Politics and Workplace Health and Safety

Health and Safety is a highly political process in a number of ways. At a policy level, some argue that it shouldn’t be, but it is. Our tripartite system of policy making can be argued to be a pragmatic and sensible way to negotiate outcomes between differing philosophies (the employer and union perspectives), or it can be argued to entrench politics into policy making where evidence and good practice should rule.

What do you think? As a profession, we get to form our own ideas.

I’ll be in Sydney next week at the cusp of the federal election with a few hundred colleagues at #SAFETYSCAPE, and in between the brilliant speaker program, I suspect politics will be a hot topic.

See you there and have a great week.

David Clarke, CEO
5 steps OHS leaders can take to avoid industrial manslaughter

It may be only a matter of time before industrial manslaughter offences are introduced right around Australia, with a number of states and territories already introducing industrial manslaughter laws and a number of others looking to enact similar legislation, according to Clyde & Co.

Read More

How can OHS use mindfulness to improve OHS outcomes?

Mindfulness is gaining traction in many disciplines, according to an expert in the area, who said that the OHS profession is also interested in the theory and practice of mindfulness to improve safety within organisations.

Read More

Safe Work Australia on disruption, harmony and WHS megatrends

How work is done will involve more humans interacting with more machines and

ABCC takes action against CEPU for alleged safety breaches

The Australian Building and Construction Commission (ABCC) recently commenced
technology, and this is going to bring both new and unexpected challenges as well as opportunities for improving work, health and safety, according to Safe Work Australia CEO Michelle Baxter.

Read More

Federal Court action against the CEPU and four of its officials over a number of incidents involving potential safety breaches at the Sydney Metro Trains Facility Site in Rouse Hill.

Read More

UPCOMING EVENTS
Alium Works Cadetship Program

Alium Works offer host companies a distinct advantage in securing talent by accrediting and mentoring motivated, forward thinking individuals, readying them for Work Health & Safety roles within the rail industry and beyond.

Alium Works are seeking motivated, career-minded applicants to their unique, all-inclusive cadet programme. A programme in which you will be paid to learn, grow and achieve the required experiences and qualifications to fill positions with their host companies.

To ensure you fit the bill as a ready-to-work asset within one of the top companies in Australia, their qualified instructors will guide you through the whole process, equipping you with:

- Formal qualifications in Work Health and Safety
- Accelerated industry specific training in rail and infrastructure
- High-risk training
- Leadership skills
- Personal development programs

Whether you’re looking to return to the workforce or fresh out of school, these are skills and qualifications you can add to your mindset to shape your own career.

HOW TO APPLY

Read more about the application process and requirements and apply here.

Eric Wigglesworth AM Memorial Lecture and live stream

The SIA invites you to attend the 2019 Dr Eric Wigglesworth AM Memorial Lecture. For those unable to join us on the day, you can register here for the live stream of the event.

Presented by Emeritus Professor UNSW and author Michael Quinlan, this year’s lecture is titled: ‘Avoiding Back to the Future’. The presentation will focus on pattern causes of death and serious harm at work and how work organisation affects health, psychosocial well-being and safety at work.

The Dr Eric Wigglesworth AM Memorial Lecture is presented in conjunction with the SIA’s Annual Education Awards and this year, the lecture coincides with the SIA National Health & Safety Conference.

Read more about this year’s presentation and register to join us here.

EVENT DETAILS
Date: Tuesday 21st May 2019
Time: 6.00pm – 8.30pm
Venue: Black Wattleroom, Park Royal Hotel, 150 Day Street, Sydney New South Wales 2000
Cost: SIA Member: $65+ GST | Non Members: $95+ GST
Includes: networking drinks & canapes.

LIVE STREAM DETAILS
Date: Tuesday 21 May 2019
Time: 7.00pm – 8.30pm (AEST)
Cost: SIA Member: $50+ GST | Non Members: $80+ GST
* Please note – login details will be made available 3-4 days prior to the event.
Please note
Applications will close on **Wednesday 29th May 2019**. Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted no later than **Friday 31st May 2019**.

FOR MORE EVENTS **CLICK HERE**

---

**POLICY & LEGISLATION**

**WorkSafe Victoria issues safety alert to farmers about dam work**

WorkSafe Victoria recently issued a safety alert warning farmers and others to be aware of the potentially fatal hazards of working in and around dams, following an incident in which a farmer died during work on a dam.

*Read More*

**Queensland: safety warning over land-borne inflatable devices becoming airborne**

Workplace Health and Safety Queensland recently issued a safety alert highlighting the risk of land-borne inflatable devices (such as a jumping castle or slide) becoming airborne if they are not adequately anchored.

*Read More*
WA: safety warning issued over wheels detaching from graders

The WA Department of Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety recently issued a safety bulletin following reports of potentially serious incidents involving graders when either a front steering wheel or a driving wheel experienced catastrophic failure of its stub axle, resulting in the wheel suddenly detaching during operation.

NHVR calls for operators using fatigue monitoring technology

The National Heavy Vehicle Regulator (NHVR) is seeking expressions of interest from transport companies and manufacturers to take part in an independently-run safety project.

Read More

FOR MORE POLICY & LEGISLATION CLICK HERE

INCIDENTS & PROSECUTIONS
QLD: pump importer prosecuted and fined $1.2 million over electrocution death

Two years after a woman was electrocuted by a submersible pump in the backyard well of a Townsville home, the importer and online seller of the pump has been fined $1.2 million for failing to meet obligations under electrical safety laws.

Read More

VIC: shopfitting company and director fined more than $300,000 over fall from height fatality

A Victorian shopfitting company was recently convicted and fined $300,000 after an employee died when he fell more than two metres from an unguarded mezzanine floor at a worksite at Maidstone in Melbourne's west.

Read More

QLD: property manager fined $60,000 over locking pin failure

A property manager has been convicted and fined $60,000 in the Townsville Magistrates

VIC: food retail manager fined $7500 for bullying storeman

The manager of a Victoria company selling nuts, dried fruits and candies in shopping
Court after failing to use a simple and effective fencing equipment locking pin that would have prevented a worker being injured.

centres has been convicted and fined $7500 for bullying a storeman.

FOR MORE INCIDENTS & PROSECUTIONS CLICK HERE