Growing our Institute & Excellence in Governance.

Dear colleagues and friends,

The Board of the Institute held its quarterly meeting on Saturday in Brisbane. I am pleased to advise that we are continuing to grow our events and other members services and that we are on track with our budget. Our focus over the next 18 months will be to growing the Institute both in terms of members and our profile across industry and society.

The plan to grow our Institute is inherent within our recently launched strategy with the Board looking to endorse the plan within the quarter. The Board also devoted some time discussing the role of the Institute in supporting the primary industries and agriculture sector and building stronger networks and connections to enable OHS improvement. The OHS profession needs to lean in and understand the complexities of the sector and facilitate learnings from other sectors to drive improvement.

One of the ongoing challenges for the profession is speaking the language of boards in order to get the health and safety message across at the highest level, and ensure that it influences organisational culture. For the board of the SIA, health and safety knowledge and expertise is at a premium. Our own pursuit of excellence in
governance is about consistently improving in the way we design and monitor strategy, oversee finances and identify and manage organisational risk.

To this end, the board spent considerable time finalising our risk management strategy and framework as we commence execution of the strategy.

Stay safe and be well.

Regards,

Patrick Murphy
Chairman

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**NEWS & UPDATES**

**Warning on “improper crossover” between industrial matters and safety issues**

The safety landscape is getting no easier for the safety profession, according to a leading OHS lawyer, who said there is an increased trend towards an “improper crossover” between industrial matters and purported safety issues.

[Read more...](#)

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**How OHS can get ahead with safety analytics**

A key factor which holds organisations back from embracing valuable safety analytics is a tendency towards entrenched safety analysis which focuses on lag indicators, reporting norms and metrics – within both the safety profession and a lot of organisations, according to an expert in the area.

[Read more...](#)

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**Resources companies found wanting on mental health and wellbeing**

Companies in the Western Australia’s resources sector need to improve on a number of fronts when it comes to the mental health and wellbeing of staff, according to the Department of Mines and Petroleum (DMP).

[Read more...](#)
POLICY NEWS

SafeWork NSW fast-tracking asbestos assessments on bushfire damaged properties

SafeWork NSW is waiving the five-day asbestos removal work notification timeframe to allow immediate clean-up of asbestos debris from recent bushfires that caused damage and destruction to properties, bushland and livestock across the state.

Read more...

SafeWork SA launches farm safety initiative

SafeWork SA recently partnered with Primary Producers SA (PPSA) to deliver work health and safety workshops for farmers, who have the highest work fatality rate in Australia.

Read more...

VIC: Inspection blitz targets falling objects at construction sites

WorkSafe Victoria inspectors will zone in on the risk of falling building materials and equipment at construction sites that can cause injury or death during a three-week blitz across Victoria.

Read more...

QLD: Government holds reef safety roundtable in Cairns

The Queensland Government recently hosted a reef safety roundtable in Cairns, following a series of safety incidents on the reef.

Read more...

INCIDENTS & PROSECUTIONS

NSW: Earthworks business fined $90,000 over worker injuries

An earthworks business in Bathurst NSW has been fined $90,000 for failing to comply with safety standards that led to two workers being injured in January 2015.

Read more...

VIC: Bakery fined after worker’s fingers amputated

A bakery in Victoria’s Altona North was fined $40,000 for breaching the 2004 OHS Act after a worker’s fingertips
were amputated by a machine filling pastries with custard.

Read more...

WA: Worker fined $11,000 over death of fellow worker

An employee has been fined $11,000 and ordered to pay $1745 in costs over the death of a fellow worker at a hay baling workplace at Narrogin in Western Australia in 2013.

Read more...

VIC: Two dead and one injured in one weekend

Two men were killed and another suffered critical head injuries in three separate incidents at in Victoria recently.

Read more...

AOHSEAB Registrar Role Available

The Australian OHS Education Accreditation Board is currently accepting expressions of interest for the role of Registrar. This part-time role involves approval and oversight of accreditation processes, ensuring the maintenance of appropriate standards and governance.

Read more...

Tell us what you think of OHS Professional magazine

Our quarterly magazine OHS Professional is an important benefit for SIA Members. To help us better understand how we can improve our member value proposition and deliver you the best possible OHS magazine, please complete the following survey:

START THE SURVEY

INDIVIDUAL SIA MEMBER LOGO – BE A PROUD MEMBER!

