

Talk It and Walk It

Est. 1996

SOS – Switched Onto Safety April 2018 Autumn Newsletter

What Have We Been Doing

Our 22nd year has started with a bang here at SOS and this first quarter we have hit the ground, running.

This quarter we have been working with a broad group of organisations conducting / assisting with a range of activities including:

- Updating our 'Electrical requirements' knowledge through the EnergySafety Industry Briefing.
- Onsite OSH and Quality Audits
- OSH and Quality Suitability audits
- Onsite Inspections
- Spill Kit checks
- Emergency Management Training
- Assisting with Emergency Drills.
- Asbestos Identification and Handling Training
- Chemwatch Training
- Onsite Coaching and Mentoring
- Asbestos Identification and Management training, including customisation of course for the client.
- Independent Certifiers Auditing
- Customised Internal Auditor Training

Don't forget here at SOS **'we love a good audit!'**

Current Topics of Interest

How effective are your Risk assessments?

During our Audits we often come across risk assessment that do not always reflect the activities being observed.

Quite often it is the case where they are developed by one person and most of the workers associated with the activity didn't know what was within the risk assessment.

Also, very recently a number of court cases have brought to light the 'worthiness' of these documents

So, in relation to the current risk assessments that your organisation has in place, can you answer the following questions;

- Have they been purchased online?
- Were the workforce consulted?
- Were they only created by one person?
- Was there a site inspection beforehand? (documented)
- Do they reflect the current activities being conducted? (are they fit for purpose)

A sound risk assessment can potentially reap the following benefits:

- lower insurance premiums
- reduced chance that the business may be the target of legal action
- reduced equipment damage.
- reduced business down time.
- Reduce incidents and accidents

Risk assessment do not need to be weighted down with a lot of information, this is where the K.I.S principle comes in handy 'keep it simple'. You want and need your workers to understand the information and follow it

Spill Management

For all your Spill Management products and services, contact us.



Our Team



Megan LeNoir – Business Manager

Guy LeNoir – Company Director / Principal

Stuart Platt – OSHQE Consultant/Auditor/Trainer

Peter Liron – Senior Consultant/Auditor

Daniela Tutman – Dangerous Goods Consultant / Facilitator

Find us on



Advice – Tips and Hints

The heat is still lingering, so we are not out of the bush fire danger time yet....

Be mindful of what could cause a spark and have your action plan ready.

Statistics

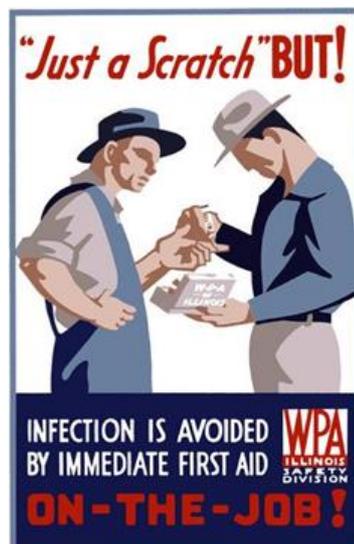
Australian Work Health and Safety Strategy 2012-2022

Safe work Australia were pleased that the mid-term review found the Strategy is delivering against its stated purpose and progress against the three targets to reduce work-related fatalities and injuries is on track. After considering the 14 findings of the review, Members agreed to focus on three key areas to ensure that the Strategy continues to be effective. New efforts will focus on:

- undertaking detailed analysis of the causes and controls of work-related fatalities, injuries and illnesses, with an initial focus on the agriculture industry and musculoskeletal disorders
- exploring the feasibility of national lead indicators to support improved workplace performance measurement and reporting, and
- developing effective information sharing and improved coordination of activities implemented under the Strategy.

<https://www.safeworkaustralia.gov.au/doc/mid-term-review-australian-work-health-and-safety-strategy-2012-2022>

Throwback History -



If you know of any throwback safety posters, we would love for you to send them through and we can then post them or put them in our newsletter.

Environmental Spot

How environmentally friendly is your office? Do you know how much paper you (or your organisation) go through each day/week? Have you or your organisation gone 'online' yet? Cloud-based systems are the norm these days however, we still come across organisation that are still all paper based. Paper is sourced mainly still from trees. You can get recycled paper which is reducing the cost to the environment however, it is still cost to the environment to produce.

So, ask yourself:

Can you go paperless or at least reduce your paper consumption?

Do you really need to print that document?

Do you have access to all those documents when you are not in the office?

Do you find it easy or hard to locate your documents? Electronic can make it easier and quicker to file and find electronic documents reducing time that employees spend filing / searching for documents.

How long does it take to get paper documents approved? Given electronic documents can be signed digitally, this can speed up on purchase requests, loan approvals, expense reports, contracts and much more.

How long do customers / clients have to wait to get information provided to them? Many customers / clients would be much happier if they could access electronically all relevant data.

