

THE TURNING POINT

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The Vision of the Turning Point

This newsletter is to inform you of recent changes and trends regarding health and safety. The Turning Point is a monthly newsletter covering topics from various industries and sectors. The Turning Point will respond to your inquiries and inform you of current services and updates regarding Raising the Standard Consulting Inc. (RTSC).

CASE SPOTLIGHTS WHMIS TRAINING

The Workplace Hazardous Materials Information System (WHMIS) is a well-established and complex system of federal and provincial requirements designed to ensure that workers receive information about hazardous materials and how to use them safely. These materials are referred to as "controlled products" federal and "hazardous materials" in most provinces. This information is generally provided: on labels on containers of the hazardous products; in more detailed documents prepared by the supplier of the product known as Material Safety Data Sheets (MSDS's); and through worker training. **Ontario's WHMIS training obligations.** The Ontario *Occupational Health and Safety Act* and WHMIS Regulations contain fairly detailed training obligations in relation to WHMIS. Most other provinces have similar provisions. Under section 42 of the act, employers have a general obligation to ensure that workers exposed or likely to be exposed to hazardous materials receive and participate in training and instruction. Furthermore, workers' familiarity with the training and instruction must be reviewed at least annually.

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MINISTRY OF LABOUR UPDATES

HAMILTON, ON, Nova Steel Processing, a company that operates a steel processing plant in Stoney Creek, Ont., was fined \$75,000 on January 6, 2006 for a violation of the Occupational Health and Safety Act that resulted in a serious foot injury to an employee. On July 21, 2004, a worker was helping to remove used "cutting heads" (blades) and "spacers" (pieces of steel enabling the cutting heads to be spaced apart at different intervals) on a machine located on a "slitter line" (a production line that cuts rolls of steel to dimensions required by customers) when the worker's foot got caught in a pinch point between a stationary component and a moving component that contained a blade. The force of movement resulted in amputation of the worker's right foot. The component had been activated by a second worker to enable the cutting heads to be removed. A Ministry of Labour investigation found there was no lockout procedure to prevent movement of the component when workers were on the machine removing blades. The incident occurred at the company's plant at 830 South Service Road in Stoney Creek.

Nova Steel Processing pleaded guilty, as an employer, to failing to ensure a part of the machine that could endanger a worker's safety was equipped with and guarded by a guard or other device that prevented access to the pinch point. This was contrary to Section 25(1)(a) of the act.

CORNWALL, ON, Dorel Industries Inc., a Laval, Quebec-based company, with a plant in Cornwall that pre-cuts particle board for use in office/home furniture and entertainment units, was fined \$90,000 for a violation of the Occupational Health and Safety Act that resulted in serious arm and hand injuries to a young employee. On May 31, 2004, a worker was removing debris from the cutting line of a saw machine that cut and stacked particle board when the worker's hand came in contact with moving cutting blades. The worker's lower left arm and hand were amputated. A Ministry of Labour investigation found there was no guarding device that prevented the worker from having access to the exposed moving blades. The incident occurred at the company's plant at 3305 Loyalist Street in Cornwall.

Dorel Industries Inc. pleaded guilty, as an employer, to failing to ensure the saw was properly guarded. This was contrary to Section 25(1)(a) of the act.

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MINISTRY OF LABOUR NEW MANDATE FOR 2006
Are You Ready?

The Ministry of Labour has indicated that on April 1st 2006, MOL inspectors will be starting to focus on ergonomics risk factors during inspections of high risk workplaces. Repetitive Strain Injuries (RSI's) account for 42% of all lost time claims and 50% of all lost time days. To increase awareness on these issues let us assist you in being ready when the MOL come to your location.

