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## NEWS RELEASE

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **The Indiana Department of Labor Enters Strategic Partnership with Fred Weber, Inc., and the Indiana Department of Transportation for I-69 Project**

**INDIANAPOLIS** (June 30, 2011) – The Indiana Department of Labor has entered into a strategic safety and health partnership agreement with Fred Weber, Inc., a construction management company that is building 11 miles of the new I-69 extension in Greene County. The Indiana Department of Transportation is also a signatory to the agreement. Members of IDOL, Fred Weber, and INDOT met in Bloomfield yesterday to officially sign the agreement.

“The I-69 project is a significant endeavor for Indiana,” said IDOL Commissioner Lori Torres. “Worker safety is of the utmost importance at all times, and the I-69 project provides an opportunity for government, management and labor to share best practices for achieving superior worker safety and health.”

The agreement states that IDOL will review and approve the company’s written safety program for I-69. In addition, the Fred Weber company must also maintain worker injury and illness rates that are 13 percent lower than the construction industry average. The Fred Weber company must also require that all construction activities over six feet above the ground on its I-69 contract use fall-protection gear. “Falls are one of the four leading causes of death on construction sites,” added Torres.

IDOL’s Strategic Partnership Program moves away from traditional OSHA enforcement methods to embrace collaborative agreements and work cooperatively to address critical safety and health issues. The Fred Weber, Inc., partnership agreement will remain in effect for two years.

“Fred Weber, Inc. is very excited to have the opportunity to work with the Indiana Department of Labor and the Indiana Department of Transportation toward achieving our mutual goal of reducing accidents and injuries in the workplace,” said Douglas Weible, president and chief operating officer. “IDOL’s and INDOT’s resolve to bring government, management, and labor together in a collaborative effort toward a common goal exemplifies their commitment for a better and safer future for all Indiana workers and its citizens and we’re proud to be a part of that effort.”

For more information about the IDOL/Fred Weber/INDOT partnership agreement, visit: [www.in.gov/dol/2387.htm](http://www.in.gov/dol/2387.htm)



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**About the Indiana Department of Labor:**

The mission of the Indiana Department of Labor is to advance the safety, health and prosperity of Hoosiers in the workplace. In order to make significant strides, we emphasize both enforcement and compliance assistance by employers. [www.in.gov/dol](http://www.in.gov/dol)

**About Fred Weber, Inc.:**

Headquartered in Maryland Heights, Missouri, Fred Weber, Inc. performs work in heavy and highway construction projects. Through its office in Missouri, the company has also developed worker safety and health partnerships with the federal Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA). [www.fredweberinc.com](http://www.fredweberinc.com)

**About INDOT:** The mission of the Indiana Department of Transportation is to plan, build, maintain and operate a superior transportation system enhancing safety, mobility, and economic growth. [www.in.gov/indot](http://www.in.gov/indot)