

# the monitor

Keeping all those with an interest in OHS informed of current developments in workplace health and safety nationally and internationally



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Editor: Emma D'Antoine

## President's Report

Glad to see a mild day after a strong and wet winter in Perth. Certainly, an improvement for me after the heatwave and fires in Europe in July. It was tragic to see local waterbomber pilots fatally crash while trying to save houses, yet impressive to see people stepping up to help save what they could for others, including houses, livestock, racehorses, and even domestic pets from burning houses. Very tragic.

Psycho-social risks, sexual and mental health risks are still gripping the mining sectors, not to mention the items that we shared on 29<sup>th</sup> June to very well attended presentations.

Thanks again to Dr Faiza Owais, from Rio Tinto, for sharing her risk control step changes for the extremely challenging risks for mobile plant operations in the mining sector and the tools to implement and support a continued strategy to reduce injury and fatalities in the mining sector.

Thanks also to Dr Martin Ralph, from DMIRS but not on behalf of them as such, with what in my opinion was the best and most detailed presentation on management of naturally occurring radioactive materials, and I have certainly seen a lot from my undergrade and post graduate studies in physics, and decades of presentations at conferences since. They were both inciteful and thought provoking and the discussion after the presenters went on for a while after during the networking time.

Thanks also to the Society's committee, who continue to drive improvements and targeting to support provocative and value adding speakers that close gaps for our extremely qualified and experienced membership that is often quite humbling. The committee has worked hard together to update the Society's constitution, and we are satisfied that it is aligned with what we do, and what we say we do post COVID.

Going forward, we have another virtual event with two presentations next, and then the Annual General Meeting to follow in November, so please stay tuned. Thank you all, and until then.

Les Vogiatzakis  
President of the Occupational Health Society of Australia  
Principal consultant - DGaS Services

# Biography

## Mr Stephen Goodlet



I started as the Safety Advisor with the Shire of East Pilbara on the 8<sup>th</sup> of May 2023. The Shire of East Pilbara is the largest Shire in the Australia covering approximately 372,571 square kilometers; larger than the state of Victoria and Tasmania combined. Driving will take 2 days to cross from east to west and 6 hours from north to south. The Shire of East Pilbara currently has 250 employees across a wide variety of jobs from roadworks to librarians, childcare workers to airport management. Then there is the management of contractors and suppliers added to the mix.

I started my safety career from volunteering with St John's Ambulance. At this stage I was getting involved after safety systems had failed and people were injured. I developed a certain proficiency in emergency management and safety was only considered to the extent of keeping the impact of the incident to a minimum. My thinking was challenged after a life changing accident on a mine site where the I had to inject a man with morphine then sit and wait for the Royal Flying Doctor Service to send a plane to take the casualty to hospital. He was to lose the use of his right hand after the bones in his hands were crushed by falling rocks. The accident shook the mine as two days before the mine had celebrated 2 years without a lost time injury. The very thorough investigation identified the chief contributing to this accident was a breakdown in communication where an identified hazard had not been communicated up the chain where action could have been taken to reduce or eliminate the risk. A safe workplace requires more than people just doing the right thing.

I entered the safety profession through the role of training officer at Bradken, a mining and resources engineering company. It was here my safety education started. I met Stephen Jones, then the National Safety Manager, who introduced me to the idea of systematic safety. Safety required planning, training, and auditing. 5 years after leaving Bradken I met and worked with Ross Graham the Environmental Health and Safety Manager at Bucyrus who taught me that systematic safety is an operational responsibility, like all other risk management that a business managed in carrying out it day to day operations. This learning provided me with an understanding of my experience at One Steel Reinforcing (OSR) where a 9-year lost time injury free patch was destroyed by one supervisor who repeatedly stated to his team that he was too busy for safety. In just three months after his arrival, the OSR plant suffered one near fatality and two lost time injuries, with one injured worker suffering permanent disability. Each worker gave the same excuse in the resulting investigation "I thought I could save time."