NEW OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY AND HEALTH
DIRECTIVE, OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH AND SAFETY
COMMITTEE, JANUARY 1, 2006

The following thirteen standards have been simplified and amalgamated (no changes of substance other than the removal of the footwear allowance) to form the new directive, which contains enhancements of and additions to the Canada Labour Code, or particularities to the Public Service not covered by the CLC and found in the current version of the Directives:

- Use and Occupancy of Buildings Directive (Permanent Structures)
- Elevated Work Structures Safety Standard
- Elevating Devices Directive
- Boilers and Pressure Vessels Directive
- Noise Control and Hearing Preservation Standard
- Electrical Safety and Health Standard
- Sanitation Safety and Health Standard
- Hazardous Substances Directive
- Hazardous Confined Spaces Directive
- Personal and Protective Equipment and Clothing Directive
- Tools and Machinery Safety and Health Standard
- Materials Handling Directive
- First Aid Safety and Health Standard

The four following standards remain in force:

- Committees and Representatives Standard
- Motor Vehicle Operations Directive
- Pesticides Directive
- Refusal to Work Directive

Since the communiqué, a slight change has been made to the definition of "appropriate standard":

"appropriate standard" (*norme appropriée*) means a standard or standards, as amended from time to time, which provides the highest level of safety. If more than one standard meets this criterion, the standard or standards shall be selected using the following order of precedence:

1. standard prescribed by the *Canada Labour Code, Part II, and applicable regulations;*

NOTICE OF PROPOSED HARMONIZED CONFINED
SPACE REGULATION

The Dangers of Working in Confined Spaces

Work in confined spaces can be extremely dangerous due to the potential for buildup of hazardous gases or dust, or due to concentrations of oxygen that can result in the immediate life-threatening hazards of suffocation, fire or explosion.

The Proposal

The Ministry is proposing to strengthen the current confined space requirements in the four sector regulations-- Regulations for Industrial Establishments, Regulations for Construction Projects, Regulations for Health Care and Residential Facilities and Regulations for Mines and Mining Plants--and to consolidate them into a single, harmonized confined space regulation..

Protecting All Workers in Workplaces with Confined Spaces

The updated and harmonized regulation would balance safety, technology and current best practices for confined space entry, while ensuring the protection of all workers in confined space workplaces. It would create a level playing field and remove inconsistencies.

Many sectors and workplaces currently not covered by any of the sector regulations, including sewer services, the transportation industry, etc., are required to take precautions to protect their workers in confined spaces. The harmonized regulation would set out clear, defined requirements for all workplaces with confined spaces. It would expand protection to all workers in Ontario - not just those in the industrial, construction, mining and health care sectors - working in or outside of a confined space.

It contains strict procedures for entry, and clarifies requirements for worker training and for the posting of atmospheric test results. This would give workers in confined spaces the knowledge and information they need to identify confined space hazards and to protect themselves.

Contact us to assist you in complying to the new regulations.



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2. standard prescribed by provincial occupational health and safety legislation;
3. standard recognized by the Standards Council of Canada or by the International Organization for Standardization (ISO);
4. standard developed by a government organization with regard to a subject area within their jurisdiction (e.g.: Health Canada, Transport Canada, Environment Canada);
5. standard developed by an association recognized by a majority of qualified practitioners in the field to which the standard is addressed (e.g. American Society of Heating, Refrigerating and Air-Conditioning Engineers "ASHRAE");
6. standard universally accepted by a majority of qualified practitioners

PUBLIC TRAINING COURSES

The following is an example of a few of the training courses we offer. For a full list, please contact us.

FREE Due Diligence Class (1/2 day)

Nov. 1, Dec.6

JHSC Certification Part 1 Training (2-day course)

\$349.00 +GST - 2-day Course

Nov. 7-8, Dec. 5-6

JHSC Certification Part 2 Training (length depends on industry)

\$275.00 +GST – 1 ½ days

\$375.00 +GST – 2 days

\$475.00 +GST – 2 ½ days

\$575.00 +GST – 3 days

Nov. 14-16, Dec. 12-14

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

We are currently seeking junior and intermediate consultants. For junior consultants, we require a formal education in the field of occupational health and safety with a good knowledge of the Occupational Health and Safety Act and Workwell Audit Compliance. We also require skill in program development and conducting public training sessions. For intermediate consultants, we require all of the above as well as 3-5 years' experience working in the occupational health and safety field. If interested, please forward your resume

WEB BASED TRAINING

Raise the safety, health, and productivity of your employees to the top of your agenda and provide training solutions that deliver real results. We provide web-based training programs for the convenience of your organization.

Hand Tools and Automotive Lifts

Identify the Hazards and Controls Regarding: Hand Tools, Hoists, Fixed, Power, Electrical and Pneumatic Tools, Guarding, Powered Lifting Equipment, Automotive Lifts. Register to access the complete training material.

