



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.

Workplace Deaths Climb In Ontario

Ontario statistics show 377 workers died on the job or from occupational disease in the fiscal year that ended March 31, up by 53 from the previous year. Figures from the MOL and WSIB show that job fatalities alone climbed by 15% last year to 84. Data also shows that lost-time injury and illness rates have continued to fall in the past decade.

Syd Ryan, president of the Ontario Federation of Labour, said the Christmas Eve 2009 deaths of four immigrant tradesmen should have jolted employers into paying extra attention to workplace safety, but it hasn't stopped the carnage. "Every year, it's still 80 or more workers in our province who die," Ryan said. "It's a national disgrace. Shouldn't we as a society place more value on a human life? Yet it's regarded as the cost of doing business." "Until CEOs start to pay as much attention to health and safety as they do the bottom line, then and only then will we see a decline in the number of deaths."

Wayne De L'Orme, coordinator for the ministry's industrial health and safety program, said the number of fatalities is "unacceptable to everyone." "People and government take fatalities very seriously," he said. "There really are no excuses. It makes us redouble our efforts."

The scaffold tragedy has sparked enforcement blitzes in many industrial sectors during the past year. It also led to a review of the province's occupational health and safety system in 2010 and led to new legislation.

This year, the Ontario government passed the most significant changes to the Occupational Health and Safety Act in three decades by moving control of accident prevention from the safety board to the labour ministry and making sure all workers and managers receive proper education about their rights and responsibilities.

RTS Consulting can help you meet your legislative requirements while running your business. We can assist you in managing your Health and Safety responsibilities and save you lost profits!

We will work with you to develop programs that are effective, practical and most importantly maintainable for your specific workplace. We will provide you with a true assessment of your workplace hazards and required systems to control these hazards. At Raising the Standard Consulting we know that the future of your business depends on the efficiency and skills of your employees. So getting the right safety training is essential.

With **RTS Consulting** you are getting safety professionals who are solution providers that will help improve your bottom line.

SAFELY HOME, EVERYONE, EVERY DAY!

MINISTRY OF LABOUR UPDATES

Employer Fined \$26,000 Total After Multiple Convictions

June 30, 2011 11:20 am

Newmarket, ON - Lushington Grant, sole proprietor of Mississauga-based Century Estates, was fined \$26,000 on June 24, 2011, after being convicted of multiple violations of the Occupational Health & Safety Act. On January 15, 2008, ministry inspectors visited a house construction project on Israel Zilber Drive in Vaughan. The inspectors entered the project and found a series of violations of the Occupational Health and Safety Act, including:

- workers climbing down from their work location using a bent piece of lumber instead of stairs, a runway, a ramp or a ladder
- a basement opening that did not have a guardrail or protective covering
- stairs that did not have a securely fastened and supported handrail
- a worker that was not wearing head protection or foot protection

The inspectors also observed workers working at heights without fall or head protection. The inspectors were told by the workers that the fall protection equipment was in the van of their employer, Lushington Grant, and that he was not on site. Upon his arrival, Mr. Grant obstructed the inspection by refusing to answer questions asked by an inspector and then leaving the site.

On January 25, 2008, an inspector returned to the site to serve one of Mr. Grant's workers with an offence notice. Mr. Grant provided false information to the inspector regarding the worker.

After a trial, Justice of the Peace Hazel Hodson-Walker found Mr. Grant guilty of eight counts and fined him a total of \$26,000. The \$26,000 fine included a \$10,000 fine for obstruction and a \$10,000 fine for providing false information. In addition to the fine, the court imposed a 25% 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.

Individual Fined \$15,000 After Refusing to Cooperate with Ministry Inspectors

June 27, 2011 2:05 pm

Toronto, ON - Marcelo Ponciano, a representative with Toronto-based Asbescan Environmental Company Inc., was fined \$15,000 on June 22, 2011, for violating the Occupational Health and Safety Act, after refusing to cooperate with Ministry of Labour inspectors.

On February 17, 2009, a ministry inspector visited a house renovation project on Roxton Road in Toronto and found live electrical wires, poor housekeeping and debris that could potentially contain asbestos. The inspector issued stop-work orders on the project, including one requiring the project owner to produce a designated substance report.