You asked for it and we’ve responded! You can now access a digital SIA member logo that can be used as part of your e-signature. Please note that this is the only
JHSRP call for submissions

Do you have unique practical or academic insights that may be of value to the health & safety community? The *Journal of Health & Safety Research & Practice* is an S.I.A. publication that promotes evidence & knowledge-based OHS practice. The JHSRP is now accepting submissions for the next edition.

Read more...

RMIA Keynote Tour 27 March - 5 April

Leadership | The Battle Within

Multiple leadership approaches for resilience, response & strategy

**Great leaders are not born, they evolve.** Good leaders become great leaders when they understand where their mental and physical reserves emanate from. Their life experiences are critical in the development of who they are today, and how each twist and turn of their lives has contributed to how they respond in a real life crisis situation. Knowing this ensures that all of us can personally sustain our ability to respond effectively to whatever current and future challenges we will inevitably have to face.

Brett Lovegrove, former Head of Counter Terrorism for the City of London Police will use his strategic ‘Gold Commander’ international experience to compare how case studies in global terrorist attacks are impacted by how we as risk and crisis leaders develop.

Brett will also discuss how the role of CRO can forge new directions in risk and the art of leading.

**Dates for your City**
- Melbourne Monday 27 March 2017
- Canberra Wednesday 29 March 2017
- Sydney Thursday 30 March 2017
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 on 03 8336 1995.
Call for public comment – live electrical work and work in roof spaces

The WA branch of the SIA is formulating a response, on behalf of its members, to a call for public comment on proposals to amend the Occupational Safety and Health Regulations 1996 and the Electricity (Licensing) Regulations 1991 to prohibit work on energised electrical installations.

Key features of the proposals include:

- a prohibition on conducting electrical installing work on or near an energised electrical installation;
- a general exception where a risk assessment determines there is no reasonable alternative to carrying out the work (e.g. testing the installation, or where there is no alternative means of providing power to life support equipment);
- if work is to be carried out on or near an energised electrical installation, a requirement to complete a safe work method statement and use appropriate personal protective equipment; and
- for any work to be conducted in a roof space of certain domestic dwellings, a requirement for the electrical installation to be de-energised and isolated before entering the roof space.

A draft Code of practice: Work on or near energised electrical Installations & In roof spaces of certain buildings has been prepared to assist people to comply with the proposed new regulations. Anyone with an interest in electrical safety is invited to comment on the proposed amendments to the regulations, or the draft code of practice.

Click HERE for more information

MEMBERS MUST SEND THEIR COMMENTS TO wabranch@sia.org.au BY NO LATER THAN COB TUESDAY 21 MARCH 2017 (WA TIME). Please do not send your comments to the email in the link above as the WA branch will not receive them.

REGISTRATIONS NOW OPEN

‘Celebrating 25 Years of Safety, Learning and Friendship’

21-23 May 2017 | City Golf Club, Toowoomba
EARLY BIRD RATES AVAILABLE UNTIL 31 MARCH 2017

VISIONS 2017 - CALL FOR SPONSORS

The Safety Institute of Australia invites you to become a sponsor for our 25th Annual Visions Conference, which will be held at the Toowoomba City Golf Club from 21 – 23 May 2017.

The 2017 conference focuses on new ideas and developing trends in work health and safety,

and is very much designed to assist in the professional development of OHS professionals. Visions is a unique and important annual event forming part of the broader national conference and events program at the SIA.

Visions 2017 features high level, contemporary keynote speakers who are experts in their field of study and research, along with WHS Regulators and industry experts discussing current industry topics.

The conference provides the perfect opportunity to network with your peer group while experiencing contemporary and best-practice OHS solutions showcased by fellow safety professionals.

The funds provided by this event will be used to extend upon these activities, ensuring that we can all work towards safer and fatality free workplaces.

Your sponsorship will help assure the success of the 2017 Visions Conference. For more information about this exciting event go to [www.visions.org.au](http://www.visions.org.au) or [download sponsorship prospectus here](#).

**CONFERENCES & EVENTS**

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