



## Mining Industry Participation Sets the Standard

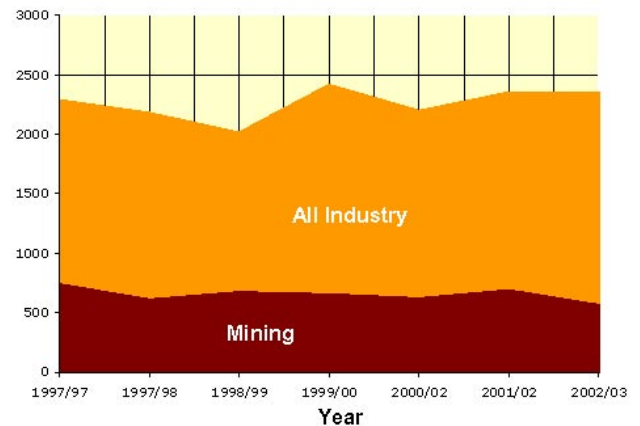
The training of safety and health representatives in Western Australia over the past seven years has been relatively stable with an average of some 2200 representatives each year receiving training.

The mining industry has continued its participation over the period 1996/97 - 2002/03 providing training to an average 650 representatives per year, which equates to an average 29% of all the representatives trained in Western Australia.

This level of participation from an industry employing about 5% of the workforce is perhaps one of the reasons that, as pointed out in the July issue of the Monitor, the mining industry is the outstanding sector in terms of safety performance in the WA economy.

Anecdotal evidence is that health and safety representatives have played a key role in improving occupational health and safety in all sectors of the industry.

Participation in Training of Safety and Health Representatives



## Provider Moderation Meeting

Most MARCSTA providers attended important moderation meetings in August to exchange views and to be briefed on major changes to training requirements of the Australian Quality Training Framework.



Above: Provider Moderation Meeting

All annual licensing agreements now include a mandatory requirement for compliance by providers with the AQTF. These requirements include auditing of documentary procedures and of provider training performance. Audit protocols were tabled for comment.

Other matters discussed included the review of current programs, the upgrading of MARCSTA's website and the promotion of the FastTrack option for employees with extensive experience in industry.

MARCSTA is constantly examining its processes to take account of prior learning and experience of candidates to avoid unnecessary repetition of industry inductions. Anecdotal reports suggest that this continues to be a concern at the enterprise level.

MARCSTA wishes all readers the compliments of the season

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# Review of **Extended Working Hours**

The decision by the Minister for Consumer and Employment Protection requiring the Review Panel to provide him with recommendations by 30 November will cause a ripple or two given that respondents may still be providing input until mid-November.

The major task of the Review Panel is to receive public input and to make recommendations for the improvement of the State's occupational safety and health framework that applies to issues arising from extended working hours.

Much of the discussion to date has been on related issues sometimes quite remote from this fundamental task of improving the occupational safety and health framework. Not infrequently economic issues have taken precedence over worker health and safety issues. In that respect one is reminded of similar arguments when the first occupational safety and health legislation was introduced 20 years ago.

## UK Health and Safety Executive Discovers MARCSTA

In a press release dated 9 October 2003 the UK Health and Safety Executive (HSE) announced the publication of a new safety passport scheme leaflet about good practice.

The intention is to promote safety passports - developed and used in various industries to help workers gain minimum levels of health and safety knowledge and to ensure awareness of environmental responsibility before gaining access to a workplace.

The health and safety core syllabus proposed for such passports reads like the content of the MARCSTA General Safety Induction with some notable omissions. Refreshing of knowledge every three years is recommended.

The proposal is well overdue and it will be interesting to see whether it receives any support from the industries targeted who, strangely, seem to have had little involvement in its development.

The key concepts of industry participation and acceptability, quality content, delivery and assessment to a specified standard will be obstacles that the HSE can expect to have difficulty with.

For further information including a copy of the passport, visit the website [www.hse.gov.uk/press/2003/e03197.htm](http://www.hse.gov.uk/press/2003/e03197.htm).

## MARCSTA at HISMELT Corporation Pty Limited

MARCSTA provider Jason Roberts was on hand to conduct the General Safety Induction for new employees at the Hismelt Kwinana operations on 2 September 2003.

