Ethics: At the heart of professional practice

No matter what level you work in the field of health and safety (or any other profession) operating ethically is a fundamental issue - and it's not always easy. If you’ve been in the profession long enough you will have been faced with ethical dilemmas which create challenging situations. How do you deal with these challenges throughout your career?

In February, the Institute is launching a new chapter of the OHS Body of Knowledge on ethics, developed in partnership with our colleagues at the Board of Canadian Registered Safety Professionals (BCRSP) and drawing on expertise and knowledge from around the world. It is a critical body of work and we hope the chapter (and the training we are developing alongside it) will provide an important frame of reference for the ethical stance of every practitioner and professional throughout their career. Keep your eye out for discussions on ethics and launch dates, and have a great week.

David Clarke, CEO
Workers’ compensation not keeping up with labour market changes

Workers who are employed outside traditional employment arrangements, such as independent contractors and gig workers, risk losing access to workers compensation schemes – which are in need of an overhaul in order to keep up with the changing nature of employment, according to a recent paper.

Research reveals significant ROI for workplace mental health programs

Companies with mental health programs in place for one year had a median annual ROI of $1.62 for every dollar invested, while companies with programs in place for three or more years have a median annual ROI of $2.18 for every dollar spent, according to international research.

Which 3 industries are responsible for the highest number of work-related fatalities?

Three industries have been responsible for 69 per cent of worker fatalities last year, according to Safe Work Australia research: transport, postal and warehousing (38 fatalities), agriculture, forestry and fishing (37 fatalities) and construction (24 fatalities).

Mental health in the workplace: what really helps (and what doesn’t)

While most organisations mean well when it comes to improving workplace mental health, there remains a significant gap between mental ill-health awareness and mental health action, according to an expert.
The University of Southern Queensland is conducting a study that seeks to investigate Workplace Health, Safety and Wellbeing (WHSW) as an organizational strategic priority and employee engagement, with the WHSW imperatives (dimensions) that form the strategy.

Find the information sheet with further details of the survey here.

Find the survey here: http://bit.ly/37Hv0wM

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POLICY & LEGISLATION

Safety alert issued after failed rock bolt falls in ventilation shaft during construction

Safety warning issued following rapid face bolters incidents
WorkSafe Victoria recently issued a safety alert about the risks associated with falling objects after a failed rock bolt section fell on to a working platform.

The NSW Resources Regulator recently issued a safety bulletin following three incidents which have occurred recently at longwall mines in which rapid face bolters have disengaged from the armoured face conveyor (AFC) rack bars.

Regulators join calls for action with Asbestos Awareness Week

Monday 25 November is the start of National Asbestos Awareness Week and regulators are calling on employers to avoid being complacent about the dangers of harmful asbestos fibres.

Safe Work Australia urges caution on swimming pool chemical OHS

Safe Work Australia recently released a new information sheet for storing swimming pool chemicals for small and medium businesses which do not have major chemical stores/expertise in managing the risks of chemical storage.
We would like to invite you to join us at our ACT end of year Christmas function Thursday 05 December. Join us for a number of informal presentations including the ACT President explaining what we have planned for next years program and an opportunity to provide your input. Tony Mitchell will highlight some pending changes to the Continuing Professional Development Program, as the Chair of the AIHS College of Fellow's CPD Committee. Mr David Broadhurst will be sharing the 'BraveHeart' Program and how it is a practical and proactive mental health program for workplaces.

The AIHS Gold Coast Regional Network invites you to join us Friday 13 December 2019 for an OHS / WHS professional development event. This event is part of a series that will cover a variety of industry-related topics, discussions and learnings for health & safety enthusiasts of various fields and levels of experience. This meeting's focus is on: Wellness program, Occupational Violence and ambassador program - Presented by Sam from QLD Health.

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

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<tr>
<td>29 November</td>
<td>ACT: Health &amp; Safety Conference</td>
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<td>1 December</td>
<td>The Not Boring Safe Design Online Short Course</td>
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<td>3 December</td>
<td>VIC: H.O.P &amp; Learning Teams; Never Stop Learning &amp; Improving</td>
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<td>5 December</td>
<td>WA: Annual Branch Meeting and Christmas Function</td>
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Melbourne company fined $650,000 after deadly fall

A construction company has been convicted and fined $650,000 after a labourer fell to his death during the building of a Melbourne high rise.

Read full story

Charges laid over the death of apprentice electrician in Tennant Creek

NT WorkSafe recently charged Dexter Barnes Electrical, a Tennant Creek based electrical services company, and its director Russell O’Donnell, over failures in the workplace which resulted in the death of fourth-year apprentice electrician Derick Suratin earlier this year.

Read full story

Industrial gas and liquid supplier fined $200,000 after worker dies from hose

Hazelwood Power found guilty after devastating mine fire
A large national company with ties to an international entity which specialises in the manufacturing and supply of industrial gases was recently fined $200,000 for a breach under section 32 of Queensland’s Work Health and Safety Act 2011.

The operator of Hazelwood Mine in Victoria has been convicted for exposing workers and the public to dangerous conditions during a major fire that burned for several weeks in 2014.