A new chapter begins for SIA events

Dear Colleagues,
As many of you know, the annual *SIA National Safety Convention* is a longstanding activity of the Institute, and provides an opportunity for people to come together as a profession, from all corners of Australia and even further afield.

For the last five years, we have delivered the convention in partnership with conference and exhibitions agency Informa under our Safety in Action brand, with Informa previously being granted permanent use of this brand for their exhibitions.

We know that the use of the Safety in Action brand by both Informa and the SIA has created some confusion in the market so, as our contract draws to a close, we have decided to drop the use of Safety in Action, run our own events, and create a new approach to our convention.

You will hear more about this soon, but be sure that the approach we take will have a renewed emphasis on high quality, affordable events for the health and safety profession. As our portfolio of conferences and other events grows, our focus will be on the ongoing professional development of people who work in the profession at all levels.

Our main interest is to advance the health and safety profession, and we intend to ensure the profession gets access to increasingly higher quality, more affordable events. I look forward to sharing more details about the new SIA events program with you in the coming months.

Have a great week!

Kind Regards,

David Clarke

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**Opportunity to become an innovator...**

**NEWS & UPDATES**

Why a focus on safety cultures is futile and misguided

Efforts to instil “safety cultures” in companies are misguided because too often these mean attempting to change the way people on the frontline are thinking and feeling about safety, according to Andrew Hopkins, professor of sociology at Australian National University.

*Read more...*

First case of black lung disease in an open cut mine

Australia’s first case of black lung disease in an open cut coal mine worker was recently reported at BHP Billiton’s Goonyella Riverside Mine in Central Queensland’s Bowen Basin.

*Read more...*
Safety warning issued over severe cyclone season

Mining and petroleum operations throughout the Northwest part of Australia should ensure contingency plans are established and can be activated at short notice, ahead of warnings about a potentially severe cyclone season.

Read more...

Drug use posing testing challenges for resource employers

Employers in Australia’s mining and oil and gas sectors are under increasing pressure to manage the impacts of drugs and alcohol in the workplace as society’s general use and acceptance of illicit and prescription substances increases, according to a recent survey.

Read more...

POLICY NEWS

QLD: Agricultural safety campaign launched

Queensland’s Industrial Relations Minister Grace Grace and Agricultural Minister Leanne Donaldson recently launched a safety campaign to tackle high injury and death rates in the state’s agriculture industry.

Read more...

WA: Inspection program in wholesale raises concerns about racking

An inspection program by WorkSafe WA looking at safety standards and issues in the wholesale industry has raised serious concerns with the safety of racking.

Read more...

SA: Safety warning issued over cold storage facilities

SafeWork SA recently issued a safety alert reminding employers to prevent work-related injuries and death from incidents in walk-in cold-rooms and freezers, including entrapment, by actively managing and reviewing their safety management systems.

Read more...

VIC: Workplace injuries fall to record low

The number of workplace injuries in Victoria has fallen to a record low, according to data released by WorkSafe Victoria.
Evolution Mining fined $95,000 after worker injured at Goldfield mine

Evolution Mining (formerly La Mancha Resources) has been fined $95,000 following an incident that seriously injured a worker in 2013.

NSW: Prosecution proceedings launched against Rio Tinto Coal (NSW)

The NSW Department of Industry’s Resources Regulator recently commenced prosecution proceedings against Rio Tinto Coal (NSW) for an alleged contravention of the Work Health and Safety Act 2011 that resulted in serious injury of a worker at the Mount Thorley Warkworth Mine, 15km south-west of Singleton.

WA: Incident involving drill offsider run over by tracked vehicle

Western Australia’s Department of Mines and Petroleum is currently conducting an investigation into an incident in which a drill offsider was run over and injured by a tracked vehicle on a mine site.
explained to Korean delegation

On Friday 14th October, SIA Director Kelly Lovely met with a delegation of 11 safety professionals from Korea to discuss advanced benchmarking OSH policies and practices, and WHS certification in Australia.