With his practical experience in processing activities similar to those at the new Hismelt operations, Jason was admirably equipped to relate to new employees in delivery of the MARCSTA program.

At right: L-R Jason Roberts of Roberts Safety & Training, Leon Topalian, Operations Manager Hismelt, Geraldine Kite, HSE Manager Hismelt.



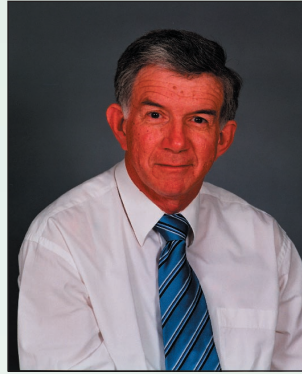
## Industrial Manslaughter Proposal

Industrial manslaughter proposals before the ACT Legislative Assembly which provide for fines of up to \$5 million for companies, will see industrial manslaughter placed in the Crimes Act, making it a criminal offence. Company directors or boards face the prospect of gaol if an employee is killed at work and the employer was found to be negligent in contributing to their death.

Similar legislation has previously been rejected in Victoria, NSW and Queensland and comes as part of a reform package to ACT occupational health and safety laws.

# Editorial

Recently a very readable book on twenty accidents came across my desk. Called *Set Phasers on Stun* by Steven Casey (the title comes from an instruction on rayguns in Star Trek), the book narrates tales of people wrestling with technology.



Geoff Taylor

The stories range from Bhopal in India to a US cocktail bar, from a space landing in the former USSR to a hop field in the US, and in time from 1923 until the recent past.

The reader stands all unsuspecting on the bridge of a supertanker in 1967 as a series of navigational errors is made culminating in the selection of the wrong setting of a three position steering control, and a failure to go hard astern.

Thirty one million gallons of oil contaminate English and French beaches as a result. The supertanker is ultimately named and the reader says "Of course!"

At the other end of the scale is an electrocution under power lines in an open field where workers were moving aluminium irrigation pipes. But why upend them to the vertical position? A safety practitioner advising the lawyers went out on site to find out, and pulled a rabbit out of the hat. Well, not quite, upending the pipe dislodged a tasty rabbit.

The book's title is based around a medical X-ray device which had two power settings. However selecting the wrong setting and then correcting it too quickly led to a third unintended system condition which delivered a lethal blast of radiation.

*Set Phasers...* gives a lot of food for thought for anyone interested in person-equipment interaction, and its impact on safe work.

Participants in MARCSTA's upcoming *Apply Local Risk Control Processes* course will be presented with good examples of this. The course is supported by three videos locally made in a mine workshop, an open cut and a treatment plant.

As this will be the last issue for this year, our very best wishes for Christmas and the New Year.



## Who's who?

**Chief Executive Officer**  
Patrick Gilroy AM

**Chairperson**  
Terry Condipodero  
Roche Mining (JR)

**Vice Chairperson**  
Joe Maglizza  
Readymix Holdings

**Committee of Management**  
Warren Claydon  
Ross Graham  
Arlene Roe

**Assessment Panel Chair**  
Joe Maglizza

**Office Administrator**  
Anna Verteramo

**AQTF Compliance Coordinator**  
Glenys Davidson

**MARCSTA Monitor Editor**  
Geoff Taylor



## Conferences and Courses

Primex Mining, Engineering & Industrial Expo, 18-20 February 2004, Burswood. Contact: [info@primex.net.au](mailto:info@primex.net.au).

Minehaul 2004, 25-27 February 2004. Novotel Langley, Perth. Contact: Michal Osmo, [info@iir.com.au](mailto:info@iir.com.au)

Underground Mining Geomechanics Seminar Series, 4-7 May 2004. Four 1-day seminars. Perth. Contact: Josephine Ruddle, [agc@agc.uwa.edu.au](mailto:agc@agc.uwa.edu.au)

Green Processing (of mineral resources), Fremantle 10-12 May 2004. Contact: [miriamw@ausimm.com.au](mailto:miriamw@ausimm.com.au).





Jim Torlach,  
ISMSP Chairman

# International Society of Mine

The ISMSP is dedicated to development of mine safety professionals throughout the international mining community, to save lives and reduce injuries through better leadership and understanding of the mining industry in all countries of the world.

