



Choose Safety Pty Ltd

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Remember:

***The standard you walk
past is the standard you
set!.***

**Contact Choose Safety
today, mention the
newsletter and get a
10% Discount
on the next job we
perform for you!!**



Welcome to the Choose Safety Newsletter

Hi there – and welcome to the second Choose Safety newsletter!

Choose Safety is a growing OHS Consultancy company that began in 2006. Since that time we have been working hard to improve the safety in many workplaces and industries across Australia. We are passionate about improving safety and making it an integral part of every person's daily thinking, without making the process of working safely something that gets in the way of getting the job done.

We strive to make safety initiatives simple, effective, relevant, and of course compliant. We hope you find this newsletter interesting and informative, and we welcome your enquiries and feedback.

Regards,

Craig Schopp – Director and Principal Consultant

Harmonised WHS Legislation – where are we?

The proposed Harmonised Workplace Health and Safety laws did not come into effect in South Australia on 1st Jan 2012 as originally anticipated. Pending SA government "approval" they are now expected to be introduced on 1st January 2013. Although the basic requirement of the proposed WHS Legislation is not significantly different from many current work health and safety laws, there are still areas that confuse many workers and workplaces. The following are some of the questions that we are receiving:

- Who is an "officer" under the WHS Act 2012?
- What does due diligence mean?
- Will the Regulations, Codes of Practice and guidance material also be harmonised?
- Why are the penalties for breaching the duty of care so high?
- The new laws say I only need to do what is reasonably practicable. If it costs too much to fix a machine which has a defective guard, what are my options?
- Do volunteer organisations have a duty under the new laws?
- Can a union official walk into my premises without a permit?

Contact us if you would like answers and information relating to the new WHS Laws.

Employee Profile: Mark Clarke

After working part-time for Choose Safety since March 2011, Mark joined the company properly in August 2011 as a Safety Advisor. Mark brings to the Company a wealth of experience from 25 years in the Defence Forces as well as 10 years in Transport & Logistics, working in areas such as Petroleum Installations and Warehousing. Mark has just completed his Advanced Diploma in OHS, an Associate Diploma in Petroleum Science, Cert IV in Training & Assessment and Transport & Logistics. Additionally, Mark is a member of the Safety Institute of Australia. Mark enjoys a nice red in the evening and turns up to work most days (just kidding – he really is very reliable)!! **Welcome to the Choose Safety team Mark !!**

Are YOU Duly Diligent??

If you have responsibilities for management of workers and decision making for your workplace or company, then you must be able to show that you have met your Duty of Care obligations. Officers of a person conducting a business or undertaking must exercise 'due diligence' to ensure that the business or undertaking complies with the health and safety duties. The following are the specific requirements listed in the proposed legislation that are required to be met in order to show that an officer of the organization has met their Duty of Care obligations:



Contact Choose Safety today to arrange a review of your safety systems in preparation for the new changes

- Have a current knowledge of work health and safety matters;
- Understand the nature of the operations of the business and generally of the hazards and risks associated with it;
- Ensure that the business uses appropriate resources and processes to control or eliminate hazards associated with the operations of the business;
- Ensure that the business has appropriate processes for receiving and considering information regarding incidents, hazards and risks and responding in a timely way to that information;
- Ensure that the business has, and implements, processes for complying with any duty or obligation of the business under this Act (this includes the obligation to notify incidents, consult with workers, etc), and
- Have in place a system for verifying the continued compliance with the business' (legal) safety obligations.

These are **positive duties** on officers **to be proactive** and always ensure that the business or undertaking complies with the relevant (safety) duties and obligations. The scope of the officers' duty is directly related to the influential nature of their position. Maintaining a high safety standard requires regular review and care to ensure that the resources and systems are adequate to comply with the duty of care.

New Clients – and what we are doing to help them

We service a wide range of companies and industries in South Australia and nationally. We strive to provide excellent Customer Service, which keeps our existing clients happy, safe and informed of relevant requirements. Most of our work is provided on an "as required" basis and repeat business shows that our existing clients have been satisfied. This list below shows some of our new satisfied Customers.

BAE Defence Logistics – Plant Risk Assessments (SA, Vic, Tas, WA & NT)

Hunter Brothers Earthmovers – Safety Management System Review and Upgrade

Avery Dennison – Provision of on-site OHS personnel

Dual Recruitment – Development of Small Business OHS system

SA Waste - OHS Compliance Audit and Safety System Development

AR Fuels – OHS Compliance Auditing (SA, WA, Vic)

Mitre 10 McLaren Vale- Small Business OHS System review and on-site training

APA - Chemical and Manual Handling Risk Assessments, Workplace Inspections

Michell Pty Ltd – Confined Space Risk Assessments

Contact Choose Safety

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**The Choice is easy....
Choose Safety!!**