For the next 11 years I was a TAFE lecturer delivering the Certificate IV in Logistics and Certificate IV in Warehousing Operation and the Diploma of Logistics to operational managers in the Logistics and Supply Chain Operations. Over these 11 years I delivered courses in Safety Leadership, Safety Management, and Risk Management to my students. I very quickly realized how much I had to learn and undertook studies completing a Diploma of Occupational Health and Safety. I did start a degree but it finished as commerce degree more related to supply chain management with Work Health and Safety electives.

It was during this time I met Danni Spadaccini, then the Director of Environment, Health, Security and Safety for Alcoa. During his presentation to class Danny confirmed what the students were learning in class with

examples and stories from his experience. Danny went further in suggesting that good safety management was part of being a good corporate citizen for an organisation or business.

I have just started at the Shire of East Pilbara. I have begun to apply the lessons I have learnt over the last 20 years. The challenges of safety management in the Shire East Pilbara are magnified by a transient work force, the isolation, the diversity of tasks that the Shire undertakes and the environment. As I sit in my office in Newman, I am thankful for the experience and the mentors I have had even though at that time neither of us knew it. My job is creating a safety management system that will ensure the shire complies with and meets the objectives of the Western Australian Work Health and Safety Act, 2020, in a unique part of the world. It is a very interesting challenge.

I want to thank the Occupational Health Society for the support provided to me so far. After a review of an in-house attempt at contractor management policy my boss asked if I knew someone, I said no but leave it with me. I fired off an email to Rob Loermans who found several people who could help. This project is progressing well.

## *HISTORY*

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### **Occupational Health Society of Australia**

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*The eighth of August 2023 will mark 45 years since the first meeting of the Occupational Health Society in Australia in 1968. The Occupational Health Society was originally suggested to the Director of the then Government Chemical Laboratories in 1967 based on how the Forensic Science Society had brought a range of interested people together in Western Australia to advance forensic science. Geoff Ebell and Geoff Taylor from the Laboratories met with an occupational hygienist recently appointed to the Public Health Department from East Africa, Gerry Coles, and together with Dr Alan Cumpston formed the first executive of the Occupational Health Society with a committee member from the Mines Department, one from the Labour Department and one from private industry. People from the Trades and Labour Council were invited to the monthly Members meetings as well as every appropriate health and safety professional, occupational medical practitioner, student studying occupational health and safety, international or interstate visitor who was interested in Occupational Health.*

*The Occupational Health Society has continued to be an organisation in which Members meet to share and to promote to the government and industry excellence in occupational health practices. This is facilitated by having regular seminars and meetings to share occupational health knowledge, by providing input into workplace health and safety legislation development and by producing a quarterly Monitor publication on current occupational health developments and issues locally, nationally, and internationally to share this knowledge with Members and the community. The Occupational Health Society of Australia is a not-for-profit representative body providing expert advice to Government at all levels and support to occupational health and safety professionals.*

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# IN EVENTS

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## RISK MANAGEMENT



Presentation by Dr Faiza Owais.



Dr Martin Ralph receiving a Certificate of Appreciation from Mr. Les Vogiatzakis.

On the 29<sup>th</sup> of June the Occupational Health Society had an educational and networking event at the Westralian Apartments Board Room in East Perth for people who attended this event in person and online for people who lived away from Perth so that they could also learn from the presenters and have the opportunity to ask the presenters questions.

The first presenter was Dr Faiza Owais who works for Rio Tinto. Faiza's presentation was on the results of her PhD research that was conducted at Curtin University, and which was titled *Risk Assessment as a Tool for Mobile Plant Operators for Sustainable Development: Lessons from the Western Australian Mining Industry*. Faiza began her presentation by describing the latest number of fatalities due to mobile plant equipment in the Australian mining industry which was a motivation for conducting this research to identify ways to make using mobile plant equipment safer and so improve mining work and employees' health and safety.

