiar with the individual characteristics, culture and security needs of the communities it serves. "It is imperative that businesses take an active interest in the people that live here," Polanco says. "Healthy communities are productive communities, and productive communities are able to support businesses by providing qualified employees and by patronizing those businesses."

Polanco and District Sales Representative Cynthia Trujillo are active in community and professional groups. Polanco serves on the El Paso Housing Authority as the Vice President of the Roosevelt Resident Council.



El Paso Housing Authority CEO Gerald Cichon (l) and Vanessa Polanco at a meeting



Cynthia Trujillo (l) and Vanessa Polanco (r) attend the opening of a bank in El Paso

Roosevelt Council President Antonia Rodriguez says Polanco is invaluable to the organization. "It's not always easy to find volunteers but Vanessa finds the time to serve here and on another community board and I admire her for that," Rodriguez said. "I am very lucky to have her."

Polanco is also a board member for the La Posada Home, which provides housing in El Paso for homeless families and for victims of domestic violence and their children.

Polanco and Trujillo are active members of the Greater El Paso Chamber of Commerce, the El Paso Association of Builders and the Greater El Paso Realtors.

"This involvement gives us the opportunity to interact regularly with businesses throughout the greater El Paso metropolitan area and the state," says Trujillo. "Not only do we prosper as a business from this interaction, we also contribute to the overall economic health of the state."



**Employee of the
Quarter
Division 32 - Phoenix**

Stan Hendricks

Congratulations to Stanley “Stan” Hendricks, Blackstone Security Services Division 32 Employee of the Quarter! Stan has spent the last three years of his 20-year security career with Blackstone.

Stan is a veteran of two separate branches of the military. He served a four-year hitch with the U.S. Marines, achieving the rank of corporal. He then spent 17 years in the U.S. Navy as a Seabee, assigned to the Navy’s combat construction battalion. He also put in two years with the Military Police. He retired as an E-6, equal to the rank of staff sergeant.

“We selected Stan because he always conducts himself in a professional manner when dealing with clients and other Blackstone employees,” says Blackstone Vice President for Operations, Hugh Hall. “He is always willing to assist when an emergency situation arises. Stan treats his job, co-workers and clients with respect and always goes above and beyond the call of duty to meet the client’s needs and expectations.”

Stan says of Blackstone: “I enjoy the overall organization, the nice friendly people and the casually efficient attitude of the troops in the field.”

Stan says the exercise he gets and meeting people are the two things he enjoys most about his job. Besides being a physical fitness enthusiast, Stan is an avid Numismatist – he is a coin collector!

Stan’s philosophy on security is straight-forward and to the point: “A person has a right to feel their person and property are safe.”

Stan’s operating philosophy on his job explains why he is the Employee of the Quarter: “Be very professional, courteous and vigilant on any post that you are assigned.”

Stan is the proud father of two sons, the youngest in the U.S. Navy, and two step-daughters. Thank you for your service to your country, Stan, and for your service as a Blackstone Ambassador.



**Employee of the
Quarter
Division 34 - Tucson**

Stephen Lewis

Stephen Lewis’ career with Blackstone and in the security industry has been short but the Tucson resident makes each day count. He understands his job and conducts himself in a way that epitomizes the lengths Blackstone will pursue to provide exceptional service. That’s why Stephen is the Employee of the Quarter for Tucson’s Division 34.

“Mr. Lewis was selected because he is dedicated and eager to lend a hand at anytime,” says District Manager Tony Browe. “He has improved his performance and skill level continually since he came to us and has received the best overall grades from supervisors in the field.”

Stephen has spent 18 months of his two years in security with Blackstone. He said he likes the level playing field and the honesty at Blackstone. “I like the way my manager treats me with respect and gives equal treatment to all the guards,” Stephen said. “When we have an idea or opinion, it is encouraged or shot down, but never ignored.”

Stephen is an outgoing person who enjoys the variety his job offers. “I have a chance to go to different sites and meet lots of new people,” he says. “I’m learning new things along the way.”

Stephen’s hobbies are building military models and target shooting. His philosophy on the security industry is no-nonsense and to the point: “From a political slant, I would like to see greater jail sentencing for repeat offenders.”

Stephen is single with no children.

Thanks for your dedication, Stephen, and congratulations on your well-deserved recognition as a Blackstone Ambassador.

Security Tips & FAQs

Assessing the Need for Security Officer Services

A needs assessment is the best way to determine the number and types of security officer services needed by an organization. Needs assessments answer three important questions:

- What assets need to be protected?
- What knowledge and skills will security officers need to possess to protect the assets?
- What physical safeguards are needed to complement guard operations?

