

HEALTH AND SAFETY NEWSLETTER



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TRAINING AND DUE DILIGENCE—The Two go Hand in Hand.

Workplace health and safety legislation and regulations are found within the Occupational Health and Safety Act (OHS) and the Regulations. It is in the employers' and workers' best interest to comply with the requirements. Compliance improves safety in the workplace as well as protects employers from costly fines and increased WSIB premiums. The best way to achieve compliance is to develop and implement an effective health and safety management plan.

An important part of such a system is training. The OHS makes specific reference to an employers' legal duty to provide training for supervisors, manager and workers. Failure to train workers can lead to prosecutions of employers, supervisors, managers, directors, officers and workers.

There is another economic incentive to provide the mandated health and safety training besides avoiding prosecution and fines. When compensable injuries or fatalities occur, employers often end up paying higher WSIB premiums. The expense of properly training employees in the manner prescribed by law is minimal com-

pared to the increased costs in premiums.

Aside from prosecution and economic incentives to provide health and safety training, there is another reason to comply with health and safety legislation. Providing proper training for workers is the right thing to do. Modern health and safety laws are a reflection of society's values and attitudes towards workplace. Governments have made it known that safety should be a top priority in the workplace. With proper training and adherence to health and safety regulations, there is no reason for any worker to be injured or killed at his or her place of work.

To fulfill training requirements set out in health and safety legislation, it's often necessary to provide training for both workers and supervisors. Section 26(1)(l) of the OHS states that "[the employer] shall carry out such training programs for workers, supervisors and committee members as may be prescribed."



Just a reminder that BULLIVANT & Associates will be participating in the STEPS FOR LIFE walk. If you would like to join or sponsor our team, please call us at 905-664-4943. The walk is being held on Sunday, May 4th, 2008.

Taking proactive steps to comply with the relevant health and safety legislation helps employers to protect their workers and themselves. Providing the specified training to workers can help reduce the number of workplace accidents, and at the same time provide another reasonable step that the employer can take towards due diligence. The costs associated with providing the legislated training are insignificant compared to the penalties for non-compliance.

Carbon Monoxide: The Invisible Killer

Carbon monoxide, also known as CO, is invisible, odourless and tasteless. It's found in virtually every workplace, office and home. CO is absorbed straight through the lungs into the bloodstream. The blood's ability to carry oxygen is blocked and the brain, heart and other tissues are starved. In some cases, death may be the result.

CO is a dangerous fire and explosion hazard if it accumulates in a confined space. In the workplace, CO can be a hazard for miners, parking garage attendants, service station mechanics, firefighters, warehouse workers, construction workers, heating and ventila-

tion workers and forklift operators, among others.

For every process where CO may be involved, there is a specific routine that must be followed. These procedures include monitoring ventilation, measuring CO levels, warning signage and first aid readiness.

Sources of Carbon Monoxide

- ◆ stoves, heaters, furnaces, forklifts
- ◆ major industrial sources include metal foundries and refineries

- ◆ Welding shops, garages
- ◆ Environmental exposure includes traffic, tobacco smoke, factory smokestacks, homes, offices, sewers.

Treatment

- ◆ Immediately evacuate to fresh air
- ◆ Administer pure oxygen, under the guidance of trained personnel
- ◆ Resuscitate and apply artificial respiration if required
- ◆ Summon medical aid

Upcoming Training

First Aid/CPR	April 28 & 29
Workplace Specific (Part II Certification)	April 30 & May 1
WHMIS	May 13
Forklift Training	May 15
Basic Certification	May 21 & 22
Supervisor Due Diligence	May 28
Forklift Training	June 4
Fall Protection	June 11
Basic Certification	June 12 & 13
Workplace Specific (Part II Certification)	June 24 & 25

Other Services

- Written Policies and Procedures
- Health and Safety Management Plan
- Review existing Program & Policies
- Early and Safe Return to Work
- Workplace Inspections
- Prevention Programs
- Provide On-Site Safety Advisors

Online Training

...and much more

Upcoming Health and Safety Events:

- April 22—Earth Day
- April 28—National Day of Mourning for Workers Killed on the Job
- May 4-10 NAOSH Week
- May 4—Steps for Life Walk
- May 7 Occupational Health and Safety Professional Day
- May 26—June 1 Safe Kids Week