The Aim of this research was to improve the safety performance of mobile plant operators in the Western Australian mining industry by identifying the causes of mobile plant incidents in the past years through qualitative and quantitative data collection and analysis. Objectives were to (1) Analyse the Resources Safety notifiable incident data base to determine the causes of mobile plant accidents in the Western Australian mining industry between 2007 and 2020. (2) To observe mobile plant in use in mining workplaces to identify what strategies were in place to promote mobile plant safety and any safety barriers. (3) To conduct focus group interviews with mobile plant operators to identify their opinions on safety and risk control factors related to the use of mobile plant in their workplace. (4) To develop a "Triage Hazard Identification and Prevention Model" (THIP) to improve hazard awareness and risk control selection for prevention of workplace incidents associated with mobile plants to contribute to preventing low frequency severe consequence injuries related to mobile plant. Faiza then described how she achieved this research aim and objectives, the new knowledge generated from her research findings and how to implement the risk control model that was an outcome of her research.

The second presenter was Dr Martin Ralph, Regional Inspector of Mines, Greater Perth Area, Department of Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety. Martin's presentation was on the results of his PhD that was titled *Towards establishing a fit for purpose regulatory framework for radiation protection in Western Australia's mining industry: Evaluating mine worker exposures to naturally occurring radionuclides*. This PhD was undertaken at Edith Cowan University. Martin considered that many of the audience members would not know much about radiation so he began his presentation by explaining what radiation was and how it can affect people. He described the half-life of radioactive substances, how radioactivity is measured, the risk of

being exposed to harmful radiation effects, the types of ionising radiation people are exposed to in mining, what happens during the decay process, and where radioactive materials are mined in Western Australia.

Martin then spoke about his research which was focused on answering the following research question, *what is the potential for radiation exposures from NORs to the significant increased workforce, and is the regulatory framework fit for purpose to ensure radiation doses are kept as low as reasonably achievable?* The first phase of his research was to analyse historical data from 1977 to 2019. The second phase was to calculate the internal dose of radiation that underground and above ground miners had received. The next phase was to look at dose conversion factors. The fourth phase was to look at radiation monitoring information in the 2019-2020 annual mining reports submitted to Resources Safety. Field work was then conducted to identify how radioactive waste was managed. Martin then spoke about the findings of his research, conclusions and recommendations made.

A full version of both presenters' power points is available on the Occupational Health Society web site under Current Activities and the web address to view these presentations is

<https://www.ohsociety.com.au/oh-society/current-activity.aspx>

After the presentations there was networking time with food and drinks provided for the people who attended these presentations in person.



The above photos were part of Dr Martin Ralph's power point presentation and show radioactive material being used or monitored.



An enjoyable evening for President Les Vogiatzakis and Dr Kar Chan Wan.

### Penalty increase for health and safety breach with fatal consequences

A recent appeal in the Victorian Court of Appeal has increased the penalty on Heavy Mechanics Pty Ltd in due to its failure to properly maintain a trailer and prime mover, resulting in the tragic deaths of three road users in 2014.

Heavy Mechanics Pty Ltd was engaged by the owner of the petrol tanker to perform ongoing service and maintenance on a trailer and prime mover. The prime mover of the petrol tanker became detached from the trailer, crossed the road and collided with two cars travelling in the opposite direction, killing all occupants.

During the WorkSafe investigation, it became clear that the tow-eye coupling that connected the prime mover and the trailer was worn to excess and had failed under load. Heavy Mechanics had serviced the truck only days prior to the incident, conducting 'tug' testing of the tow-eye coupling, but did not detect the fault.

The Court originally found that it was reasonably practicable for Heavy Mechanics to have conducted more accurate testing and inspections, which would have revealed that the components of the tow-eye coupling were worn to excess. Expert evidence confirmed that it was not in a serviceable condition and should have been replaced.

It was held that Heavy Mechanics was aware that any movement within the tow-eye components was problematic, yet no steps had been taken to properly ensure that there was no such movement. Their departure from the duty owed was significant and exposed other road users to the risk of death.

Heavy Mechanics was convicted and originally sentenced to pay a fine of \$210,000. On Appeal, the Court agreed that the penalty was manifestly inadequate and Heavy Mechanics was re-sentenced and ordered to pay a fine of \$350,000.