The first step is to become familiar with the facility under protection. The components of the facility must be known to determine whether two or 20 security officers are needed. Protection of a storage warehouse may require two officers while protection of a nuclear storage facility may require 20 officers.

(Source: ONGUARD E-news, El Dorado Insurance.)

Solar Plant *Continued from Page 1*

Phoenix, Tucson, Albuquerque and El Paso, TX.

“We believe in being a part of the communities we serve,” Swindall said. “Our clients know that we care about the overall safety and welfare of these communities and we know what makes them tick. We are here for the long haul, not just when there is a contract to bid on. So it’s more of a partnership than simply a business deal.”

Swindall said Blackstone gives back to the communities it serves by actively supporting charitable groups. “We also observe and promote energy conservation and other environmental initiatives that mirror the solar community’s mission of enhancing sustainable living with solar power.



Employee of the Quarter Division 42 -Albuquerque

Alex Ochoa

Alex Ochoa is a guy with his priorities in order and ‘a future so bright he’ll have to wear shades’, or so the song goes. Alex is on top of his game after just two years in the security industry and with Blackstone. That’s why Alex is the Albuquerque Division 42 Employee of the Quarter.

“Alex Ochoa is an ambitious young man who has the integrity and loyalty I look for,” says District Manager Shana Kohlman. “His dedication and professionalism make him shine above all.”

Alex exudes a positive attitude and enjoys working with the people around him. “There’s a great management staff here with a good focus on customer service,” Alex says about Blackstone. “It’s a well-organized company overall and I like getting paid on time.” See what we mean about priorities?

Alex also brings his enthusiasm to the table each day on the job. “I enjoy contributing to customer satisfaction and training other employees,” he says. “I also like the schedule flexibility that allows me to go to school.”

Alex is the robust, outdoor type who enjoys camping, playing sports and riding an ATV. His approach to the whole concept of security mirrors Blackstone’s mission. “I believe that security is making people and their property safe,” he says. “I enjoy knowing that our presence makes our clients feel good about their business. We prevent a lot of crime from happening.”

Alex has a daughter, Alexia, and a fiancé, Gaby. See what we mean about a bright future?

Thanks for your dedication, Alex, and congratulations on your designation as a Blackstone Ambassador.

Contract *Continued from Page 1*

fit and has improved over time. “Whatever they ask for they get right away,” Kohlman said. “Both of us have open door policies so there is constant communication and a free exchange of information. We talk daily. Communication and rapid response are keys to our relationship.”

Blackstone President & CEO Dan Swindall said the contract extension does not mean that Blackstone will sit on its laurels. “We are very pleased that the contract with such a distinguished client as SCHOTT Solar has been extended, but it is part of our company culture to continue to constantly improve the levels of service we provide to SCHOTT Solar and to all of our clients,” Swindall said. “We take nothing for granted at Blackstone.”

Kohlman agreed saying that personnel assigned to SCHOTT are motivated and dedicated to providing great service. “We’ve got a good, consistent group of guards,” she said. “They say it is a privilege to work there.”

Kohlman added that a feeling of trust and mutual respect has developed. “(Garley) respects our guards and notices their performance,” she said. “He even assists with our employee recognition program.”

Safety Training Tips

Training and safety are probably the two most expensive and important investments employers make in their employees – outside of healthcare. When employees are properly trained in safety procedures, healthcare costs can be controlled. That is the aim of safety. While not everyone requires the training of a security guard, with a little imagination safety training can be expanded to include extraordinary situations and hazardous predicaments. So here are some tips on training employees for safety.

When? Train new employees in company safety policies within the first two to three weeks after hire. The sooner the better! However, attempting to integrate safety training



with the numerous human resource policies and procedures which new employees must learn could cause information overload. Address safety in separate training sessions to ensure that the new employee recognizes the importance of the company safety program, and of his or her responsibility to work safely.

How Much? The extent of the safety training will depend on the degree and the number of hazards that have been identified in the operation. Training could last from 30 minutes to several days. To assure that the amount of time scheduled is adequate, conduct a thorough hazard evaluation of all operations and processes.

Training Technique. The training technique selected is directly related to the training objective. The objective should be action-oriented (i.e., perform, demonstrate, accomplish, etc.). The chosen training technique should take into consideration that learning is accomplished with all the senses. Each of the senses impact learning to varying degrees: taste, 1%; touch, 1.5%; smell, 3.5%; hearing, 11%; and sight, 83%. Based on these percentages, there is a tendency to concentrate on the sense of sight (written instruction, videos, etc.). In some situations this may be the right way to go; however, in the majority of training sessions, the use of multiple senses is the most effective. Get employees involved in the training session. Hands-on demonstrations of safe work practices after instruction, with individual supervision, are the most effective.