## The Role of the Safety Professional

In a recent article published by the Stevens Publishing Corporation of Dallas, Texas and written by John R Grubbs of Lone Star Steel, the author comments that it is a common fallacy that the safety professional holds the key to safety success.

In his view safety is a management function that includes planning, organising, controlling, directing and staffing; safety professionals should be viewed as internal consultants to the organisation.

Furthermore, enforcement and “policing” of employees should never be a part of a safety professional’s duties. Safety enforcement should always be a direct function of the front-line supervisor, who must “walk the walk” as well as “talk the talk” when it comes to safety issues.

Grubbs goes on to say “leaders must instill safety as a value to the organisation. **It is often said that ‘safety is our number one priority’, but safety should never be a priority to an organisation.** Priorities will change as operating conditions change. Instead, **safety must be a value to the organisation that exists no matter what operating conditions arise.** Safety must be as integral to the organisation as the power that runs the process.”

The article goes on to discuss how leaders can transform organisations and the evaluation of leadership and concludes with some basic strategies that contribute to transformational safety leadership

## First Law Examination for Professional Certification

The inaugural law examination for prospective certified professionals was conducted in late September.

Ten candidates, including two resident in Queensland, completed the three hour examination which tested knowledge and understanding of safety and health aspects of the Mines Safety and Inspection Act and Regulations.

Completed papers were marked by Professor Peter Lilly the Head of Mining Engineering at WASM - Curtin University with the assistance of Jim Torlach, Chairman and former State Mining Engineer.

The following candidates were successful:

- Terry Condipodero
- Ross Graham
- Vicki Jones
- Ray Kennedy
- Peter Luobokis
- Joe Maglizza
- Mike McCudden
- Bill Roche
- Grant Shearwin
- Noel Wendt

*At left and below: Participants at the ISMSP Law Examination for Professional Certification*



## Portfolio Information

Successful candidates will now be invited to submit portfolios of documented safety and health activities and initiatives to support their application for certification.

Categories for which candidates are required to provide documented evidence of completed activities include:

### CATEGORY A

- documented risk management exercises undertaken at a substantial level, involving team-based risk assessment including the risk matrix determination and the controls developed
- documented major (plant or site wide) safety audits and recommendations with close-out report, and verification and follow up
- report or compilation of documentation on occupational hygiene issues/problems, including identification of the source and causes and actions taken to resolve or manage the situation; examples include noise, dust and fumes, hazardous substances, radiation, shiftwork and fatigue
- assignments or theses produced in the process of acquiring technical and professional qualifications which demonstrate knowledge and capacity in occupational health and safety fields relevant to mining
- development and establishment of emergency response plans and systems and establishment of ER capacity for a mine (demonstrated performance of the latter)
- documentation of a major review of plant and process including operating and maintenance functions, leading to demonstrated improvement in safety performance.

### CATEGORY B

- accident/incident investigation:
  - process of investigation including outcomes and preventative measures
  - demonstrated capacity for root cause analysis
- communication, supervision or training initiatives to rectify sub-standard performance or behaviour
- report on conduct of emergency response capacity testing and assessment, including outcomes and actions developed and implemented for improvement
- development of documented procedures for safe operation
- development of training resources incorporating safety and health principles
- papers written, presented and published in technical journals, and conferences and seminar papers.

**Candidates meeting this criteria will then attend an interview and be required to comply with the Society's Code of Ethics and meet the continuing professional development requirements of the Society.**



# Skilled Engineering WA



Skilled Engineering WA has grown into Australasia's largest provider of workforce services to industry. Skilled has 1, 600 employees and is a dynamic part of the Skilled national organisation with branches in Perth, Bunbury, Kalgoorlie, Karratha, Port Hedland, Tom Price and Paraburadoo, servicing the mining and almost every other type of industry in WA. In addition Skilled also has Communication, Rail and Maritime Divisions operating in WA.

Skilled has been recognised as a market leader in safety systems by being Australia's first workforce services company to be awarded AS/NZS 4801 accreditation for occupational health and safety management systems.

AS/NZS 4801 requires that the five major components of OSH management be fully incorporated into Skilled's business systems.

Skilled has gained AS/NZS 4801 accreditation to demonstrate to other companies that it is serious about safety and health and that Skilled cares about its own employees as well as its clients' employees.