The increased penalty sends a strong message to all businesses that have responsibility for the maintenance of plant and equipment to ensure that they are undertaking their work with the greatest of attention and using all reasonable steps to check the safety of critical components. *Source: Health and Safety Handbook*

### SafeWork SA issues safety alert to businesses working with fruit and vegetable production lines



Image: Health & Safety Handbook, 2023.

SafeWork SA recently issued a safety alert in regard to fruit and vegetable production lines after an employee sustained a serious injury while working in a fruit production line in March. The worker sustained serious injuries to her arm while clearing citrus from the pressure washing conveyor of a fruit production line. Whilst carrying out the clearing task, her clothing was caught in dangerous moving parts, pulling her into the machine.

SafeWork SA has reminded businesses "to be aware of their Work Health and Safety (WHS) obligations and ensure that dangerous moving parts of machinery are guarded". What counts as a guard is a barrier which performs several functions, which are laid out in the code of practice *Managing the Risks of Plant in the Workplace*:

- Is able to prevent contact with moving parts or control access to dangerous areas;
- Can screen harmful emissions, for example, radiation;
- minimise noise through applying sound-absorbing materials; and
- preventing ejected parts or off-cuts from striking people.

Source: Health and Safety Handbook

## Safe Work Australia releases model Code of Practice for tower cranes



Image: WA Today

Safe Work Australia have published a model code of practice providing guidance to PCBUs and other duty holders for managing work health and safety risks of working with tower cranes. Tower cranes are associated with multiple risks including structural or mechanical failure and collapse, contact or collision with other plants, structures, or people, arcing or flashover from an energised overhead or underground electric line, falling objects, falls from height, extreme weather and related damage or failure and collapse, fire and related damage or collapse, noise and fatigue.

There are generally several PCBUs and duty holders involved in the management of workplace risks for tower cranes and they may have the same health and safety responsibilities due to them being involved in the same activities or sharing the same workplace. The model Code of Practice states that “Workers and other persons at the workplace also have duties under the WHS Act, such as the duty to take responsible care for their health and safety at the workplace”.

The Code of Practice comes shortly after the death of a worker in Perth who died at a worksite when the man fell from the eighth floor to the seventh floor while climbing up a crane ladder. Paramedics raced to the scene but sadly the man could not be saved. WorkSafe is investigating.

Source: AIHS, 2023; WA Today, 2023.

## Café owner fined over \$93,000 fraud.

A former cook at a Wheelers Hill aged care centre has been convicted and fined \$10,000 after buying and running his café while receiving workers' compensation payments. Thirimamuni Mendis, 39, was sentenced in the Dandenong Magistrates' Court after pleading guilty to a single charge of fraudulently obtaining payments.

The court heard Mendis began receiving support payments in June 2019 after suffering an arm and chest injury while moving a dishwasher at the aged care centre. He returned to work on light duties in October 2019 but ceased work a month later and continued to receive weekly payments for almost two years until the fraud was uncovered. A WorkSafe investigation revealed Mendis had bought a Hawthorn café in August 2019 and began working there following the resignation of its manager in January 2020. Mendis continued to sign certificates of capacity declaring he was not working and did not disclose during a number of medical consultations that he had returned to work. He received a total of \$93,767 in compensation payments, which has since been repaid.

Fraudulent activity diverted resources from workers genuinely in need, said WorkSafe Victoria's executive director of insurance, Roger Arnold. “Any individual who sees fit to defraud our worker's compensation scheme is effectively undermining its ability to help those who truly need it,” Arnold said. “Our message to those trying to game the system is simple – we will find you and hold you to account.”

Source: <https://www.aihs.org.au/news-and-publications/news/caf%C3%A9-owner-fined-over-93000-fraud>



## Company fined \$130,000 after worker dies in mining truck fall.

Australian building and construction materials company Hanson Construction Materials has been fined \$130,000 and ordered to pay \$4,000 in costs after a worker died when the haul truck he was driving fell around 15 metres in an open pit mine.

