



Codes of practice

Draft National Code of Practice for Induction Training for Construction Work

The National Occupational Health and Safety Commission (NOHSC) have circulated a draft National Standard and Draft National Code of Practice for Induction Training for Construction Work. The work of NOHSC is undertaken by the Office of the *Australian Safety and Compensation Council*, operating within the Department of Employment and Workplace Relations.

The draft code aims to provide the basis for the development of consistent, nationally recognised training for persons engaged in construction work.

Curiously, the National General Construction Training Package has included the Unit, *"Follow OH&S Policies and Procedures"* for some years now, which specifies the competencies required to work safely on a general construction site.

This Unit has not received support from any of the states who have instead respectively accredited abbreviated versions; WA is about to do the same.

The Regulatory Impact Statement accompanying the Draft National Code identifies the "confusion and duplication" involved in the current arrangements with every state doing its own thing and generally declining to recognise training carried out beyond their respective borders.

It will be interesting to see the various state responses to the Draft. Hopefully those responses will include a justification for the rejection of the General Construction Training Package which was developed with tripartite support to enable consistency across jurisdictions.

WorkSafe Working Hours Draft Code of Practice

This Draft Code was released on 14 June 2005 with a three month period for public comment.

MARCSTA has provided input which is available on our website for members and other interested parties.

In its current format, the Draft Code is not user-friendly and will need modification if it is to be of use generally in the workplace.

With most WA workplaces in the small business category it is crucial that those employers and their employees be provided with a document that they can both understand and put into practice.

MARCSTA has provided some suggestions to augment workforce appreciation of the health and safety consequences of our current working hours practices.

Visit www.safetyline.wa.gov.au to view the Draft Code and www.marcsta.com (Latest News) for MARCSTA's comments.

MARCSTA establishes training benchmarks

MARCSTA has adopted benchmarks for all aspects of its training programs and their delivery by licensed providers.

The benchmarks will apply to both the training room component of program delivery and to the collection of evidence of competency prior to the issuing of Statements of Attainment.

The benchmarks apply to:

- provider/training delivery/assessment;
- training appropriateness;
- learning and learning environment;
- student/learner; and
- assessment/competency.

MARCSTA's skills recognition procedures will take account of these benchmarks which are fundamental to the Australian Quality Training Framework.

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General Safety Induction – Fast Track option for refreshers

MARCSTA's Management Committee is anxious to increase the awareness of the availability of the Fast Track refresher option for those employees who are experienced and competent in the safety and health aspects of everyday working on mine sites.

The Fast Track option is available to current certificate holders and also to candidates who can provide evidence of five years total mining industry practical experience and three years recent Western Australian mining experience as well as a working knowledge of current occupational safety and health experience.

Candidates sit a written question/answer test and must correctly answer all "must get right" questions while averaging 80% over the total exam paper.

Candidates are required to complete a written application detailing their practical experience and agree to the conditions that apply. They are advised to obtain a current manual from the training provider and study the contents prior to examination.

Completion of MARCSTA's General Safety Induction entitles candidates to move to a Statement of Attainment on demonstrating workplace competence.

The General Safety Induction is the benchmark for candidates entering mine sites and is fully compliant with the Australian Quality Training Framework.

Candidates should be referred to either a trainer or our website to obtain a copy of the application to sit a Fast Track.

CANDIDATES SITTING
A FAST TRACK MUST
OBTAIN 100% ON THE
'MUST GET RIGHT'
QUESTIONS



VISIT WWW.MARCSTA.COM TO OBTAIN AN
APPLICATION TO SIT A
FAST TRACK AND TO
VIEW THE TERMS AND
CONDITIONS

Edith Cowan University PhD study into the efficacy of a General Safety Induction System

The study being conducted by PhD student, Ian Douglas, is now entering its final stages although the final report is unlikely to be available until 2006.

The study is most relevant as the concept of industry-wide general inductions is attracting the interest of the federal government which is turning its attention to the economic cost of regulatory inconsistency when working across different jurisdictions.

An example of this is the recently released Draft National Code of Practice for Induction Training for Construction Work.

Silicosis scam under investigation

A federal judge in Texas has recommended that an investigation be conducted into how a disease that caused fewer than 200 deaths annually in the entire USA could have resulted in 20,000 claims in Mississippi and surrounding states.