Health, Safety and The Law

Provide participants with a working knowledge of the Occupational Health and Safety Act and related legislation and more. Register to access the complete training material.

Joint Health and Safety Committee

Participants will be able to: Know the legislative requirements for establishing a JHSC, Describe the powers, functions and duties of JHSCs and their members. Describe the activities of an effective JHSC etc. Register to access the complete training material.

Machine Safety and Lockout / Tagout Procedure

Learn about Workplace Responsibilities, Machine Guarding and the Law , Understanding Machine Related Hazards Lockout / Tagout, Applicable Legislation , Hazard Identification , Lockout Procedures. Register to access the complete training material.

Manager and Supervisor Safety Orientation

Learn about Management Responsibilities, Right to Refuse, JHSC, Hazard Recognition, Workplace Accidents, Emergency Procedures, New Employee Orientation, Transfer and Promotion etc. Register to access the complete training material.

Material Handling

This course is designed to teach workers about proper material handling techniques. On completion of this course, workers should be able to Describe what factors contribute to back injuries, Explain proper lifting techniques etc.

Accident Investigation

The goal of this module is to ensure you will be able to: Recognize the need for an investigation Investigate the scene of the accident, Interview victims & witnesses ,Determine root causes ,Compile data and prepare reports Make recommendations etc.

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RECENT TESTIMONIALS

Fizal McDoom, Health & Safety Officer Omega Direct Response Inc.

Thank you for your personalized approach and flexibility in assisting Omega Direct Response with its Workwell Audit. Your knowledge, insight and professionalism regarding Health & Safety are the main reasons we passed the audit with a score of 100%. I highly recommend RTS Consulting Inc. to any company looking to improve their Health & Safety program

Kathy Underwood, Vice-President of Operations Closing the Gap Healthcare Group

It is a pleasure to write this letter of reference for Stanford Brown and his company, Raising the Standard Consulting.

Closing the Gap Healthcare Group encompasses a trio of leading-edge health companies providing health services in institutional and community settings (including homes, schools, workplaces and supported living situations). Our staff numbers over 500 regulated and unregulated healthcare providers and office support staff. Over the course of three months in 2005, Stanford facilitated a comprehensive review of our existing Occupational Health and Safety Program.

Utilizing the Workwell Audit tool and his extensive knowledge of the Occupational Health and Safety Act, Stanford assisted us in identifying the gaps in our current program as well as strategies for addressing these gaps. Throughout the process, we were impressed with Stanford's knowledge of the OH&S Act and its application in "real-life" scenarios, as well as his willingness to learn from our experience in the community healthcare setting and the unique occupational health and safety challenges that this work setting presents. He also accessed his group of occupational health and safety consultants, each of whom brings his/her own area of special expertise, on an as-needed basis, which ensured that we had access to the most up-to-date information available.

Stanford demonstrated respect for our skills and knowledge, confidence in his understanding of the Act, and the ability to complete a project in the agreed-upon time frame and within budget. I am pleased to recommend Stanford and his consulting group to others.

Health Hazards: Recognition, Assessment and Control

The goal of this module is to ensure you will be able to: Understand the law pertaining to health and safety hazards, Define occupational injury and illness, Understand the four types of workplace health hazards etc.

Workplace Inspection

Provide participants with an understanding of their legal rights and responsibilities with regard to workplace inspections and to prepare them for carrying out effective workplace inspections.

Slips, Trips and Falls

Objective of this training is to Understand the causes and effects of falls in the workplace, To understand legislation relating to slip, trip and fall hazards, To be able to identify potential slip, trip and fall hazards etc. Register to access the complete training material. etc, Register to access the complete training material.

WHMIS

Explain how WHMIS is implemented in law, Explain how the law defines a controlled product Explain how the law defines hazardous ingredients, Identify the exclusions etc. Register to access the complete training material.

Worker Safety Orientation

Worker Responsibilities, Right to Refuse, Joint Health and Safety Committee, Hazard Recognition, First Aid, Workplace Accidents and more... Register to access the complete training material.

CHARACTER AND INTEGRITY TRAINING

Is character and integrity seen as a core value in your organization? We offer specialized training which outlines the importance of integrity among both executive and workers within: the workplace, marriage, and finances, and steps to improve in these areas and what the benefit to your company can be.



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