Appearing in Western Australia's Midland Magistrates Court, Hanson Construction Materials pleaded guilty to failing to maintain a safe work environment. The company was not charged with causing the worker's death.

The June 2019 incident occurred at the company's Red Hill quarry located around 30 kilometres northeast of Perth where it mined aggregate, also known as blue metal. On the day of the incident, a loaded haul truck was operating on a road carved into the outer wall of the quarry which is known as a bench. One side of the bench road was a sheer vertical drop-off.

The edge of the road along the drop-off was not straight as it followed the random shape of the quarry pit, and at one point, the road narrowed from a width of around 11 metres to 6.5 metres. Due to the size and design of the haul truck, the driver's visibility was restricted to around seven metres to ground level at the front of the vehicle. The driver was an experienced operator who had been working at the quarry for seven months.

At around 6:50 am, a witness heard a loud bang and saw the front right wheel of the haul truck had breached a windrow at the narrow section of the road. The haul truck straddled the windrow, before tilting and falling over the edge.

The company had constructed a windrow along the edge of the bench to deflect vehicles, including haul trucks, away from the 15-metre drop. A windrow is a pile of rocks constructed to act as a barrier. The windrow on the bench where the worker was operating the haul truck should have been constructed to a height of at least 50 per cent of the vehicle's wheel diameter. Around 10 metres of the windrow, which included the area where the incident occurred, appeared to be below the 50 per cent height threshold.

Further, the windrow did not have other recommended features such as steep, well-formed sides and a linear inner-toe edge. This meant the

shape of the windrow did not deflect the haul truck away from the 15-metre drop.



Image: AIHS, 2023

These standards were specified in the Department of Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety Minerals Industry Safety Handbook, the only regulatory guidance for windrows applicable to the quarry. Reasonable industry practice also included a number of other standards such as conducting risk assessments to determine the appropriate specifications for a windrow.

The workplace fatality was completely preventable, said WorkSafe WA chief inspector of mines, Christina Folley. "This tragic incident is a timely reminder that all companies must make worker safety their number one priority," Folley said.

"Hanson Construction Materials should have conducted a risk assessment of the haul truck operation on the bench where the incident occurred. "They should have determined the suitability of the windrow in that area and the significance of the narrowed section of road. "This would have included constructing the windrow to industry standards, demarcating the windrows in the area with guideposts and reflectors, and applying appropriate signage. "The company failed to implement these practicable measures consistently and adequately." Following the incident, Hanson Construction Materials significantly increased the height of the windrows on the bench and improved the composition.

Source: AIHS, 2023.

## High price to pay for failing to have a safe method of work

The District Court of NSW has fined AGL Macquarie Pty Ltd the sum of \$450,000 (the amount after a reduction of 25% for a guilty plea) for an incident that resulted in an employee sustaining severe burns, which occurred due to the company's failure to have in place a safe method of work.



### The incident

AGL operated Liddell Power Station, at which Mr McNeill was employed as an Assistant Plant Controller. The power station had four steam generator units that all had a turbine and three transformers. Air getting into a transformer tank is a serious and known hazard that may result in the rupture of the transformer tank, and the release and ignition of hot oil. Each generator transformer had three cooling systems that cooled the oil in the transformer tanks.

One of the oil coolers was leaking and needed to be removed from service. To remove the oil cooler from service, a replacement needed to be brought into service. Mr McNeill commenced the procedure for bringing the replacement oil cooler to service. Once brought back to service, a blockage was identified. Mr McNeill went to investigate the oil cooler when he heard a cracking noise. The transformer exploded and Mr McNeill sustained second degree burns to 19% of his body.

At the time of the incident, it was not known that the replacement oil cooler itself had a long-standing leak that meant it was partially or fully drained of oil when Mr McNeill went to bring it back to service. It was assumed it was in a standby position.

### The Court's findings

The Court found that AGL was aware of the risk associated with the introduction of air into the oil cooler, as procedures had been designed and implemented to avoid the introduction of air into

those systems and there was regular maintenance undertaken to test for leaks.

