



## **American Red Cross' *ReadyRating* Program Focus of June 21 CONN-OSHA Breakfast**

WETHERSFIELD, June 7, 2011 – Joe Kuzma, Senior Director of Corporate Programs with the American Red Cross' Connecticut Region will discuss the organization's recently rolled-out Business Readiness Model for small businesses in need of a disaster preparedness plan. The American Red Cross' *ReadyRating*<sup>™</sup> is a free Web-based application that takes a holistic approach in helping businesses measure their own state of readiness.

The session is scheduled for June 21 as part of a discussion series sponsored by the Connecticut Department of Labor's Division of Occupational Safety and Health. The event will run from 8:15 to 9:45 a.m. in Conference Room A and B of the agency's Central Office located at 200 Folly Brook Boulevard, Wethersfield.

Holding a bachelors' of science degree in engineering from the University of Cincinnati, Joe Kuzma has an extensive background in disaster preparedness and following a lengthy career in private industry, joined the American Red Cross in 2000. On Sept. 11, 2001, Joe was the first American Red Cross staffer to arrive at the Connecticut Emergency Operations Center.

"According to a recent Red Cross survey, 94 percent of small business owners believe a disaster would seriously disrupt their business, and one-third have no real business continuity plan and 82 percent indicated that they need assistance preparing a Business Readiness Plan," explains John Able, CONN-OSHA Safety Training Specialist and breakfast series coordinator. "We are addressing the 82 percent and are very fortunate to have a subject expert such as Joe lead the discussion," he added.

Admission to the roundtable is free, but pre-registration is required. To register, or for additional information, please contact Able, via email, at [able.john@dol.gov](mailto:able.john@dol.gov).

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