

Safety is no small thing at Lopez Foods

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The folks at [Lopez Foods](#) celebrated something big by giving an employee something, well, small.



The meatpacking plant, on Morgan Road in west Oklahoma City, is celebrating 1 million hours without a lost-time injury. So management cooked up a way to commemorate the milestone.

In game show fashion, five employees were given keys to a new Mini Cooper and a chance to start the hot little car. Randy Ashmore heard the engine purr and got to take home the car, plus \$5,000 to pay for tag, title and tax.

He also gets a VIP parking spot near the building's entry. The four runners up will receive \$1,000 cash. The giveaway has energized the meat-packing plant's work force of 500 and added a renewed emphasis on safety, said MaDonna Kenner, the plant's safety manager.

One million hours without an injury that caused an employee to miss work is a rare feat in the industry, she said.

"Everybody's pretty excited because we've made history," she said.

In the company's 40-plus years, Lopez Foods never accomplished such a streak, she said.



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