AGL pleaded guilty, conceding that it had failed to develop and implement a safe method of work for the changeover of oil coolers on a live transformer, which included:

- prohibiting changing over oil coolers that are not in standby status;
- verifying that an oil cooler is primed and in standby status before it is returned to service on a live transformer;
- requiring that oil inlet and outlet valves on a cooler not be opened on an in-service transformer;
- providing a physical means of preventing oil valves on an oil cooler being opened while a transformer is in service; and
- providing relevant information and training to workers regarding a safe system of work for the changeover of oil coolers on a live transformer and the hazards relating to air being introduced into the transformer tank and the potential for this to cause an electrical arc and an explosion.

In terms of this incident, the Court found that the system that was in place did not adequately provide for the possibility that:

- procedures may not have been followed, resulting in the oil inlet and outlet valves not being open; and
- an oil cooler may become fully or partially drained of oil due to an undetected oil leak while out of service.

The Court took into account mitigating factors, convicted AGL and ordered it to pay a fine of \$450,000 after a 25% reduction pleading guilty.

Source: *Health & Safety Handbook, 2023*



Source of Liddell Power Station images: Google images.

## HEAT AT WORK – GUIDANCE FOR WORKPLACES



Image: European Agency for Safety Health at Work

Any person conducting a business or undertaking (PCBU) has a responsibility to manage the risks of working in heat for their workers. Heat is a hazard in many Australian workplaces, whether work is carried out indoors or outdoors.

Workers who are outdoors in the sun, who work near heat sources or are working in the hottest part of the day are at increased risk of heat exposure and its consequences. Confined spaces and poorly ventilated spaces can have minimal air movement, making them hotter.

Workplaces must do everything reasonably practicable to eliminate or minimise the risks associated with working in heat. This may include cancelling certain work tasks, rescheduling tasks to cooler parts of the day or waiting for hot conditions to pass. Queensland government have a handy e-tool to assess heat stress:

<https://onlineservices.oir.qld.gov.au/etools/>



## Fire assay company prosecuted after workers record high lead levels



Image: ABC, 2023

A fire assay company has is at the centre of prosecution action by WorkSafe after four workers recorded high levels of lead in their blood, resulting in one of them being hospitalised.

Jinning Pty Ltd, located in Kalgoorlie and Maddington, faces two charges of failing to ensure that biological monitoring was conducted on an employee in a lead-risk job, along with two charges of failing to ensure that counselling and health surveillance were provided to workers in a lead-risk job.

Under the *Occupational Safety and Health Regulations 1996*, an employer of workers who work with lead must provide these workers with counselling, health surveillance and biological monitoring.

Jinning was charged after one of its workers was admitted to hospital to undergo treatment to reduce his very high blood lead levels. Biological testing of three other workers showed their blood also contained high levels of lead.

The company was charged under the *Occupational Safety and Health Regulations 1996* because the offences occurred between August 2020 and March 2022, before the *Work Health and Safety Act 2020* was enacted. The maximum penalty for each of the charges is \$50,000, with a total maximum fine of \$200,000. The first mention will take place in the Kalgoorlie Magistrates Court on June 19.

### Safety alert issued over forklift carbon monoxide emissions

A safety alert was issued recently by NT WorkSafe regarding the dangers of using fuel-powered forklifts in poorly ventilated and enclosed spaces after two workers experienced carbon monoxide poisoning, one of which required medical assistance.

The incident happened when the employees were working in a cool room at the same time an LPG-fuelled forklift had been operating.



Image: AIHS, 2023

Carbon monoxide is an airborne contaminant produced by fuel-powered motors or engines and is difficult to detect due to its lack of odour and taste. It also remains invisible to the eye. If inhaled, carbon monoxide prevents the body from absorbing oxygen.