The judge suggested that corruption was involved in almost every one of the 10,000 silicosis claims before the Court.

The diagnosis of silicosis was made in 99% of more than 9,000 plaintiffs by the same nine doctors. One admitted that he didn't know the criteria for diagnosing the disease but had simply included a paragraph supplied by the screening company in each of his reports.

The judge also found that more than 65% of the silica plaintiffs had also been plaintiffs in a previous asbestos suit, with the diagnosis made by the same doctors.

A New York Grand Jury is investigating.

Editorial

Tom Casey's novel *Human Error* is a good read, weaving into a romantic plot a serious discussion of some critical facets of safety -- in this case aircraft safety -- and the not so subtle effect of gender in the workplace.

It hints at the role of preoccupation in accident causation, then deftly changes tack to engineering issues before tracing the fine line between adhering to procedures and using critical judgement based on experience. All this in the context too of natural forces.

The novel tracks the course of events which are possible and can be contemplated, and where the actual time of the occurrence cannot be predicted.

The account of an investigation highlights "being wise after the event" and the impact of that on the confidence of the key player in a multiple fatality. It is a plot to make every health and safety practitioner think, from an author who has "been there done that" (well, except for the fatalities).

On another note, the move of the mine safety inspectorate in July to DOCEP, under which WorkSafe also sits, will be watched with interest.

Despite the growth in the mining industry since 1990, and the increase in royalties flowing to the state government, there has been no change in mines inspectorate numbers. The great success of the mining industry with safety in those 15 years (with some exceptions) has shown how self-regulation properly

applied can work. But there is still a need for government involvement using qualified people. The new federal/state petroleum safety authority, NOPSA, has had to offer realistic salaries to attract the right people -- will DOCEP do the same for the mines inspectorate?

The editor can be contacted at Work Safety and Health Associates Telephone 08 9354 7590 or at wsha@iinet.net.au



Geoff Taylor

MARCSTA licensed providers

Mark Adam
Jayson Aveling
Graham Bailey
Ron Baker
Tom Bateman
Carl Berglin
Danny Bogнар
Clive Brindley
Dale Cocker (U) (S)
Jim Dandie
Geoff Day
Peter Dowding
Joe Duyvestyn
Linda Elezovich
Helen Fleming (S)
Ashley Gilbert

Ross Graham
Ray Hargreaves
Jeffrey Hickin
Ralph Keegan (S)
Guy Le Noir
Rob Lewis
Joe Maglizza
Neil McMeekin
Malcolm McFarland
John Preston
Graeme Richards
Merryn Richards
Jason Roberts
Victor Roberts
Des Shaw
Grant Shearwin

Brian Smith
Peter Stoneman
Wayne Sullivan (S)
Mitchell Talbot
Marcus Taylor
James Titmus
Peter Tredgett
Peter Tynan (U)
Graham Williams
Paul Willoughby
Terry Young

All trainers listed above provide general inductions.
U denotes underground trainer as well.
S denotes shiftwork lifestyle trainer as well.
This list is current at the time of going to press
See www.marcsta.com for the location of trainers.



Wasting time on the job

A recent survey carried out in the USA of over 10,000 employees has found that workers squander about two hours per day at the workplace.

Top time wasting activities at work are:

- surfing the internet for personal reasons (about one half of respondents); and
- socialising with co-workers (one quarter of respondents)

Other time wasting activities include:

- conducting personal business;
- spacing out;
- running errands off premises;
- making personal phone calls;
- applying for other jobs;
- planning personal events; and
- arriving late/leaving early.

The data shows women and men waste similar amounts of time.

Age is a significant factor with older workers reporting much less time wastage than younger brackets of employees.



Chronic fatigue website <http://orwh.od.nih.gov/cfs.html>.

The US Office of Research on Women's Health has launched a new website on chronic fatigue syndrome (CFS). CFS is a chronic, often debilitating syndrome that is characterised by profound fatigue and is not improved by bed rest. The new website contains updated information on CFS research by the Trans-NIH Working Group, in addition to resources for those interested in learning more about the syndrome.

