



Safety Bulletin

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www.cshwsa.org.au

A WORD FROM THE CHAIR

Welcome to the first *Safety Bulletin* for 2015. The past 2 years has seen a great deal of change in the legislation that guides safety in workplaces, now it is time for Injury Management to undergo major legislative reform. The Worker's Rehabilitation and Compensation law will change as of July 1 2015 when the Return to Work Act comes in. Catholic Church Insurance will be providing training during this year, so keep your eye out for the session/s that you need to attend. They are currently advertised on www.cshwsa.org.au.

One of the changes you may have noticed via the media is that we no longer have WorkCover but now have *Return to Work SA* ... you can view the new branding and other information at <https://www.rtwsa.com/>.

During 2015 the Catholic Church will be involved in an Evaluation by *Return to Work SA* (previously known as *WorkCover SA*). This will take place in August 2015 and worksites selected for review, will be notified by July. However, always remember that the Evaluator can choose to visit any worksite at any time during the Evaluation! The CCES self-insurance is due for renewal on March 31 2016 and the results of the Evaluation determine the outcome of that renewal.

It is pleasing to report that the overall safety performance in 2014 improved. We averaged 6 days per month being injury free. New Injury Claims reduced from 210 in 2013 to 164 in 2014, with Manual Task injuries reduced by 20%. Now our challenge for 2015 is to keep our workplace, our people and ourselves safe, so as to reduce this further.

In February CSHW welcomed Dave Barrett to the team. Dave comes to us with a wealth of WHS experience in support-

ing, educating and regulating the many elements of safety.

In closing, my annual reminder at this time of year is, to be aware of your workplaces and work practices, so that you go about your work safely. This is the time of year when many of us return from leave, we are relaxed and often still in holiday mode, but we still need to keep ourselves safe and not affect the safety of others in the workplace. Historical statistics demonstrate that we have much to be concerned about at this particular time.

As always if you would like to contact me about any safety issues I can be contacted at dpwest@centacare.org.au

Keep cool in the final stages of summer and stay safe!

Dale P West
Chairperson Self-Insured Governing Council (SIGC)

Procedure Verifications

As a result of legislative changes, the review period of some procedures had to change, resulting in the order of the procedure verifications being completed having to change.

Therefore the schedule has been updated. A new version can be downloaded from the website at <http://www.cshwsa.org.au/Portals/0/Site%20Level%20Procedure%20Verification%20Schedule%202015.docx>. You will also note that we now have included a 'Due Date' column to ensure all worksites are completing the procedure verifications in the right time frames. This will also assist us when completing the Licence Level Audits.

POP Report - Parish Work Health and Safety Report

Hello everyone and welcome to 2015 and the first Safety Bulletin for the year.

We welcome a new team member to Catholic Safety, Health and Welfare, Dave Barrett. Dave is replacing Kim McIntyre, who has decided to have a gap year and explore other interests in her life. Good luck Kim, you will be greatly missed.

Please make Dave feel welcome as we introduce him to the Catholic system. He will bring a wealth of knowledge to our unit, and his sites, as he is very experienced in Health and Safety matters (read more in his personal profile in this bulletin).

There has also been some changes to a few forms within our system, the major one being the POP Report for Parishes. The POP Report will no longer be known by this name, but will be called the Parish Work, Health and Safety Report. Some Parishes have been utilising this new form for a while and have provided feedback in relation to it. Thank you for your support.

The Parish Work Health and Safety Report is very similar to the old POP Report, we are just covering more of the tasks that are outlined in the Catholic Church Safety Manual Procedures. During the coming year this will be explained to all the sites as you are visited.

There has also been some changes to the Parish Workplace Inspection Form, these changes are evident when you view the form, once again thank you to the Parishes that have trialled the new form and provided feedback.

The other form to change has been the Ladder Register / Inspection form. This form has changed from Landscape to Portrait, with some changes in the formatting as well. All these forms are in the consultation process and will be available once passed.

Hope everyone has a great year, good luck to all, and be safe.

Introducing Dave Barrett

Dave has been working as a safety professional for the past 28 years and has held various positions including Quality & Safety Manager for a National Electronics Company, the South Australian Health & Safety Risk Manager for Vero Workers Compensation, a Consultant and Auditor for The WorkCover Corporation and recently completed 11 years at SafeWork SA as a Team Leader in the Metro Compliance Team (MCT). Prior to working in the MCT, Dave worked in the Investigation & Legal Team conducting workplace accident investigations and preparing prosecution briefs for the Crown Solicitor's Office.