The issued alert stated the requirement under the work health and safety laws to limit a worker's exposure to carbon monoxide. The workplace exposure standard for carbon monoxide is 30 ppm

averaged over eight hours. This also applies to all fuel-powered equipment and tools such as generators, blowers and pressure cleaners. NT WorkSafe subsequently made a number of recommendations:

- Avoid using fuel-powered forklifts and other equipment in enclosed or poorly ventilated areas, instead use pallet jacks or electric-powered forklifts.
- If using manual equipment or an electric forklift is not possible:
  - Conduct a risk assessment, including engaging a competent person such as an occupational hygienist to conduct an assessment and if required air monitoring
  - Install carbon monoxide alarms in the enclosed space
  - If the assessment indicates ventilation is poor within your work area, use portable ventilation equipment under direction from a competent person to improve the ventilation
  - Develop policies and procedures for using fuel-powered forklifts in enclosed or poorly ventilated areas, including an emergency response procedure
  - Ensure your forklift is regularly maintained and the vehicle exhaust system is regularly inspected for leaks.
- Consult with your workers and provide information on the risk of carbon monoxide exposure, including:
  - Possible symptoms of exposure
  - Emergency response procedures
  - Internal procedures to report an incident.

Source: AIHS, 2023.

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## *IN PSYCHOSOCIAL HEALTH*

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### **A new perspective considers the relationship between cybersecurity risks and worker health and safety**

The European Agency for Health and Safety at Work has published a discussion paper offering a fresh viewpoint on the traditional perspective of cybersecurity, seeking to encourage discussion that considers the human and social consequences of cyberattacks. As cybercrime is becoming increasingly sophisticated in an increasingly digitalised world, all businesses must consider their risk for cyberattacks.

Internationally, 71% of security professionals have reported an increase in cybersecurity threats such as phishing, malware and ransomware, while 87% of organisations have been affected by attempts to exploit existing vulnerabilities since the COVID-19 pandemic began. While the financial cost of these is significant (an estimated annual cost of \$10.5 trillion USD by 2025), cyberattacks have the potential to lead to injuries, psychological issues, or death. The discussion paper suggests that there are several negative impacts to workers' mental health, such as anxiety, depression and frustration, as well as privacy violations from data breaches. Cyberattacks against hospitals can result in severe consequences for both staff and patients, whereas some sources extend their warnings further by raising the potential for the weaponisation of operational technology by the year 2025.

Breaches in privacy can harm both individuals and organisations alike. The negative impact on mental health relates to a violation of a psychological need which relates to the development of personal identity. For an organisation, workers can experience damage to professional confidence and, in the case of human error (for example, opening a phishing email or downloading malware in error), a sense of failure. This is an important consideration as 90% of cybersecurity breaches are thought to be down to human error. Further to this, 52% of workers are more likely to make mistakes when they are stressed, 43% when they are tired and 26% when they feel burned out.

Since cyberattacks can affect workers' health and safety, organisations should aim to approach cybersecurity from a holistic perspective by implementing an integration of technical and social capabilities to be able to deal with the multiple consequences of cyber threats.

Link to the full discussion paper: <https://osha.europa.eu/en/publications/incorporating-occupational-safety-and-health-assessment-cybersecurity-risks>

# Occupational Health Society of Australia (WA)



Incorporated in 1978, the Occupational Health Society of Australia (WA Branch) is a non-profit association which provides a forum for the wide range of disciplines engaged in the occupational health profession in Western Australia.

The aims of the Society are:

- to develop effective occupational health practice within Western Australia
- to encourage awareness by individuals, organisations and other bodies, of the role of occupational health
- to provide a forum for professional contact between persons interested in, and working in, occupational health
- to express an independent, professional viewpoint on all aspects of occupational health considered desirable in the public interest
- to seek the improvement or an extension of the existing legislation for the promotion of safety and health at work in order to ensure uniform principles are applied in all occupational activities.

**Please contact the Secretariat on [ohswa@outlook.com.au](mailto:ohswa@outlook.com.au) regarding membership matters.**

**Membership of the Society is open to all those interested in occupational health and safety.**

**\$100 Corporate membership, for one year, \$200 if paying for 3 year's membership.**

**\$50 Ordinary membership, for one year, \$100 if paying for 3 year's membership.**

**\$20 Student membership, for one year, \$40 if paying for 3 year's membership.**

Simply email

[ohswa@outlook.com.au](mailto:ohswa@outlook.com.au)

with your details.