Mental illness now Scotland's top work health problem

A new study of Scottish workers has shown that mental illness has overtaken musculo skeletal disease as the most common work-related health problem in Scotland and also that Scottish workers are more likely to suffer from the illness than those in the rest of the UK.

The majority are related to anxiety and depression, followed by work-related stress, with a far smaller number suffering from post-traumatic stress disorder.

*"The system is very much based on reporting systems for occupational physicians and specialist physicians, so it doesn't pick up data from your average GP, for example. You are just seeing the tip of the iceberg."
Dr C Ramsay, Health Protection Scotland*

new publications

▶ OHS MANAGEMENT AND CONTAMINATED SITES - GUIDANCE NOTE OHS IN CALL CENTRES - CODE OF PRACTICE.....**DOCEP WorkSafe**

▶ RESOURCES SAFETY: 17 MINE SAFETY MATTERS (WEB ONLY).....**DOCEP Resources Safety**

▶ A DRAFT CODE OF PRACTICE ON VIOLENCE, AGGRESSION AND BULLYING AT WORK IS AVAILABLE FROM THE WORKSAFE WA COMMISSION FOR COMMENT.....**DOCEP WorkSafe**

▶ A DRAFT CODE OF PRACTICE ON WORKING HOURS IS AVAILABLE FROM THE WORKSAFE WA COMMISSION FOR COMMENT.....**DOCEP WorkSafe**

Methamphetamine usage – US workplaces

USA Today reports that methamphetamine usage in the US continues to grow at an alarming rate.

The number of positive tests grew by 6% in 2004 on top of a 44% increase in 2003.

The drug provides a pleasurable experience with the user feeling full of energy. Over time, however, anxiety, paranoia, weight loss and other health issues are experienced.

UK drivers of gas service vans secure compensation for back injuries resulting from using laptops

A number of drivers in the UK have been compensated for back injuries suffered due to the use of laptops fitted into their vans.

Fixed to the bottom of passenger seats, the laptops could only be operated if they were on the passenger seat. Used by drivers to locate gas mains and logging call-outs, they required drivers to twist and turn to view them.

Initially the company in question refused to admit responsibility.

Work life imbalance more than just too much work

In an expansion of a 2001 study about work-life balance issues which initially blamed employers for the stress reported by Canadian workers, the researchers have expanded on their original conclusions. They now say that bad time management by the employees themselves also contributes to the problem.

Other studies have found that the problem is a perceptual one – the more input employees have over their work, the less stress they reported.

Obesity studies focus on injuries, sedentary workplaces

An Australian study carried out at Queensland University, which collected data on almost 1600 men and women in fulltime jobs, has found that workers sat an average of more than three hours a day with 25% sedentary more than six hours per day. Men sat an average of 209 minutes, 20 minutes more than women.

The researchers commented that “time and productivity lost due to chronic diseases associated with overweight and obesity may make it financially worthwhile for employers to be more proactive in the health of their employees by promoting physical activity at work.

Energy imbalance – expending less energy than energy consumed in the form of food – has long been identified as a cause of increasing overweight and obesity.

The authors found “higher total daily sitting time was associated with a 68% increase in the odds of having a body mass index above 25.”

People with a BMI (a measure of body fat based on weight and height) of 25-29.9 are considered overweight and 30 or greater, obese.

The findings of the study (Mummery W K et al), *Occupational sitting time and overweight and obesity in Australian workers* were reported in the August issue of *American Journal of Preventive Medicine*, 29(2) 2005.

THE NUMBER OF
OBESE OLDER
AUSTRALIANS (OVER
55 YRS) HAS TREBLED
OVER THE PAST 5
YEARS



TO CALCULATE YOUR
BMI VISIT [WWW.HEALTHANDAGE.COM/
TOOLS/BMI/INDEXBMI.
JSP](http://WWW.HEALTHANDAGE.COM/TOOLS/BMI/INDEXBMI.JSP)

Chinese mine fatalities in 2005

Accidents at Chinese coal mines have left nearly 700 workers dead or missing in just the past six weeks, reports the State Administration of Work Safety.

The Authority says that many Chinese mines ignore safety regulations to meet a growing demand for coal, which the country relies on for more than two thirds of its huge energy consumption.

Some 2700 people have perished in the first half of 2005 alone. China has just ordered the closure of 7,000 coal mines.

INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY OF MINE SAFETY PROFESSIONALS (AUSTRALIA) INC.

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

Deputy Chairman honoured



The foundation Chairman of the Society, Jim Torlach, was recognised for his contribution to occupational safety and healthy by AusIMM at its recent annual awards presentation.

Jim's efforts over the past twenty years have been the major catalyst for the standards which exist in the industry today.

Left: AusIMM award and
Deputy Chairman, Jim Torlach

Law examination

Members who intend to seek professional certification are advised that a law examination, the first step in the process, will be conducted in November. Enquiries to pfs@marcsta.com.

Risk Assessment Workshop

The ISMSP will conduct a Risk Assessment professional development workshop on Friday, 21 October 2005 at the Duxton Hotel, Perth.

The workshop will consider case studies from a number of industry sectors to identify common pitfalls in risk assessment methodologies.

The ultimate objective will be to establish benchmarks of relevance to industry in general. The program coordinator is Professor Jim Joy.

The workshop will be based on the findings of a UK Health and Safety Executive project conducted in 2003 and will be of particular interest to health and safety professionals who wish to augment their skills in risk management.

Expressions of interest for the workshop were distributed in late August. There are still limited positions available. To register contact pfs@marcsta.com with your details.

ISMSP members

Associate

David Bies
Dale Cocker
Dr Mike Gouws
Professor Peter Lilly
Nick Mabbott
Jason Roberts
William Roche **CMSP**
Mal Sanders

Professional

Charles Tony Baker
Reuben Barber
Terry Condipodero
Geoff Day
Linda Elezovich
Andrew Extract
Rob Filmer
Lynette Gilbert
Patrick Gilroy AM
Ross Graham

Andrew Johnson
Vicki Jones **CMSP**
Ray Kennedy **CMSP**
Geoff Knight
Taff Langley
Peter Luobikis
Joe Maglizza **CMSP**
Michael McCudden
Brett McIntosh
Vic Roberts
Grant Shearwin

Stephen Smith
Jim Torlach
Noel Wendt
Stephen Woods
Amanda Youngman



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Notes for the Shift Worker

Driver study finds distraction and fatigue are major problems

In the first instrumented vehicle study undertaken with the primary purpose of collecting pre-crash naturalistic driving data the Virginia Tech Transportation Institute (VTTI) has found that driver inattention and fatigue lead to more accidents than previously thought.

Nearly 80% of the 82 crashes and 65% of the 761 near-crashes recorded by the study involved driver inattention just prior (within three seconds) to the onset of the accident or near-accident scenario.

Fatigue was found to be a contributing factor in 12% of all crashes and 10% of all near-crashes. The findings mark a dramatic increase over most current estimates that place fatigue-related crashes at 2-4% of total crashes.

Long hours increases risk of injury/illness

In a report in the Journal of Occupational and Environmental Medicine researchers report that working long hours (at least 12 hrs per day) is linked to a 38% increased risk of injury and a working week of at least sixty hours is associated with a 23% greater chance of being hurt at work.

Injuries were particularly likely towards the end of long shifts, as workers became tired and stressed.

To view the full report go to http://press.psprings.co.uk/oem/september/588_om16667.pdf.

Risk taking and sleep in adolescents – is there a connection?

Sleep problems in adolescents are linked with risk taking behaviours, according to a recent study reported by the National Sleep Foundation USA. Researchers used a Sleep Habits Survey and a Youth Risk Behaviour Study to obtain information about adolescents' sleep habits on weekdays and weekends.

Though the results showed that no significant relationship was found between over-sleeping on weekends and daytime functioning, total amount of sleep during a school week and delayed bed times on weekends were related to daytime academic performance and risk-taking behaviour.

Television may affect cognitive behaviour

The 2004 Sleep in America poll found that nearly one-third of pre-schoolers and 20% of infants and toddlers have television in their bedrooms, resulting in a loss of more than two hours of sleep a week.

According to a recent study (University of Washington), there is a link between television viewing by children under three years of age and cognitive development.

Researchers used the Peabody Individual Achievement Test (PIAT), which measures children's skills in mathematics and reading recognition/comprehension, to gauge children's development in these areas by ages six to seven.