Two days later, ministry inspectors visited the site after they were notified that the house interior had been cleaned, a violation of the stop-work order. They were approached by Ponciano, who said he was called in to handle the asbestos concerns. The inspectors told him that as a result of the cleanup, a ministry hygienist would need to take samples the next day at the worksite and that no work was to be done without the hygienist present.

The following morning, ministry inspectors found Ponciano with two other workers. An inspector told Ponciano that no work was to be performed until the hygienist arrived. Ponciano then reached over the stop-work barrier to take a sample. The inspectors told him he was breaching the stop-work order and told him to stop. Ponciano proceeded to take another sample. The inspectors asked Ponciano to identify himself. He refused, despite being told he was required to do so by law. The inspectors also approached one of Mr. Ponciano's co-workers to request identification. Ponciano told the worker not to cooperate.

After a trial, Justice of the Peace Alice Napier fined Mr. Ponciano \$15,000 for failing to cooperate with ministry inspectors. In addition to the fine, the court imposed a 25% 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.

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SAFETY blitzzzzz

PITS AND QUARRIES FOCUS OF JULY SAFETY BLITZ

Mining inspectors will conduct a blitz of pits and quarries across Ontario in July.

The increased enforcement is part of the province's [Safe At Work Ontario](#) strategy, launched in June 2008.

The inspectors will focus on hazards involving the crushing and screening of rock and ore and the conveying of these materials from one location to another inside pits and quarries. These hazards can endanger the health and safety of surface mine workers.

Aggregate material - made up of stone, sand and gravel - is mined at thousands of pits and quarries in Ontario. This material is used to build roads and in nearly all residential, commercial and industrial construction.

Since 2000, eight workers have died in pits and quarries in Ontario. Two of them were in incidents involving rock crushing, screening and conveying processes.

During the same period, 60 workers were seriously injured in pits and quarries. Four workers were in incidents involving rock crushing, screening and conveying process.

The biggest hazards at pits and quarries involve equipment such as belt conveyors, rock crushers and vibrating screens used in crushing, screening and conveying processes. Hazards can include:

- Lack of adequate guarding and conveyor shutdown devices
- Lack of adequate lock and tag procedures
- Poorly maintained equipment
- Lack of fall arrest equipment
- Exposure to live electrical equipment
- Inadequate ladders, platforms and walkways
- Exposure to dust, and
- Exposure to noise.



BLITZ FOCUS

Ministry of Labour inspectors will target pits and quarries:

- Inspectors have not visited before
- Where concerns have been noted, and
- Where there is a poor compliance history.

Inspectors will take enforcement action, as appropriate, for any contraventions found under the [Occupational Health and Safety Act](#) and its regulations.



KEY PRIORITIES

Mining inspectors will focus on the following key priorities:

Guarding: Inspectors will check for the presence, adequacy, and use of guarding devices to protect workers from rotating parts or other equipment. Guarding must conform to the requirements of the Regulation for Mines and Mining Plants (Reg. 854).

Written Lockout Procedures: Inspectors will check if crushing, screening and conveying equipment is being properly maintained and whether there are written lockout procedures.

Dust Control: Inspectors will check if measures to control dust from crushing, screening, stacking, conveying and transporting activities are adequate. In some cases, hygienists will accompany inspectors to sites.

Hearing Protection: Inspectors will check if hearing protection devices (HPD) are available and used at worksites to control excess exposure to noise from crushing, screening and conveying activities.

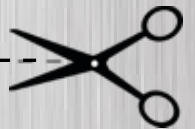
CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

We are currently seeking intermediate and senior consultants for the GTA. We require a formal education in the field of occupational health and safety with a good knowledge of the

Occupational Health and Safety Act.

We require skill in program development and experience conducting public safety training sessions. We also require 3-5 years experience working in the occupational health and safety field. If interested, please forward your resume.

