

# Horizon Utilities surpasses one million hours without a lost-time injury

**(HAMILTON/ST. CATHARINES, ON) January 23, 2012** - Horizon Utilities Corporation, the utility company that distributes electricity to homes and businesses in Hamilton and St. Catharines, recently achieved a significant safety milestone for the second time since 2010 - one million hours worked without a lost-time injury.

“Our number one priority in delivering a reliable supply of electricity to our customers is to ensure the safety of our employees, contractors and everyone in the communities we serve,” says Max Cananzi, President and CEO of Horizon Utilities Corporation. “This is the second time we have achieved this milestone in safety, which is a clear indication that every single one of our 400 well-trained and conscientious employees has made a personal commitment to working safely.”

“I am proud of our employees’ ongoing success in safety,” adds Cananzi. We will continue to strengthen our safety practices and performance with the implementation of a best-in-class health and safety management system, Canadian Standards Association (CSA) Z1000. Our goal remains the same as it has always been—zero injuries. Working safely means that our employees go home safely to their families each and every day. Nothing is more important than that.”

Horizon Utilities’ safety record has benefited from the strong support of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IBEW) and the company’s Joint Health and Safety Committees. “We take a team approach to safety. However, everyone also takes individual responsibility for their own safety and for that of their colleagues, through an uncompromising and focused approach to health and safety,” states Cananzi.

Horizon Utilities extends its commitment to safety beyond the work environment into the communities it serves. In 2011, the company provided electrical safety training for 11,500 elementary school students attending 52 schools in Hamilton and St. Catharines. During these sessions, children from Kindergarten to Grade 7 learn about the hazards posed by outlets, appliances, substations, transformers, hydro poles, and overhead electrical wires.

### **About Horizon Utilities Corporation**

Horizon Utilities, named Sustainability Company of the Year by the Canadian Electricity Association, is one of the largest municipally owned electricity distribution companies in Ontario. The company, a Top 10 Employer in Hamilton-Niagara, provides electricity and related utility services to 237,000 residential, commercial and industrial customers in Hamilton and St. Catharines.

Horizon Utilities' employees are committed to delivering a safe and reliable supply of electricity, providing unparalleled customer value, and helping to create a culture of energy conservation in Ontario.

**About CSA Z1000**

Horizon Utilities is one of the first Ontario local distribution companies to implement CSA Z1000. This national standard provides a model for developing and implementing an occupational health and safety management system. Such a system encourages a more systematic approach to meeting defined occupational health and safety objectives and increases awareness of health and safety in the workplace.

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