Though the study predicted negative outcomes in some children who watch television before age three, they did find that television could have a beneficial impact upon children's development in the 3-5 year age group.

Programs such as Sesame Street were found to have a positive effect on short term memory and reading recognition. Researchers believe that a lack of educational television programming for children under three might contribute to negative outcomes in cognitive development.

The study urges parents who allow their children to watch television to choose high-quality educational content and restrict television viewing for children under three years of age.



Sleep apnea a major concern

The US National Sleep Foundation 2005 poll found 26% of adults are at risk for obstructive sleep apnea (OSA) based on a three part questionnaire designed to evaluate individual's snoring and sleep habits, daytime sleepiness and body mass index in addition to other factors.

Sleep apnea can result in problems such as hypertension, heart disease, and mood and memory problems in addition to increasing the risk of driving accidents, hindering productivity and straining personal relationships.

To take a look at the Sleep in America Poll visit www.sleep-solutions.com/phys/education/NSF_2005_Sleep_in_America_Poll_Results.htm.

Doctors' long hours risk patients' safety



Following a European working time directive which cut junior doctors' hours to a maximum of 13 hours per day, followed by an 11 hour break, UK hospitals then reviewed shift patterns with the result that many trainees were working 91 hours over seven consecutive nights.

Writing in the British Medical Journal experts from the Royal Free Hospital, London, warned that doctors were exhausted – claiming that the directive aimed to reduce working hours in order to improve workers' health and safety, but the current shift system could threaten both the doctors' and, moreover, patients' safety.

Recent studies in the US have shown that medical trainees working between 77 and 81 hours a week caused 36% more serious medical errors than those working around 65 hours per week.

New drug could help sleep deprived

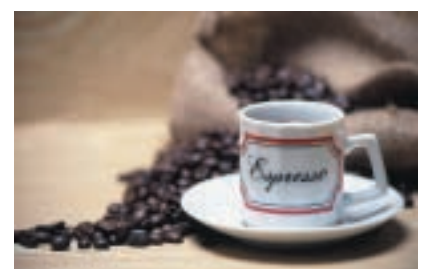
Researchers have developed a new drug, currently known as CX717, which promises to temporarily improve performance and reverse the effects of sleep deprivation on the brain. Because the drug acts differently from caffeine and other stimulants, it does not seem to result in side effects such as hyperactivity, distorted thinking or extended wakefulness.

Researchers claim that the new drug could also be used to enhance other cognitive deficits, such as occurs in Alzheimer's disease, after a stroke or in other forms of dementia.

Decaffeinated coffee – or is it?

A report by NBC4 in Washington DC has found that caffeine content is often unregulated in decaffeinated coffee with four out of five brands tested containing more than the recommended three milligrams per 8 ozs (230 ml) cup.

The results indicate that caffeine content in decaffeinated coffee is highly variable and often unregulated, so if you are drinking so-called decaffeinated coffee close to bed time you might be in for a rude awakening.





news and views

INFORMATION ON GENERAL NEWS AND VIEWS
WITHIN THE MINING INDUSTRY,
BOTH NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL.

Mining Technology for March 2005 has an article by Perth man Ted Szwedzicki on **support requirements** for excavation underground.

Canadian Mining Journal for April 2005 describes a contractor which made **the jump to mine owner**.

CMJ also interviewed Rick Collins who built the Nickel Rim South mine and he describes **his rigorous approach to orientation sessions** and other training. For drillers, Ian Speer in Australasian Drilling for May/June 2005 covers **booster valves** in detail. AD also has an article on the entry of **custom built offroad Tatra trucks** supplied by Offroad Trucks in Maddington, Perth.

CIM Bulletin news for June/July 2005 by Heather Ednie describes mining companies' (including BHPB's) role in the Global **Business Coalition on HIV/AIDS**. The same issue has an article by Don McKee on the vibrant state of **Australian mining research**. There is also an article by Haidee Weldon on starting the Voisey's Bay mine in Labrador, showing that **lateritic nickel** is still on the rise. G Baiden in the same issue covers **telerobotic mining** and PF Knights (from UQ) and P Oyanader write on **maintenance benchmarks in open pit mines**. AusIMM Bulletin for July/August 2005 has Wayne Osborne and Kate Milkins writing on **sustainable aluminium production**, Nick Marinopoulos on **3D mine visualisation**, a large paper by C. Ong of CSIRO WA and four others on **environmental monitoring of iron dust**, two on **skill shortages in mining** by Maria Jockel and Andrew Derrington, **FIFO** by AP Wilson of BHPB WA, **scholarships** by Wesfarmers Energy, and the experiences of a number of **women in mining re maternity leave** by Monika Sarder and Alison Keogh.