## 2023 Members

### Lifetime Members

Ms Allaine Coleman  
Prof. Geoff Taylor  
Dr Kar Chan Wan

### Corporate Members

Dangerous Goods and Safety Services (Les Vogiatzakis - [www.dgas.com.au](http://www.dgas.com.au))  
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Mines ARC Systems (Alex Farquhar)  
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OHMS Hygiene (Mr Ruairi Ward)  
Felgate Safety (Kaye Felgate)  
Shire of East Pilbara (Mr Stephen Goodlet)

*If your name is not on this page and you believe you are a financial member, please contact the Society by email - [ohswa@outlook.com.au](mailto:ohswa@outlook.com.au)*

### Ordinary and Student Members

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Dr Irene Ioannakis  
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Mr Robert Loermans  
Mr Bruce MacDonald  
Mr Joseph Maglizza  
Ms Alison Martins  
Mr Peter McMahon  
Dr Sherrilyn Mills  
Mr Richard Phelps  
Mr Peter Rohan  
Dr Logiswaran Subramaniam  
Dr John Suthers  
Dr Sonu Thapa



# Occupational Health Society of Australia (WA)

## APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

### MEMBER INFORMATION

Title (Mr, Mrs, Ms, Dr etc)	
First name	
Surname	

### PREFERRED MAILING DETAILS

Address		
Suburb		Postcode
Home Phone	Mobile	
E-Mail		
Special interests (for Society Directory)		

### EMPLOYMENT INFORMATION - Only complete if you wish company to be recorded against your name

Company/Self Employed	
Work Phone	
E-Mail	

### APPLICATION FOR:

- Full Membership \$50 for 1 year; \$100 for 3 years.  
 Corporate Membership \$100 for 1 year; \$200 for 3 years.  
 Student Membership \$20 for 1 year; \$40 for 3 years. Student Number: \_\_\_\_\_

An invoice will be issued once the Committee has accepted this application. *Membership includes receiving the Monitor Newsletter.*

### AGREEMENT

I certify that the information provided in this application is correct and I agree to adhere to the Occupational Health Society Constitution. I also give consent to the Society to collect, use and disclose my personal information in accordance with the National Privacy Principles in matters relating to the Society.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

### CONSENT

I hereby consent to have my details displayed in the Society's directory.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_



## Occupational Health Society of Australia (WA Branch) Event

Risk management for two different types of hazards are presented. The first presentation looks at hazards and risk control measures for autonomous vehicles that are being increasingly used in industry. The second presentation reports on psychosocial hazards and provides recommendations for reducing these risks to as low as reasonably practicable. Upon request to the Secretary a Certificate of Attendance for Professional Development Points can be provided.



### PRESENTATION- 1

**Dr. Todd Pascoe. An Evaluation of Driverless Haul Truck Incidents on a Mine Site**  
Todd is the Site Improvement Superintendent at BHP Goonyella Riverside Mine Moranbah Queensland.



### PRESENTATION- 2

**Ms. Emma D'Antoine. Identifying Western Australian Offshore Oil and Gas Workers Mental Health Hazards and Risk Control Measures.**

Emma is a PhD candidate at Curtin University.

**When:** Thursday 31st August 2023.

**Time:** Presentation 1 commences 5.00pm. Presentation 2 at 5.40pm.

**Place:** Presentations are both online.

**Cost:** Attendance is free for Occupational Health Society Members and for full time students.

Cost for non-members \$30.

**RSVP:** By 24<sup>th</sup> August 2023 to the Society's Secretary by e-Mail: [ohswa@outlook.com.au](mailto:ohswa@outlook.com.au)

*As attendance is virtually, please provide e-mail address with RSVP so that the Microsoft Teams link can be provided.*

**Payment Details:** Account Name: Occupational Health Society. BSB: 066 161.  
Account No: 1003 7010.