



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.

Driving South This MARCH BREAK?



Many drivers get so used to driving on roads and highways that they may forget to take some very simple safety steps that could save a life in a dangerous situation. The following is a list of tips that can help to keep you safe on the highway:

Look ahead: Staying alert of the situation in front of you is a key part of driving safely on the highway. This can help you to anticipate changes in speed ahead or upcoming obstacles that could be an accident risk.

Maintain a safe following distance: Keeping a safe distance between your vehicle and the car in front of you gives you time to react to sudden changes on the road. If a car in front of you slams on its brakes or drops debris onto the road, a safe following distance gives you the lag time that you need to react and avoid a potentially dangerous situation.

Follow the speed limit: Traveling at the speed limit helps to facilitate traffic flow on crowded highways. Vehicles are more predictable when they are all traveling roughly the same speed. Also, speeding on curves on highways can lead to a rollover accident or may cause a car to swerve off of the road in inclement weather.

Check your blind spots: Side mirrors have blind spots in which other vehicles may be hidden from view. It is important to always do a quick one-second head check by turning your head slightly to look for a vehicle in your blind spot before changing lanes.



HELP WANTED



MANAGED BY HANDLING
IN THE POSTAL SERVICE

THIS SIDE FOR ADDRESS ONLY

RTS Consulting is now accepting applications for an Outside Sales Consultant. The person in this position will be responsible to meet with clients to generate and conduct sales. This position is casual, part-time.

Please submit your resume to rtsc@rtsconsulting.com

MINISTRY OF LABOUR UPDATES

City of Brampton Fined \$75,000 After Young Worker Injured

February 28, 2011 2:55 PM

Brampton, ON - The Corporation of the City of Brampton was fined \$75,000 for a violation of the Occupational Health and Safety Act after a young worker was injured.

On February 20, 2009, City workers were preparing the tube hill for use by the public. Every day, before opening the hill to patrons, workers tested the speed of the hill. To test the speed of the escape lane, a young worker sat in a tube and slid down the lane. The tube slid in the wrong direction, went over the berm, and collided with the tow line lifting device. The worker suffered broken bones, a punctured lung, spinal fracture and a concussion.

A Ministry of Labour investigation found that City failed to take the reasonable precaution of ensuring that the berm was adequate for the protection of the worker. The Corporation of the City of Brampton pleaded guilty to failing to take every precaution reasonable in the circumstances for the protection of a worker.

The fine was imposed by Justice of the Peace Michael Barnes. In addition to the fine, the court imposed a 25-per-cent victim fine surcharge, as required by the Provincial Offences Act. The surcharge is credited to a special provincial government fund to assist victims of crime.

Springside Paving & Construction Limited Fined \$100,000 After Worker Killed

February 23, 2011 3:00 PM

Newmarket, ON - Springside Paving & Construction Limited, a Woodbridge paving company, was fined \$100,000 for a violation under the Occupational Health and Safety Act after a worker was killed.

On July 13, 2009, three workers from the paving company were working at a residential property in Vaughan. They were asked to remove and replace the asphalt driveway and re-level the interlocking walkway in front of the property. After they disconnected a trailer from their truck, a worker got into the vehicle and slowly reversed it towards the work site. The truck ran over and killed another worker.

A Labour investigation found there was no signaller present when the truck was reversing. A signaller is a worker assigned to maintain a clear view of the vehicle's path. Springside Paving & Construction Limited pleaded guilty to failing as an employer to ensure that the vehicle operator was assisted by a signaller if the operator's view of the intended path of travel is obstructed or if a person may be endangered.

The fine was imposed by Justice of the Peace Rhonda Shousterman. In addition to the fine, the court imposed a 25-per-cent victim fine surcharge, as required by the Provincial Offences Act. The surcharge is credited to a special provincial government fund to assist victims of crime.

RAISING THE STANDARD CONSULTING INC.

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What Happens When Your Company is on the WORKWELL Audit Selection List?

After your company is selected for a Workwell audit:

- The WSIB notifies you that you've been selected for a Workwell audit.
- A couple of weeks later, a WSIB auditor calls to set up an appointment.
- The auditor performs the audit, spending a half to a full day on-site depending on the size of the firm. (If you have multiple locations, the auditor may visit several.)
- *Note that your organization will be compared with your industry peers.
- Two to four weeks after the audit, you receive an audit report with your score and recommendations.
- You have six months to implement the recommendations.
- Call RTS Consulting at 905-840-1918. We will develop a workwell health and safety program specifically for you and assist you in implementing that program!
- Six months later, the WSIB performs the second audit, if you did not pass the first time.
- Two to four weeks later, you receive your final score.
- You need 75 percent to pass. If you score less, you're fined a percentage of your annual premium. RTS Consulting Inc. has a 100% pass rate!

top 10 Workplace Safety tips



If you are truly interested in keeping your employees safe and productive in your workplace then here are some workplace safety tips for you.

- 1. Maintain a clean work area.** Not only will you remove many hazards from a work area by keeping it clean, but you will also provide a more productive work environment for your employees.
- 2. Use guards and engineering solutions** wherever possible instead of relying on PPE - personal protective equipment. PPE is hard to police and uncomfortable to wear. Find a way to prevent the exposure in the first place. Your workers will be much more productive if they are comfortable.
- 3. Assume your employees want to work safely and give them that chance.** Many safety incentive programs seemed to be based on the idea that employees want to get hurt and you have to bribe them not to stick their hand in the machine. If you have that idea, then these tips are not for you.
- 4. Give clear work instructions.** Make sure your employees know the right way to do what you expect of them. Don't just give them a list of things not to do. Include safety instructions in every procedure you write.
- 5. Don't dwell on worst case scenarios but focus on what is most likely to occur.** Start by focusing your energy in preventing your most common incidents. That means you will have to keep an accurate incident log even if it looks bad to some manager you report to.
- 6. Love your employees.** I mean, care about your employees and let them know you do. If a machine is becoming unsafe, shut it down before someone gets hurt.
- 7. Spend time getting to know the work your employees do.** Even if you once did that job, it is likely it is done differently by different people. Look at what people are actually doing and compare this to what is written in procedures. If the procedures are different from the actual practice - find out why.
- 8. Maintain the machinery in good working order.** Many times employees get into dangerous situations by having to compensate for a machine defect or wear. In the case of wear, it may have occurred so gradually that they think it is normal. A strong preventive maintenance program makes for a strong safety program.
- 9. Avoid unnecessary hazards.** Look for new materials or equipment that can eliminate the hazards your workers are exposed to.
- 10. Maintain a clean work area.** See workplace safety tip number one above. Potential exposures to hazardous material and conditions can be dramatically reduced simply by keeping the work area clean. The benefit in employee productivity and morale is worth the effort even without the safety incentive.

RTS Consulting can provide Health, Safety and The Law Training for Supervisors and Workers as well Workplace Inspection and Accident Investigation Training. Call us for a quote!

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, Power 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.

JHSC Certification Part 1 Training (2-day course)

\$350.00 +HST - 2 days
April 12-13, 2011

JHSC Certification Part 2 Training (length depends on industry)

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

\$195.00 +HST - 1 day
Apr 26, 2011

Healthcare, Warehouse/Distribution, Manufacturing

\$295.00 +HST - 2 days
Apr 26-27, 2011

Construction (including 1 day fall Protection)

\$370.00 +HST - 3 days
Apr 26-28, 2011



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