Skilled has a national OSH system that meets the strict standards set by state safety legislation and which provides a seamless occupational safety and health approach across all operations for national blue chip companies such as Xstrata Coal Australia Pty Ltd, Capral, BHP Billiton, Rio Tinto and WMC.

For Skilled, AS/NZS 4801 accreditation is only part of Skilled's safety journey. The future program is to ensure on-going continuous improvement in Skilled's OSH system to ensure that all Skilled's clients will be exposed to a workforce services company with best practice in safety and health.

Skilled understands that to have best practice means working closely and effectively on building partnerships with its clients to ensure that safety management is effective 24 hours a day/seven days a week.

## New publications

*DoIR: Guideline: Noise Control in Mines.*

DOCEP- WorkSafe:

*Fact Sheet: Injury: Manual Handling - Plumbers.*

*Fact Sheet: Injury: Manual Handling - Plumbers - Information for Main Contractors*

*Fact Sheet: Injury: Manual Handling - Plumbers - Information for Designers and Manufacturers.*

## MARCSTA members

### FULL MEMBERS

- Ausdrill Ltd
- Australian Raise Drilling
- Barmenco Mining Contractors
- BGC Contracting
- Brambles Ltd
- Charles Hull Contracting
- Cooks Construction Ltd
- Readymix Holdings Pty Ltd

- GRD Minproc
- Komatsu Pty Ltd
- Macmahon Pty Ltd
- Roche Mining
- Roche Mining (JR) Pty Ltd
- Skilled Engineering
- Thiess Pty Ltd
- Total Corrosion Control
- Westrac Equipment Pty Ltd

### ASSOCIATE MEMBERS

- AVELING
- Mandurah Safety and Training Services

This list is current at the time of going to press but for further information contact the Secretariat on (08) 9355 1400 or Fax (08) 9355 1499





# Stephen G Taylor - MPL Health and Safety

Stephen Taylor is now providing weekly MARCSTA courses from the prestigious new Burswood Road premises of MPL Health Safety and Environmental Consultants. Many readers will remember Stephen from Geraldton where he provided regular MARCSTA courses for the Interactive Training Network, the commercial arm of the Central West College of TAFE.

Prior to joining MPL, Stephen was employed by mining contractor MacMahon and has over twenty five years safety experience in Australia and the UK.

Today Stephen provides safety and consultancy services such as safety audits, airborne contaminant monitoring, asbestos monitoring and awareness training and hygiene reviews at MPL to a wide range of industries including mining, heavy construction and the commercial sector.



Above: Stephen Taylor

He also heads the MPL Training Network, the new training division of MPL which has established a dedicated training centre in its new premises where it holds regular competency based training and assessment.

This includes a diverse spectrum of safety and environment related fields including Safety Essentials, Confident Communicator, Safety Leadership, Chemical Awareness, First Aid and Confined Space in addition to MPL's SMARTsafe range of safety management and training products.

Stephen holds a Bachelor of Arts in Vocational Education and Training and was presented with a Golden Alumni Award in 2000 by Curtin University for his outstanding performance during his Bachelor of Science in Occupational Safety and Health.

"The aim at MPL is to provide a range of safety related training which not only ensures that our clients have employees who are safety aware but also complements the range of laboratory services we provide", Stephen said.

## New providers

We welcome Darren Bennetts, Barbara Best, Andrew Hamill and Graham Williams.

## MARCSTA REGISTERED PROVIDERS

Mark Adam  
 John Amphlett  
 Jayson Aveling  
 Tony Aveling  
 Graham Bailey  
 Ron Baker  
 Peter Barnard (U)  
 Tom Bateman  
 Darren Bennetts  
 Carl Berglin  
 Barbara Best  
 Danny Bogнар  
 Clive Brindley  
 Dale Cocker (U) (S)  
 David Collins (S)  
 Jim Dandie  
 Geoff Day  
 Peter Dowding (U)  
 Joe Duyvestyn

Linda Elezovich  
 Helen Fleming (S)  
 Ashley Gilbert  
 Ross Graham  
 Andrew Hamill  
 Ray Hargreaves  
 Allison Hutton  
 Ralph Keegan (S)  
 John Lemon  
 Guy Le Noir  
 Chris Logan  
 Joe Maglizza  
 Malcolm McFarland (S)  
 Greg North  
 Patrick O'Sullivan  
 John Preston  
 Graeme Richards  
 Merryn Richards (S)  
 Darren Ridley