TOP 7 Dangers for Young Workers



Lifting objects – *overexertion causing sprains, strains, tears*

Young workers are at significant risk to injury as a result of lifting objects in a number of industries. Generally, injuries incurred are sprains, strains and tears in conjunction with lifting boxes, crates, bags, buckets, pallets, lumber, and structural metal materials. A significant number of these injuries occur to material handlers, retail and grocery sales clerks, labourers, and shippers and receivers.

Working on elevated levels – *sprains, strains, tears & fractures*

Generally, young workers are at risk to falls when working on elevated levels in any industry. Situations in which young workers are at risk of falling from elevated levels often involve working on ladders, stairs, scaffolds, and platforms. This also includes jumping to lower levels from stationary vehicles or structures. Injuries range in severity from minor sprains, strains and tears to multiple fractures or even death. One in 7 claims is a fracture. These serious injuries have a profound impact to the worker, generally requiring hospitalization and rehabilitation. Many serious injuries resulting

from falls have a profound impact to the worker, generally requiring hospitalization and rehabilitation.

Working with knives – cuts and lacerations

Cooks, food service helpers/preparers, retail sales clerks and shelf stockers employed in the restaurant and supermarket industries are at significant risk to cuts and lacerations when working with knives. Often this type of injury occurs when a knife slips in the hand of the worker. Resulting cuts and lacerations range in severity with one in 130 claims being an amputation of a finger or thumb.

Working with hot substances / objects – burns

Cooks, waiters, and food preparers employed in the hospitality/service industry (e.g., restaurants, hotels, pubs, food/beverage concessions) are at significant risk to heat burns and scalds when working with hot substances or objects. Typically these injuries involve hot fats and oils or hot water, and may also involve steam, food products or even pots, pans, and trays. Resulting burns range in severity with one in 40 claims being a third degree burn. These serious injuries have a long term, profound impact to the worker, usually requiring hospitalization and cosmetic surgery.



Using mobile equipment or motor vehicles – sprains, strains, tears & fractures

Generally, young workers are at risk to injury when working with mobile equipment or motor vehicles in any industry. A significant number of motor vehicle accidents involve truck drivers, couriers, delivery drivers, and material handlers. Injuries range in severity from minor sprains, strains and tears to multiple fractures or even death. One in 10 claims is a fracture. These serious injuries have a profound impact to the worker, usually requiring hospitalization and rehabilitation.

Working with food slicers – cuts and lacerations

Young workers employed in restaurants and supermarkets are at significant risk to injury as a result of working with food slicers. Generally these injuries occur to deli sales clerks, cooks, food service helpers/preparers and retail sales clerks in supermarkets. Around eighty percent of these injuries result in cuts and lacerations. One in 80 claims is an amputation of a finger or thumb. These serious injuries result in significant physical impairment, impacting the injured worker's quality of life.

Working in proximity to running equipment or machinery – cuts, lacerations and fractures

Young workers are at significant risk to injury as a result of getting "caught in" running equipment or machinery in a number of industries. Generally these injuries occur to labourers in wood and paper manufacturing, metal fabrication, food and beverage processing, and construction, as well as machine operators, material handlers, bakers and cooks. Half of these injuries involve conveyors, food and beverage processing machinery, sawing, drilling and milling machinery, and powered hand tools. While a variety of injuries can be inflicted, cuts, lacerations, and fractures are most common. One in 8 injuries involves an amputation.

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)

\$384.00 +HST - 2 days (includes buffet lunch)
Sept 13 & 15, Dec 1-2, 2011 - April 10 & 12, June 5 & 7, 2012

JHSC Certification Part 2 Training (length depends on industry)

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

\$212.00 +HST - 1 day (includes buffet lunch)
Sept 27, Dec 13, 2011 - Apr 24, June 19, 2012

Healthcare, Warehouse/Distribution, Manufacturing

\$329.00 +HST - 2 days (includes lunch buffet)
Sept 27 & 29, Dec 13 & 15, 2011 - Apr 24 & 26, June 19 & 21, 2012

Construction (including 1 day fall Protection)

\$421.00 +HST - 3 days
Sept 27, 29-30, Dec 13, 15-16, 2011 - Apr 24, 26-27, June 19, 21-22

Sign-up Now!