

From the Desk of Mark Newsome

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Safety First

The safety of our employees is of the utmost importance. While the goal of ABM Franchising Group is to make buildings more efficient, safe, and sustainable, we can't even begin to reach that goal without first providing our employees proper instruction and safety training.

TEGG contractor [O'Connell Electric](#) is a great example of a company that incorporates safety into its everyday culture. The company just held its Fifth Annual Safety Picnic on July 27. The estimated attendance of 800 included all of O'Connell Electric's employees, special speakers and vendors. The entire event centered on safety. Vendors such as Milwaukee Tool and Hilti held tool safety demonstrations, and DiVal Safety Equipment hosted fall protection safety demonstrations.

As O'Connell Electric knows, safety goes beyond taking a safety course or reading the monthly safety tips posted to TEGG Mobile. It is about developing a safety culture within your organization. Within ABM, we reinforce the importance of safety through our [Safety Absolutes](#) and [ThinkSafe™](#) program. These basic safety principles provide clarity about our standards and expectations that certain high-hazard tasks must not be done by any employee who has not received proper instruction and training. Managers are required to train employees to stop and refuse unsafe work until a safe environment can be assured. All employees are expected to work in accordance with the standards set in ABM's Safety Absolutes.

We have a number of tools and resources to help all TEGG franchisees develop and uphold a safety culture for their company. Check out [ABM Franchising Group's Monthly Safety Tips](#), take an online safety course through [Empower Training Services](#) and reach out to Safety Manager [Tod Truettner](#), or [Joe Gierlach](#), Vice President – Technical Training and Support, for additional resources.



Mark Newsome
President