Jason C Roberts  
 Victor Roberts  
 Des Shaw  
 Brian Smith (U)  
 Peter Stoneman  
 Wayne Sullivan (S)  
 Mitchell Talbot  
 Stephen Taylor  
 Peter Tredgett  
 Peter Tynan (U)  
 Graham Wall  
 Graham Williams

All listed above provide general inductions. U denotes underground trainer as well. S denotes shiftwork lifestyle trainer as well.

Kris Burchell (S only)

*This list is current at the time of going to press*

# News and views

## Australian miners very safety conscious

Mike Woof in *World Mining Equipment* for September 2003 in *Cold Call* notes that Komatsu find that Australia's environmental and safety regulations can be rigorous and require special attention. Komatsu Germany's Mike Greenwood said: "We find Australian people are ultra safety conscious. They require special ladders and so on, while working noise is another challenging issue."

## High load to weight ratio in truck

Also in *World Mining Equipment* for September 2003 V. Pokras and J. Whitfield describe the Liebherr T1272 haul truck developed with dual rear suspension. The dump body is not supported by the frame, but instead at the front is supported by two hoist cylinders and at the rear is supported through the suspension units and the wheels. The four rear tyres travel at different speeds on a bend, reducing tyre scrub.

The independent rear suspension also improves the ride for the operator.

## Better ergonomics at Beaconsfield

According to *AusIMM Bulletin* for July 2003, an underground Wagner truck at the BMJV in Tasmania has been modified by Atlas-Copco to give it a forward-, not side-facing cab. This will reduce neck and back strain as tramming distances increase. There is also an onboard reversing camera so that the operator can turn the truck in a cross cut at level access and be endloaded. The truck is much more comfortable and easier to drive. BMJV will convert two more trucks and Atlas-Copco now offers the forward-facing cab as an option.

## Origins of a famous piece of safety technology

Mike Woof in *World Mining Equipment* for September 2003 gives a history of the development of the miner's safety lamp for use in atmospheres containing methane. There were several designers – Wyndus, Clanny, George Stephenson - but the first really effective model was developed by Sir Humphrey Davey in 1816. Teale and Prestwich followed with further improvements.

## FIFO, working hours and fatigue

The *AusIMM Bulletin* for July/August 2003 also publishes a letter from Ian Mulholland of Conquest Mining about FIFO and fatigue in response to an article in the January/February edition by Terry and Sherryl Potts. Ian notes the need for more studies on the social, psychological and emotional effects, and the fact that shorter rosters are sometimes rejected by miners because they would mean a drop in income.

Charles Macdonald in *Australian Journal of Mining* for July/August 2003 also devotes an editorial and three articles to fatigue and working hours. Apart from an article by Charles the editor himself, one article is by Kathryn Heiler who conducted the recent Tasmanian study on working hours. The other is by Ian Masson of the AMMA on working time developments, and notes that the ACTU applied to the AIRC for a Work and Family Test Case in June this year.

In addition to the current Western Australian inquiry, there has also been an inquiry in Victoria.

Kathryn Heiler's report linked increased casualties to excessive working hours. However the Queensland Mining Council has produced research showing that 12 hour shifts are safer than 8 or 10 hour ones. It notes that employees like the longer freetime blocks.

Charles Macdonald notes that suitability for shiftwork, alcohol consumption patterns, commuting time and moonlighting can all affect health and safety. He comments that mines are using risk assessment to control weak spots with job rotation, breaks and travel assistance. Fatigue training is increasing, focussing on sleeping, diet and fitness. In the safety technology area, in-cab fatigue detection devices are on the increase.

## Workplaces failing in falls from height

The Health and Safety Executive in the UK reports that one in ten London workplaces were found to be failing to prevent falls from height during a two week inspection initiative.

Falls from height are the single biggest cause of death in British workplaces, accounting for 69 deaths and 3996 major injuries of workers in 2001/02.

In NSW the death of a 16 year old labourer on his third day on the job after falling from a factory roof was a grim reminder that the problem is not confined to the UK.

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