



# What's News?

Occupational Health & Safety

24 August 2010

## Latest News

- OHS: Non-fatal accidents down 2.6% & no fatalities in 1st quarter
- WorkCover issues warning on working from heights
- Focus on ladders in mine site fatality
- Safety reminder after forklift accident

## Latest News

### **OHS: Non-fatal accidents down 2.6% & no fatalities in 1st quarter**

20 August 2010

Claims in respect of non-fatal accidents at work decreased by 2.6 per cent in the second quarter when compared to the corresponding period last year. No fatal accidents at work were reported in the quarter under review. [More...](#)

### **Father haunted by deckhand death**

19 August 2010

An Industrial Magistrates Court trial found fishing company Jean Bryant Fisheries Ltd and the ship's skipper Arthur Markellos guilty of breaching workplace safety laws, but the family claims no closure. [More...](#)

### **Man dies at poultry processing plant**

17 August 2010

WorkSafe has called for a focus on machine guarding after a man died from head injuries after cleaning a machine with the fatality being the 15th traumatic work-related death in Victoria this year. [More...](#)

### **Mine company faces hefty fine over maintenance death**

17 August 2010

Silcar was convicted and fined \$475,000 in Melbourne County Court on one count under section 21 of the Occupational Health and Safety Act 2004. This combined two offences of failing to provide and maintain safe plant and systems of work and failing to provide information, instruction and training to employees. [More...](#)

### **Worker sustains serious head injury after forklift incident**

18 August 2010

A 30-year-old worker has sustained critical head injuries after an alleged skylarking incident with a forklift at a plastic pipe manufacturing plant in Bomen. General Manager of WorkCover's Occupational Health and Safety Division, John Watson, said forklifts are not designed for towing individuals. More information on forklift safety can be found on the WorkCover website, including the publication [Making your forklift work for you – a ten minute checklist](#). [More...](#)

### **WorkCover issues warning on working from heights**

12 August 2010

General Manager of WorkCover's Occupational Health and Safety Division, John Watson, said working at heights is a dangerous activity that needs due diligence. Under workplace safety laws employers must have risk assessment and control measures in place and all workplaces should have a system in place to reduce the hazard of falls. [More...](#)

### **Bridge collapse sparks safety blitz**

16 August 2010

The building union is planning a blitz of safety audits on big construction jobs around Canberra, beginning this morning, in the wake of Saturday's bridge collapse in the city's north. CFMEU ACT branch secretary Dean Hall said that his union had reported the contractor, Rayners Construction, to work safety authorities, alleging that "sham contractors" - workers who are not being paid their proper entitlements - were being used on the site. [More...](#)

### **Focus on ladders in mine site fatality**

11 August 2010

An inquiry into the death of an underground worker in a Goldfields mine will focus on the safety of emergency shaft ladders where the man was killed. [More...](#)

### **Safety reminder after forklift accident**

12 August 2010

General manager of WorkCover's Occupational Health and Safety Division John Watson says the incident serves as a tragic reminder to ensure that adequate safety precautions are taken when working with and around forklifts and powered trucks. [More...](#)



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### Publications/ Conferences

**CTH: Safe Work Australia: Issue 4 of Safe Work Australia**  
Includes articles on the progress on the model work health and safety (WHS) Regulations and model priority Codes of Practice and workplace eye injuries. [More...](#)

**CTH: Mine Safety Branch light vehicle service hoists safety alert**  
17 August 2010

The Mine Safety Operation Branch has recommended that prior to the purchase of vehicle hoist, the AS 1418.9:1996 Cranes Vehicle Hoists, including hoists and winches, and the design compliance requirements of clause 136(3) of the Occupational Health and Safety Regulations 2001 should be considered after two recent incidents. [More...](#)

**VIC: WorkSafe Victoria releases**

A new Health and Safety Solution which provides advice about [guarding woodworking bandsaws](#). An [asbestos alert](#), after it was reported that a number of licensed asbestos removalists were using unsuitable, single-layer disposable coveralls during asbestos-removal work. A [guidance note](#) on interstate construction induction cards for construction workers who want to work in Victoria. [More...](#)

**VIC: New marine safety laws**

13 August 2010

The Bill and accompanying regulations, including a new system of seaworthiness checks, addressed key recommendations and findings from recent Coroner's inquiries and added to the case for legislative reform will create tougher penalties to crack down on those flouting rules and putting safety at risk. [More...](#)

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