Dave has a trade background in toolmaking and an extensive knowledge of plant safety/guarding, work health and safety management systems, training and auditing. Dave holds a Graduate Diploma in OHS Management from the University of SA, an Advanced Diploma of Government (Workplace Inspection) and has completed the Certificate IV TAE. Dave also actively lectures in safety management at TAFE SA and the University of South Australia.

Dave is an Executive Officer on the Education Sector forum and is looking forward to providing his sites with ongoing support and expertise to assist in providing a safe environment.

Water Bead Warning

Recently the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission (ACCC) sent out information on the dangers of water beads, small balls that expand in water (see included picture). If ingested they can expand in a person's body causing blockage or obstruction and may even require surgical removal.

These water beads are usually used as decoration but may be marketed as sensory learning toys for children. The ACCC suggests that these beads should not be used as toys and that they be kept out of reach and sight of children.

For more information about the ACCC warning, please visit their website at <https://www.accc.gov.au/media-release/accc-warns-of-dangers-of-water-expanding-balls-to-kids>



SA Bushfires

The fire, which began at Sampson Flat, just South East of One Tree Hill, South Australia on Friday, January 2 2015, burnt for 6 days, and about 12,500 hectares. There were several homes lost in this bushfire. However the amount of homes that were saved is incredible, due to the actions and courage of firefighters. We, the SA community are thankful for the work and commitment that they undertake to help us. They are heroes. Firefighters came from all over South Australia to help fight this disaster, also from our neighbours interstate, both New South Wales and Victoria.

It makes you feel proud, with the amount of people that were also working behind the scenes helping in the fight, and the countless donations that were received, the community spirit is just truly remarkable.

However, reality is, there were houses and livestock lost, with some families losing everything, including their lively hoods. So please remember that because the fire has ended it doesn't mean that the fight is over, it will take some families and communities years to get over the impact that this has had on their lives.

How can you help? You can help this immediate need through the relief fund, but we need to help prevent this type of incident occurring again.

Remember bushfire safety plans and all the preparation required around properties to reduce the risk of such a fire happening again.

The State Emergency Relief Fund has been established for those affected by the fire. 100% of donations will go to bushfire affected people. Donations are tax deductible and can be made by credit card, cheque, cash or bank transfer. For more details phone **1800 302 787** or visit www.sa.gov.au.



State Emergency Relief Fund
Commonwealth Bank of Australia
BSB: 065 266 Account: 100 20160
Description: donation (this must be stated)

Other donations for firefighting support can be made directly to the CFS Foundation, which provides vital financial support for the brave firefighters and their families. To donate visit www.cfsfoundation.org.au.

Several community groups are coordinating fundraisers, donations and other assistance. For links to social media sites visit www.sa.gov.au.

Talkin' Safety

You may have heard recently about an accident involving a young worker who received serious burns whilst working at a fast food outlet South of Adelaide.

In June 2012, the 17 year old was asked by his supervisor to filter cooking oil from a deep fryer with the aid of a mobile filtering machine. During the filtering process, the worker slipped and fell into the open top of the mobile filtration unit, which resulted in hot oil splashing onto him.

At the time of the accident, an ambulance was not called, despite the worker sustaining third degree burns to more than 10 per cent of his body including his right hand, forearm and right side torso. The young worker had less than one month's experience and, prior to the incident, had only limited experience in this task.

As a result of the accident, the Industrial Court prosecuted the Company under the former *Occupational Health, Safety and Welfare Act 1986* for the following breaches;

- failing to provide plant in a safe condition
- failing to maintain safe systems of work, and
- failing to provide a procedure which ensured that employees received proper medical treatment as soon as reasonably practicable after a significant injury.

The Industrial Court fined the Company \$90,000 plus costs. As a result of the accident, the Company reviewed its policies and procedures for oil filtering, and will now install self-filtering deep fryers in South Australia. The company has also committed to spend more than \$5 million replacing existing fryers with self-filtering fryers nationally.

These types of accidents reinforce the need for us to continue being committed and vigilant about safety for workers and students within the organisation.

Remember, if you have any queries about health and safety, please speak with your Catholic Safety Health & Welfare Consultant.