

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).

PANDEMIC INFLUENZA

RTS Consulting has been a leader in providing environmental infection prevention and control in Ontario. During the SARS outbreak RTS provided respiratory fit testing (qualitative and quantitative) and respiratory protection program consulting services to several Ontario hospitals and industries. We fit tested hospital personnel in numerous facilities, and assisted several facilities to establish in-house capability.

RTS Consulting will be holding a half-day seminar to discuss Pandemic Influenza – Prevention and Control in Brampton on May 20th and in Toronto on June 3rd. Please Call RTS Consulting for details.



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MINISTRY OF LABOUR UPDATES

BRAMPTON, ON, April 20 /CNW/ - ArcelorMittal Tubular Products Canada Inc., a Hamilton company, was fined \$110,000 on April 14, 2009, for a violation of the Occupational Health and Safety Act (OHSA), after a worker was seriously injured.

On December 11, 2007, a worker at the company's facilities at 14 Holtby Avenue in Brampton was using a lift truck to move steel coils from a cradle. While outside the truck retrieving safety upright bars for the cradle, a coil, weighing 2.708 metric tons (5,970 lb.) tipped onto the worker's leg. As a result of injuries, the worker's leg was amputated below the knee.

ArcelorMittal Tubular Products Canada Inc. pleaded guilty under the OHSA to failing, as an employer, to ensure material that is stored will not tip, collapse or fall, and can be removed or withdrawn without endangering the safety of a worker.

NEWMARKET, ON, April 8 /CNW/ - Highrise Window Technologies Inc., a Concord, Ont. company that makes windows for high rise buildings, was fined \$160,000 on April 3, 2009 for a violation under the Occupational Health and Safety Act, after a worker was killed.

On September 19, 2007, a worker was cutting, loading onto a cart, and moving cut glass from a cutting machine to a washing machine. One cart was overloaded, a rear castor on it broke off while in motion, and glass fell off the cart, pinning the worker between the fallen glass and the cutting machine.

A Ministry of Labour investigation found that by lifting the front castors off the ground and dragging the cart, excess stress was placed on the rear castors, causing one to sheer off and the cart and its load to tip.

Highrise Window Technologies Inc. pleaded guilty to failing, as an employer, to ensure the glass was moved in a way that would not endanger the worker.

RAISING THE STANDARD CONSULTING INC.

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RESPIRATOR FIT TESTING

Does your facility present an environment where there is a risk for transmission of Swine Flu through infectious particulates? Respirators, such as the N-95, provide protection from infectious particulates when properly fitted and worn. The proper fit of a respirator on the face of the wearer is critical to ensure its efficiency and ensure there is no leakage. The best available method to determine the amount of leakage is 'fit testing', which can be done quantitatively or qualitatively. This establishes a *fit factor* for each subject-mask combination.

RTS Consulting has had extensive experience in providing respirator fit testing at various locations and would be happy to provide respirator fit testing training at your facility. Please contact us for a quotation.

MCGUINITY GOVERNMENT WORKING TO STRENGTHEN PROTECTIONS FOR WORKERS

Violence and harassment have no place in the workplace. That's the message Ontario is sending by introducing legislative amendments to the Occupational Health and Safety Act that would, if passed, help protect workers from workplace violence and harassment.

The proposed legislation would, if passed:

- Require employers to develop a framework that would include policies and programs to help prevent workplace violence and harassment
- Require employers to take reasonable precautions to protect an employee from domestic violence in the workplace
- Allow workers to remove themselves from harmful situations if they have reason to believe that they are at risk of imminent danger due to workplace violence

The government is also launching specific measures to tackle workplace violence in the health sector. Two newly appointed Healthy Work Environments Champions will work to build a culture of workplace safety in health care settings across the province. The Champions are:

- Rob Devitt, President and CEO of Toronto East General Hospital,
- Dr. Heather Laschinger, Distinguished University Professor and Associate Director Nursing Research at The University of Western Ontario, School of Nursing.



OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH & SAFETY UPDATE Bill 168 – Ontario Employers to Face Onerous Obligations for the Prevention of “Workplace Violence” and “Workplace Harassment”

By Barbara G. Humphrey
Excerpt from Stringer Brisbin Humphrey's Electronic
Newsletter- 04/27/09

Alert!

Violence prevention in Canadian workplaces has emerged as a key priority across Canada. The McGuinty government has followed the lead of most provinces in Canada and the Federal government with the introduction of Bill 168. Bill 168 proposes comprehensive amendments to the *Occupational Health and Safety Act*. The proposed amendments will create serious and significant obligations for all Ontario workplaces with more than 5 employees to develop and implement comprehensive initiatives directed at preventing *Workplace Violence* and *Workplace Harassment* in Ontario workplaces.

The likelihood is that Bill 168 will be passed given the prioritizing of the issues of violence and harassment in the workplace. The details of the Bill defining employer obligations for violence prevention are no surprise. They reflect the legislative frameworks that have emerged in other provincial jurisdictions and Federally.

Obligations Beyond Violence Prevention: The Codification of Employer Responsibility for Harassment Prevention as a Health and Safety Matter
Bill 168 would introduce statutory obligations on employers for *Workplace Harassment Prevention* beyond harassment rooted in equality rights status. The Bill would codify employer obligations with respect to what has been characterized in common law developments as “*personal harassment*” or “*psychological harassment*”.

The proposed statutory provisions addressing *workplace violence* and *workplace harassment* would significantly expand employer responsibility and accountability for ensuring workplace environments and interactions consistent with a worker's health, safety and well-being. **New Liability Risks** It is important to highlight that the proposed employer responsibilities for *workplace violence prevention* and *workplace harassment prevention* will arise under the *Occupational Health and Safety Act*. The significance in the context of liability risks is that employers and management will be exposed to the risks of the remedial provisions attending OHS in the event that employers or supervisors fail to meet the due diligence standards applicable to *workplace violence prevention* and *workplace harassment*.

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. Please visit our web-site to register.

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.

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.

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.

Health, Safety and The Law

Provide participants with a working knowledge of the Occupational Health and Safety Act and related legislation and more.

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.

Material Handling

This course is designed to teach workers about proper material handling techniques. Upon 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.

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.

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.

PUBLIC TRAINING COURSES

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

Pandemic Influenza – Prevention and Control

May 20 - Brampton – ½ day course

June 3 – Toronto – ½ day course

CRSP Preparation Training Course

\$600.00 +GST – 2-day course

July 29-30, 2009

JHSC Certification Part 1 Training (2-day course)

\$349.00 +GST - 2-day Course

June 2-3, July 7-8, August 4-5

JHSC Certification Part 2 Training (length depends on industry)

Service Sector (office, hotels/restaurants, retail, etc.)

\$245.00 +GST – 1 day:

May 26, June 16, July 21, August 18

Healthcare, Warehouse/Distribution, Manufacturing

\$350.00 +GST – 2 days:

May 26-27, June 16-17, July 21-22, August 18-19

Construction (including 1 day fall Protection)

\$475.00 +GST – 3 days:

May 26-28, June 16-18, July 21-23, August 18-20

Raising The Standard



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