



Smithsonian Institution

Cristián Samper
Acting Secretary

Dear Colleagues:

As Acting Secretary of the Smithsonian Institution (SI), it is my responsibility to provide our staff, volunteers, and visitors with a safe environment in which to work and experience the many educational opportunities afforded by our collections, ongoing research, exhibits and related public programs.

Our goal for the SI is to create a comprehensive, self-sustaining culture of safety performance in each museum, research institute and office that promotes employee effectiveness, productivity and professional fulfillment in executing the SI mission and that meets the Institution's Zero-Injury Goal.

The policy directives and best-practices tools to accomplish this goal are defined by the Smithsonian Directive 419 (SD 419) and implemented through this companion document, The Smithsonian Institution Safety Manual. Together they provide the overarching Policy and Guiding Principles for operation of the Program.

For this effort to be completely effective, it also becomes the joint responsibility for those in each SI organization to be aware of and follow safe work practices for their own well being and that of their co-workers, the visiting public, our collections, and property.

I am fully committed to the continual improvement of the SI Safety, Health and Environmental Management Program, with the expectation that my colleagues at all levels of every organization are also fully committed to a pro-active safety program effort.

Sincerely,

Cristián Samper K.