Australian Journal of Mining's Charles MacDonald writes in the July/August issue on **DuPont safety**. AJM also carries a summary of the **MinSands conference 2005, dragline hoisting made easy**, and Outokumpu's **largest ever flotation cell**. AJM also explains how Alcan is using **Thai yards to build modules** for expansion projects in Australia to overcome skills and costs problems, and describes FH **Telehandlers'** Australian market entry, the Alimak Scando **vertical lift hoist**, and Wirtgen **surface miners**.

Finally AJM has an article on HWE's call for a more **balanced relationship between mining contractors and mining companies**.

The West Australian in July 26 ran a long obituary on Sir Richard Doll, who more than once visited Perth and other parts of Australia. His work on the **epidemiology of some forms of cancer** (some of it with Richard Peto) was outstanding. He died at 92 but visited Perth professionally only recently.

conferences and courses

Excellence in Exploration and Mining. Sydney 17 - 18 October 2005. Web: www.miningevents.com.au

Australian Mine Safety Conference 2005. Perth, 24-26 October 2005. Email: info@iir.com.au

First Extractive Metallurgy Operators Conference. Brisbane 7- 8 November 2005. Web: www.ausimm.com.au

Mining and Money. London, 21-23 November 2005. Web: www.mining-journal.com

38th Annual Canadian Mineral Processors Conference. Ottawa January 17-19 2006. Email: chardie@falconbridge.com

CIM Conference and Exhibition. Vancouver 14-17 May 2006. Web: www.cim.org

Green Processing 2006. Newcastle Australia 5-6 June 2006. Email: confvolume@ausimm.com.au

Provider Profile - James Titmus



Above: James Titmus

After migrating from the UK in 1982 James worked as a coded welder on the Rankin A Gas Platform, instrumentation fitter on the Harriet A Gas Platform and QA / OHS Superintendent on the Trane 1, Burrup Peninsula, Karratha.

After working nearly 30 years in oil and gas, mining, petrochemical, engineering and commercial construction activities he had the desire to go further into quality and safety related fields. This led him to undertake various courses and he now pursues a career in both disciplines.

James has attained both lead auditor roles in Quality / OHS&E and further education in the fields of safety and quality. These skills have been demonstrated on projects such as HMAS Darwin, HMAS Arunta, Alcoa McCoy Mine Site Pinjarra, BHP DRI Port Hedland, and Worsley Alumina Refinery in the capacity as Safety Advisor and a variety of quality-related roles.

James became a provider with MARCSTA earlier this year, this being due to a major fabrication / construction contract awarded to his employer United KG for the Alcoa Pinjarra Expansion Upgrade Project.

James has worked in a variety of positions whilst at United KG covering Quality / OHS&E and as a Business Systems Engineer

As a MARCSTA provider, James now provides safety training on an as-required basis.

James is a qualified trainer and with the approval of Alcoa, conducts one day presentations for all personnel who are to work at Alcoa's Pinjarra, Wagerup and Kwinana refineries. The day's session covers a United KG / Alcoa Induction, Tag-Out Lock-Out, Personal Danger Tag, Confined Space Work, Fire Prevention, Hot Work and Fire Watch 'B' Class Permit.

James has been able to use his training, historical knowledge and work skills to develop systems and positive safety outcomes on related projects.

James is currently the Quality Assurance Officer on the HMAS Darwin Re-fit project at Garden Island Naval Base Western Australia.

NEARLY 40,000
EMPLOYEES
ARE CURRENT
MARCSTA
INDUCTION HOLDERS



92% OF INDUCTEES
ARE MALE WITH
THE REMAINING 8%
FEMALE

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 Group Ltd
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. For further information contact the Secretariat (08) 9355 1400

School apprenticeship link (SAL)

The SAL program is aimed at allowing school students the opportunity to gain exposure to a variety of workplaces and to put into practice skills that have been learned whilst undertaking school based vocational training.