Follow-Up. Evaluate initial safety training to ensure that it has been effectively received and assimilated by the employee. These evaluations should be conducted by the trainer according to an established schedule, and then on an ongoing basis by the immediate supervisor. Any behavior that is recognized as needing correction or modification must be corrected on the spot.

Finally. If the learner hasn’t learned, the teacher hasn’t taught!

*Source: the Loss Control Division of The Hartford Financial Services Group, Inc.



Blackstone Name has Presence in History, Tradition

Ever wonder how some companies get their name?

Blackstone's namesake is Sir William Blackstone (July 10, 1723 – Feb. 14, 1780), an English judge. Blackstone President & CEO Dan Swindall is a student of history, and became familiar with Sir William while serving in England as a security policeman in the U.S. Air Force.



Statue of Sir William Blackstone, Washington, DC.

Besides being a judge, jurist and the first law professor at Oxford, Blackstone was the first to write down the law when he published the historical and analytic four-volume treatise on the common law titled, *Commentaries on the Laws of England* from 1765 to 1769. The American edition of the volumes were issued in 1771 and won instant recognition for their synthesis of the bewildering doctrines that made up the common law.

In 1761 he won election as a Member of Parliament, receiving the rank equivalent to that of King's Counsel. He was knighted in 1770 and appointed a justice of the Court of Common Pleas. In ad-

dition to the *Commentaries*, Sir William published the first scholarly edition of *Magna Carta* and other legal treatises.

Leading American attorneys who first learned their law by reading the sometimes provocative Blackstone included Alexander Hamilton, Thomas Jefferson and Abraham Lincoln. The treatise remains an important source of classical views of the common law and its principles and has been used recently by current U.S. Supreme Court Justice Clarence Thomas. U.S. and other common law courts regularly refer to Blackstone.

References to Blackstone's work also appear in literature including the novels *Moby Dick*, *Anatomy of a Murder* and *To Kill a Mockingbird*. A bust of Blackstone adorns lawyers' offices in many Perry Mason stories. Blackstone's works appeared shortly before the American Revolution and influenced the framers of the *Declaration of Independence*. Many of the *Declaration's* terms and phrases, particularly the phrase, "*Pursuit of Happiness*", were derived from Blackstone's works. The artist Thomas Gainsborough immortalized Blackstone with a portrait in 1774. America honors Sir William yet today with a statue outside the E. Barrett Prettyman Federal Courthouse in Washington, DC.

Like its namesake, Blackstone Security has a solid foundation, uses plain talk, and has a set of principles that stand the test of time.

Now you know.

(Source: Wikipedia)

Blackstone is an ENERGY STAR Partner

Blackstone is now a partner in ENERGY STAR, a joint program of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) that helps businesses save money and protect the environment through energy efficient products and practices.

Begun in 1992, ENERGY STAR is the standard by which all sustainable efforts are measured. An ENERGY STAR Partnership acknowledges an organization universally as an active participant in the sustainability efforts to conserve our planet.



"At Blackstone, we consider sustainability a form of providing security for the planet," says Blackstone Executive Vice President Jeanne Croft. "We have in place a firm company policy that sustains and reinforces a culture of environmental stewardship among our employees and consulting partners." Croft said employees are urged to use energy and materials wisely and consulting partners are encouraged to sign a pledge to mirror Blackstone's energy conservation practices in every phase of

the contractual relationship.

Croft added that Crime Prevention through Environmental Design (CPTED) is a sustainable business option that Blackstone employs to advise its clients on environmentally friendly methods of asset protection that range from the strategic placement of shrubbery to strategies that maximize the use of natural light to conserve energy and contribute to the overall health of employees. "There are a number of ways to use CPTED to provide passive security," Croft says. "CPTED is recognized internationally as a method of lessening exposure to security breaches in high-risk locations. It saves money in energy costs and it also enables fewer employees to monitor larger exposure areas."

Blackstone also maintains a membership in *The Blue Book of Building and Construction*, an online service that brings together product and service providers with bidding opportunities. In business since 1913, *The Blue Book* is listed as a green company because it drastically reduces the use of paper to conduct business. Supporting and practicing Green Initiatives is critical to sustaining our planet.

Blackstone Security is a Proud Member of:

