

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).

Raising The Standard Consulting Inc. Safety Group - Approved Safety Group Sponsor

Raising the Standard Consulting Inc. is proud to have been accepted as a New Safety Group Sponsor by the WSIB for the 2005 Safety Group Program. We hope that your firm will enroll in our program in order to reap all the benefits the Safety Group Program offers.

Can your company benefit from this program? Yes! Put money back into your pocket and improve the safety culture at your workplace by participating in the WSIB-Raising the Standard Consulting Inc. Safety Group. We are a multi-sector safety group focusing on industries & companies in your area.

Why join our safety group?

- Any company who participates in a safety group program for the first time, will receive a Workwell audit deferment
- No risk of a Zero rebate-Minimum of 4% of annual WSIB premiums for implementing procedures
- Network with others in your industry and beyond: Share best practices and real workplace examples of how to improve and achieve a higher standard of safety.
- Facilitate your company's ability to consistently monitor

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MINISTRY OF LABOUR UPDATES

Universal Door & Equipment Ltd. fined \$80,000 for health and safety violation

SCARBOROUGH, ON, Jan. 5 /CNW/ - Universal Door & Equipment Ltd., a Mississauga, Ont.-based company that sells and maintains rollup garage doors, was fined \$80,000 on January 4, 2005 for a violation of the Occupational Health and Safety Act that resulted in serious injuries to an employee.

On April 30, 2002, two workers were repairing a garage door when a steel winding bar, about 5/8 of an inch in diameter, struck one of the workers on the head. The door was being lowered when the steel winding bar bent under pressure and came loose. The worker, who was not wearing a hard hat, suffered serious head injuries. It was the worker's second day on the job. The other worker, employed for about nine days, was unharmed. A Ministry of Labour investigation found the uninjured worker inappropriately used the steel winding bar to block a spring tension mechanism in the door. The tension increased when the door was lowered and the steel winding bar was not strong enough to withstand the tension. The tension mechanism was supposed to have been stopped using a specially-designed pin. The ministry found the two workers had not received adequate training from Universal Door & Equipment Ltd. on safe work procedures when servicing garage doors, including on the use of personal protective equipment. The incident occurred at Lennox Industries on Norris Glen Road in Toronto.

Universal Door & Equipment Ltd. pleaded guilty, as an employer, to failing to provide information and instruction to the workers regarding safe procedures or work practices when servicing a rollup garage door and failing to provide supervision to workers. This was contrary to Section 25(1)(a) of the act.

The fine was imposed by Justice of the Peace Leslie Brown of the Ontario Court of Justice in Scarborough. In addition, 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.



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and comply with Ontario Health & Safety (OH & S) standards.

- Reap the rewards by working in an improved workplace safety environment & striving towards earning a potential rebate and reduced premiums through the WSIB.

How does our safety group work?

Members of the safety group hold 5 meetings throughout the year to monitor and discuss the group's progress. Each company must attend at least 3 meetings to maintain their position in the safety group and qualify for the rebate from WSIB.

Participants will divide into appropriate groups in order to maximize networking and address sector specific issues more effectively.

How we help?

We are your resource for all required program materials at the beginning of the year:

- Provide all required paperwork to participate in the Program
- Monthly communication between yourself and your sponsor,
- Information about the safety group will be available via website 24hrs/day.
- Work with true health and safety practitioners who have over 125 years experience in a broad range of environment, health and safety fields.

We hold Ph.D, PEng, MBA, B.Sc., A.S.A , SET, CRSP, CIH, CSP and CHSC designations.

How is progress measured?

Each company is required to conduct an initial workplace assessment to determine the strengths and weaknesses of their health & safety program. Using this assessment as a guide, each participating company will select 5 safety elements they will work on improving throughout the year. (WSIB will provide a list of elements to choose from). The WSIB requires that 1 of these 5 elements be a chosen 'universal' element that every member of the safety group will use. At the end of the year, a 2nd workplace assessment is conducted and used to measure each company's level of success.

What about the rebate?

This is the first year WSIB is implementing the New Formula-for the first time, there is no risk of a Zero rebate!

Your rebate is directly determined by your efforts and participation in the safety group program throughout the year.

The next page outlines the rebate assessment and how it has improved from previous years.



Ontario Power Generation Inc. fined \$350,000 for health and safety violation

CAYUGA, ON, Oct. 29 /CNW/ - Ontario Power Generation Inc., a Toronto-based corporation that owns and operates power generation facilities throughout Ontario, including the Nanticoke Generating Station, was fined \$350,000 on October 24, 2003 for a violation of the Occupational Health and Safety Act that resulted in the death of an employee. The fine was the highest ever imposed for an equipment guarding violation.

On October 15, 2002, a worker was helping to remove coal dust and pieces of coal when the worker became caught in an unguarded pinch point in an inclined conveyor, which was part of a coal handling system. The conveyor was used to transfer coal between a Junction House and coal storage/blending silos. Moments before the accident, the worker was seen under the conveyor, near the tail pulley, holding a scraper. The conveyor was operating while the cleaning process was taking place. The worker died as a result of injuries. A Ministry of Labour investigation found guarding devices lacking on the conveyor at a number of hazardous pinch points near the tail pulley. The incident occurred on the fourth floor of the Junction House at Nanticoke Generating Station on Regional Road 55 in Nanticoke, Ont.

Ontario Power Generation Inc. pleaded guilty, as an employer, to failing to ensure in-running nip hazards on the conveyor were guarded to prevent access to the pinch point, as required by Section 25 of the Regulations for Industrial Establishments. This was contrary to Section 25(1)(c) of the act.

The fine was imposed by Justice of the Peace Kerry Boon of the Ontario Court of Justice in Cayuga. In addition, the court imposed a 25-per-cent victim fine surcharge, as required by the Provincial Offences Act.

Jodno Limited fined \$100,000 for health and safety violation

TORONTO, Nov. 6 /CNW/ - Jodno Limited, a Toronto-based company that owns two industrial buildings and leased a third in Toronto, was fined \$100,000 on November 3, 2003 for a violation of the Occupational Health and Safety Act that resulted in the death of an employee.

On January 10, 2001, four labourers were clearing material and debris from a yard at the back of a vacant building when one of the workers was struck by a reversing truck. The worker died as a result of the injuries. A Ministry of Labour investigation found the truck driver was not assisted by a signaller as the driver drove in reverse. The incident occurred at 40 Wabash Avenue in Toronto.

Jodno Limited pleaded guilty, as an employer, to failing to ensure the operator of the truck was assisted by a

2005 Safety Group Rebate Formula

- **Maximum group rebate of 8% of combined group premium**
 - 4% is based on achievement of health & safety elements
 - 2% for improvement to LTI frequency for the group compared to a 3 year average (only claims greater than 7 days)
 - 2% for improved LTI severity for the group compared to a 3 year average (only claims greater than 7 days)
 - -1% for groups with 10% worse LTI frequency
 - -1% for groups with 10% worse LTI severity

New vs Old Formula

<u>New Formula</u>	<u>Old Formula</u>
-Rebate directly linked to outcome	-Rebates based on a comparison experience-rating outcome
-No risk of a zero rebate	-Risk of receiving Zero rebate
-Able to calculate rebates by spring following the year of participation	-Rebates are generated 22 months following a firm's participation in the program
-Able to create accurate estimates of the rate once a group is formed	-Unable to accurately estimate rebates due to the components of the different experience-rating programs
-Simple to understand and track performance	-Not in line with current incentive programs



signaller, as required by Section 104(3) of the Regulations for Construction Projects. This was contrary to Section 25(1)(c) of the act.

The fine was imposed by Justice Patrick Sheppard of the Ontario Court of Justice at Old City Hall in Toronto. In addition, the court imposed a 25-per-cent victim fine surcharge, as required by the Provincial Offences Act.

RTS Consulting Inc. can assist you in determining your responsibilities regarding the equipment in your facility and the best way to control your exposure to liability.

Training

The following is an example of a few of the training courses we offer. For a full list, please visit our web-site at www.rtsconsulting.com

First Aid Training
 \$95.00 +GST per person
 February 9 & 10, 2005, March 9 & 10, 2005

WHMIS Training (1/2 day)
 \$75.00 +GST per person
 February 17, 2005

Forklift Training (1 day)
 \$165.00 +GST per person
 February 25, 2004

JHSC Certification Part 1 Training (2-day course)
 \$349.00 +GST - 2-day Course
 February 15&16, 2005, March 15-16, 2005

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
 February 22-24, 2005, March 22-24, 2005

All of our courses can be conducted on-site or at one of our public sessions.

**ONTARIO GOVERNMENT BEEFS UP ENFORCEMENT
TO PREVENT WORKPLACE INJURIES**

***Major Expansion Of Health And Safety Staff Targets Worst
Offenders***

July 8, 2004 - TORONTO--The Ontario government announced today that it is hiring 200 new health and safety enforcement staff to achieve its goal of preventing 60,000 workplace injuries a year by 2008. The announcement was made by Labour Minister Chris Bentley.

“We are investing in a safer, more prosperous future for Ontario by significantly increasing staff to target workplaces with poor health and safety records,” said Bentley. “We plan to cut workplace injuries by 20 per cent in four years. This will result in less pain and suffering, a reduced burden on the health care system, savings to the [Workplace Safety and Insurance Board](#) (WSIB) of an estimated \$300 million, and a level playing field for safe companies.”

Based on the average cost of a workplace injury, eliminating 60,000 injuries annually will also translate into savings for businesses of up to \$960 million per year.

The 200 new enforcement staff, to be paid for by the WSIB, will be hired during the next two years. Recruitment of 100 new inspectors is to begin immediately, marking a major expansion of the current force of 230 inspectors.

Inspectors will initially target 6,000 workplaces with the highest injury rates. Inspectors will visit these sites four times a year, focusing on workplace hazards to help firms reduce on-the-job injuries. Although these workplaces represent just two per cent of all firms insured by the WSIB, they account for 10 per cent of all lost-time injuries and 21 per cent of injury costs in Ontario.

Inspectors will use the full array of enforcement tools to safeguard Ontario workers.

“We are taking decisive action to make a real difference in the lives of Ontario workers,” said Bentley.

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.

Past Newsletters

Please feel free to pass our newsletter to anyone you feel may benefit from the information.

Also, if you are receiving *The Turning Point* for the first time, you may be interested in our last newsletters on Cell Phone Safety, Aggressive/Violent behaviour, Machine Guarding Safety, Legislative Changes in WSIB Policy, and Construction Safety Regulations. Please contact us for a copy.

For assistance in “raising the standard” of environment, health and safety, character, and integrity in your organization, contact us at (905) 840-1918, visit our website at www.rtsconsulting.com or email us: rtsc@rtsconsulting.com



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