MARCSTA was approached to provide its generic Safety Induction Program to those students undertaking Engineering modules, as there is a direct interface with much of the content of the MARCSTA program.

Approximately 50 students from the Fremantle, Rockingham and Peel area attended a days training at the respective TAFE campuses. Whilst the entire MARCSTA program was undertaken, the emphasis was placed on duties of care, hazard management and incident reporting as well as manual handling.

The feedback from the SAL program administrators was very positive and indications were given that the SAL program would be extended next year into regional areas, and the intention would be to include the MARCSTA program as the generic safety training for the relevant skill profiles.



Left: Peel TAFE students attend a MARCSTA General Safety Induction

New rescue robot

MSHA in the USA have developed a new rescue robot to enter mines during emergencies to locate possible escape routes for those trapped inside and determine whether it is safe for humans to enter.

Unveiled in August, the robot is equipped with three surveillance cameras, atmospheric detection, night vision capability and a communication system. The robot can tell officials what conditions exist in a mine before anyone is sent in.

The robot is a modified version of an old model with the difference being that it can be used safely where potential explosive gases are present.

Extended working hours and your health and safety

This program has been reviewed and upgraded to enable both employers and employees to meet the duty of care obligations contained in the occupational safety and health legislation prevailing in their respective workplaces.

Previously titled "Managing a Shiftwork Lifestyle" the program is now titled "Extended Working Hours and Your Health and Safety".

The program meets the elements of competency and performance criteria of the Transport and Distribution Package unit TDTF1097B "Apply Fatigue Management Strategies".



Who's who?

Chief Executive Officer
Patrick Gilroy AM

Chairperson
Joe Maglizza
Rinker Australia Pty Ltd

Vice Chairperson
Ross Graham
Komatsu

Committee of Management
Warren Claydon
Allaine Coleman
Terry Condipodero
Peter Luobikis
Arlene Roe

MARCSTA Monitor Editor
Geoff Taylor

MONITOR

CSIRO improves worker safety

Utilising a Thermal Imaging Camera modified and set up by CSIRO Exploration and Mining, Lihir Gold in Papua New Guinea have improved worker safety while maintaining production in a geo-thermally active area that was once a volcano and where most of the known ore deposits are located.

The geo thermal activity creates outbursts of steam that can pose a safety risk for anyone involved in the mine work area.

Using their extensive experience in infra red camera systems, CSIRO developed a much cheaper camera than was originally proposed to be fitted to the shovel fleet. The cameras will be indispensable in ensuring that possible outburst patches are investigated by geothermal engineers to avoid outbursts while digging.

Vale Reg Buckett AM (1911-2005)

Reg Buckett who passed away in September was noted for his contribution to metallurgical processes in the gold industry in Kalgoorlie. He was both an industry and educational leader and was a Past President of the Chamber of Minerals and Energy and Gold Producers' Association.

Changes to Monitor mailing list

For additions, changes or deletions from this mailing list, email your request to pfs@marcsta.com.

Update of MARCSTA's website

MARCSTA continues to improve its website. Recent efforts to make the site more user-friendly have resulted in an amended layout and menu. Feedback is welcomed.



Websites of interest

- www.marcsta.com
- <http://www.docep.wa.gov.au/resourcessafety/DOCEP>, *Resources Safety Division formerly part of DoIR*
- <http://www.mishc.uq.edu.au/?id=630> *Profile of Professor Jim Joy*
- www.timesonline.co.uk/article/0,,60-1707232,00.html *Sir Richard Doll obituary*
- <http://www.circadian.com/> *Circadian Technologies*
- <http://www.hse.gov.uk/index.htm> *Health Safety Executive UK*
- www.lihir.com.pg *Lihir Gold, Papua New Guinea*
- <http://www.health.nsw.gov.au/obesity/youth/bmi.html> *children and youth bmi calculator*
- www.safetyline.wa.gov.au/pagebin/wswanews0069.pdf *Working Hours Draft Code of Practice*



ALL MARCSTA TRAINING PROGRAMS PROVIDE THE FIRST STEP IN ACHIEVING NATIONAL RECOGNISED QUALIFICATIONS



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