

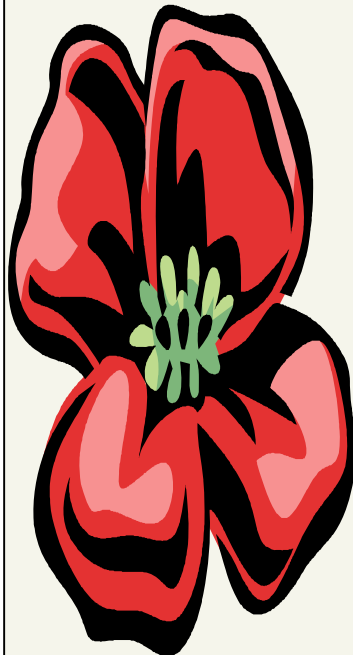
Health and Safety



Newsletter

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BULLIVANT & ASSOCIATES INC.



ONLINE VS INSTRUCTOR

Although we may be a little biased on this particular subject, a recent incident with a long standing client has re-enforced our particular views. We have long wondered the implications of on-line training from a Ministry of Labour (MOL) perspective. This particular incident may not represent an MOL view and the relationship of on-line training in all

workplaces, but certainly makes it clear in this particular case.

On a recent visit to our client, the MOL Inspector requested training records for WHMIS training that had been done via an on-line service. Records were produced showing generic WHMIS had been completed, but no workplace specific WHMIS had been done.

In our experience, few workplaces are aware of the need for workplace specific WHMIS training or ignore the requirement because of cost or convenience and just want to get it over as quickly as possible.

Case in point. A custodian at a Toronto School complained of troubles breathing and was taken to a hospital

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EVALUATING FORKLIFT OPERATORS

Practical Evaluations of your Forklift operators are a required component of your training program according to CSA Standard B335-04. Clause 6.21.2 States:

“Eighteen months after the completion of either initial training or retraining, operators shall undergo a mid-term practical skills evaluation.”

Periodic formal viewing of operators will not only indicate areas requiring corrective actions, but also lend greatly to hazard identification. Once hazards are identified, they can be assessed and controlled appropriately.

Evaluations must be done by a “competent person” (someone with the knowledge, training and experience to organize the work and its

performance. Ref. OHSa Sec.1.(1)).

Items to assess are:

- Appropriate Pre-Shift Inspections
- Compliance with procedures
- General observation and control
- Proper travel
- Re-charging/re-fueling

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where he later died. It was found that he had mixed 2 chemicals, 1 containing chlorine and 1 containing ammonia. This created a deadly cocktail because of the incompatibility of the 2 substances. The school had done generic WHMIS training many times over the years, but had not specifically introduced Material Safety Data Sheets (MSDS) regarding those 2 chemicals that were used regularly in that work area.

This resulted in a \$150,000 fine and 25% victim surcharge.

Online WHMIS training would have done nothing to rectify this situation as it is nothing but generic and cannot incorporate the workplace chemicals into the training.

Instructor -lead WHMIS training can and should incorporate specific MSDS information for each particular workplace or work area. Knowledge of this specific

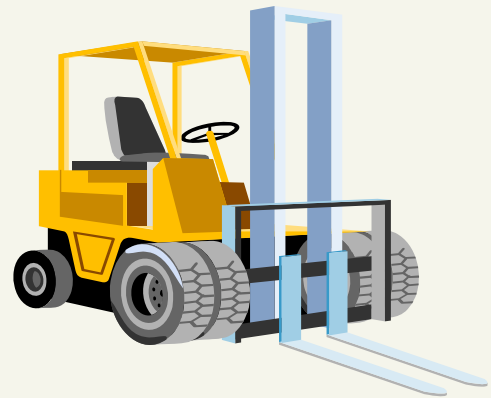
information will be a critical factor in the difference between the life or death of a worker and the penalties imposed on the employer.

When meeting your WHMIS requirements, consider and ensure that your training meets the generic requirements of labels, MSDS and training, but also ensure that your training provider incorporates specific information such as toxicity, safety measures, first aid and emergency measures.

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- Picking up and depositing loads
- Stacking and de-stacking of loads
- Operation around personnel
- Special situations (i.e. ramps, loading docks, personnel cages, attachments, etc.)

BULLIVANT & Associates Inc. supplies safety professionals to complete such evaluations, and ensures thorough documentation a comprehensive view of operator competency in a timely manner.



NOVEMBER SAFETY BLITZ

During a November blitz, health and safety inspectors will concentrate on transportation, education, industrial services, retail and wholesale workplaces.

Inspectors will look for fall-from-height hazards involving platforms, raised floors, mezzanines and ladders. They will check fall-arrest equipment and guardrails and will be on the lookout for dangerous practices such as working on storage racks. They will also check for proper use of ladders.

Court Bulletin

A window and door manufacturer, was fined \$65,000 on October 19, 2009, for a violation of the Occupational Health and Safety Act (OHSA) after a worker was injured.

On September 15, 2008, a worker was dismantling the roof of a sound enclosure. The sound enclosure had been used to mute the sound from a line of milling machines that were no longer in use.

The worker, on the roof of the enclosure, unhooked from the lifeline and moved to an access

ladder to get down. The worker stepped on a plywood plank in front of the access ladder, and the plywood, which was not secured in place, slipped off the roof. The worker fell about four metres to the ground below, sustaining wrist and head injuries.

The company pleaded guilty under the OHSA to failing as an employer to ensure that the plywood covering was secured in place.