Call for SIA Mentees

SIA Members are invited to register as Mentees in SIA Mentorship initiative, to receive career guidance and support. Are you ready to hone your skills or develop your professional capability? Guidance from an experienced SIA Mentor may give your career just the boost that it needs.

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Communication Excellence Workshop

On Monday 14th November, the SIA will host a one day workshop, offering skills and strategies for influencing others through Communication Excellence. Facilitated by certified Master NLP Practitioner Debra Burlington, the workshop will take place at the SIA National Office in Melbourne.

Communication is critical to the success of the health and safety practitioner or professional. Safety performance depends on effective communication, leading to commonly understood goals.

This workshop caters to the safety practitioner or professional who has sound communication skills and wishes to build this capability to be a more effective and influential communicator.

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Register NOW.
Have you considered OHS Professional Certification?

Ongoing professional development is a cornerstone of every long, rewarding career. Are you ready to take the next step on your career path? Have you considered Certification?

Our OHS Professional Certification program is offered to Members of the Safety Institute of Australia. SIA Certification sets rigorous standards of education, experience, demonstrated knowledge and skills, and evaluates applicants against those standards. It gives increased confidence and guidance to employers, clients, workers and the community as to the competence and standing of the person providing professional advice.

The assessment is based on a combination of formal qualifications, experience & capability. There are 5 categories of certification and each category contains specific criteria and requirements. To apply for certification, please follow the instructions outlined HERE.

To find out more about OHS Professional Certification and how it might benefit you in your career, visit our website or contact Marija at certification@sia.org.au.

The SIA’s Young Safety Professionals have spoken

On Tuesday 25th October, the SIA Young Safety Professionals Network hosted the first installment of YSPspeak, an event showcasing inspiring and educational presentations from some of Australia’s sharpest Young Safety Professionals.

With a bigger than expected crowd in attendance, YSPspeak 16 was not only diverse on stage, but off-stage too. There was a wealth of safety knowledge and experience in the room, including students from the University of Queensland (soon to-be YSP’s) and OHS professionals from many sectors, including construction, law, government, psychology, communications and academia.

"It was great to hear such a range of innovative and thought-provoking ideas from so many passionate, young safety professionals," says Organiser Naomi Kemp. "The talks covered everything from the latest technology to monitor
safety climate, to a call-to-action for workplace diversity, to simplifying the complexity of safety messages and empowering people to take control of safety. There was even a live acapella explanation of best practice safety management."

Kemp says the event has given the YSP network a "massive injection of adrenaline."

"With aspirations to take this platform across borders, we are now looking to set an agenda for 2017," she said. "The YSP network endeavours to continue empowering grassroots initiatives across the country and we look forward to hosting more events to showcase and give the emerging generation of health and safety professionals a platform to share their insights and vision for the future of the profession."

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CORPORATE MEMBERSHIP

The Safety Institute of Australia Ltd has established a list of Corporate Membership categories with associated meaningful benefits to attract an expanded range of Corporate Members (Government and Private Sector corporations, organisations, companies and associations).

If your company is considering joining as a Corporate Member, please contact Membership Services on 03 8336 1995 or membership@sia.org.au to discuss the different options available, or click here to view the information on the website.

If your company is already a Corporate Member and you would like to be featured in the e-news, please contact Membership Services or communications@sia.org.au for further details. To view our current Corporate Members please click here.
CALL FOR PAPERS: 25th Annual OHS Visions Conference

The Visions Organising Committee is pleased to invite papers from interested professionals, academics, researchers and practitioners in the field of health and safety for inclusion in the program for the 25th annual Visions OHS Conference on May 21-23, 2017.

Paper abstracts are invited on topics relevant to the field of Occupational Health and Safety and associated disciplines, and particularly this year, papers addressing the development of OHS over the last 25 years.

Read More...

CONFERENCES & EVENTS

9 Nov  
VIC: Aging Workforce & WHS - Preparing for the future

14 Nov  
VIC: Communication Excellence workshop

16 Nov  
WA: Deepwater Horizon: A process safety conversation

18 Nov  
QLD: Safety lessons learned and shared

23-4 Nov  
VIC: Hazards Conference

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