So after answering those questions, you can see that there are many reasons why going paperless (fully or even just partially) is a positive step forward.

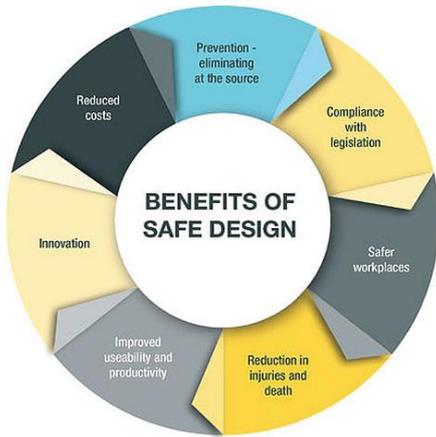


Lessons Learned.

Have you checked out our YouTube site for lessons learned. We hope to be adding more over the coming few months

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC-zFFRSVKIbn4YeHvU1PwZg>

One of interest is 'The Power of Water' video. It is incidents like these where we can use what we have learnt from this incident and apply it to our 'Safety in Design' processes for future 'Road Planning'. We can always apply lessons learned, but all too frequently we don't.



Megan's Affirmation



Quality

The fundamentals of everything your organisation does should revolve around quality; quality systems, quality product/services, quality staff etc.

Quality is critical to satisfying your customers / clients and retaining their loyalty, so they continue to buy / utilise your services in the future. Quality products / services make an important contribution to long-term cash flow and profitability.

To confirm that your organisation is working at its optimal level, regular management reviews, internal audits and client/customer feedback as a minimum, must be conducted to ascertain your:

- Internal Processes are working,
- Non-conformances are being identified and addressed,
- The workforce is competent
- Clients/ and customers are happy

Everyone in the business has a role to play in ensuring that quality products and services are maintained. In fact, it is crucial to the success of the business.

Quality management is a process that must receive constant attention in order to be successful.

If you need an independent and transparent review don't hesitate to contact us



Health

Snake oil charmers! There is always someone trying to sell you anything and everything which they think you need to stay fit and well; pills, tablets, supplements, powders etc.

It is important to remember to not believe everything you hear. It is important to be informed and even do some further research. Generally, we have everything we need if we; eat fresh produce, keep your fluids up and get plenty of rest and, don't forget a little bit of play.

However, we all know that this is not always possible, especially in our very busy lives.

Tips to think about during Autumn:

What foods are in season?

Learn some new recipes that incorporate these in season produce.

As the weather cools, stretching is even more important.

It is good to have indoor exercise options.

Weight work and aerobic activities are crucial to staying fit, toned and strong to support our immune function and circulation, especially during this time of the year.

If you get a cold or flu, it is best to take action immediately. What helps your body at such times?





Corner

Smartestui 2

Chemwatch has just released SmartSUITE2 APP, an upgrade to the original SmartSuite Platform.

A redesigned pocket sized complete chemicals management package. The system is designed for Android and Apple (including iOS 10+) devices and enables you to view SDS documents, emergency response guides and view and perform risk assessments while out in the field.

The SmartSuite 2 syncs with your PC-based Chemwatch System, providing ready access to vital chemical safety documents and allowing your staff to be up to date with their chemicals management at all times (especially out in the field where it is needed).

SmartSUITE 2 allows you to access:

- Vendor (M)SDS Library exceeding 23 million documents
- Vender Technical data sheets (SmartV)
- Chemwatch Gold MSDS (SmartSDS) – in 47 Languages and multiple formats (GHS, REACH, Local)
- Chemwatch Hazard Assessments – MINI MSDS (SmartMINI) – in 47 Languages
- Chemical Emergency Response Guide (SmartER)
- Chemical Risk Assessment module (SmartCOBRA)
- Access to generated Risk Assessment Reports

With SmartSUITE, you may also:

- Share documents using your e-mail account;
- Sync chemical inventory to and from the Cloud (your Chemwatch account)

Joke of the Day

Knock knock.

Who's there?

Acci.

Acci who?

Acci-dent.

What are you doing here?

Waiting to happen

(Guess who's joke this was?)



Health and Exercise

The flu season has hit early this year, are you prepared?

What is 'Gus' doing today?



Holiday's in this Quarter

Easter

Good Friday 30/03/18

Easter Monday 02/04/18

ANZAC day 25/04/18

Contact



If we can be of any assistance, please do not hesitate to contact us direct on **(08) 9295 0311** or for further details on what SOS can provide, refer to our website www.switchedontosafety.com.au

Next Time!

We are expanding on our Dangerous Goods projects with our new Dangerous Goods Consultant. Daniela is keen to get stuck into assisting our clients. Contact us if you would like to know more.

Dangerous Goods Storage



For all your Dangerous Goods Storage products and services, contact us.
admin@switchedontosafety.com