



What's News?

Occupational Health & Safety

28 January 2010

Latest News

- Victorian Education Department fined for asbestos incident
- MUA claim asbestos safety breach
- Malu Sara sea tragedy case referred to CMC
- WorkSafe issues warning against working in confined spaces

Latest News

Victorian Education Department fined for asbestos incident

20 January 2010

Worksafe Victoria claims failing to ensure a tradesman was aware of the presence of asbestos has cost the Education Department \$10,000 as well as being ordered to pay costs of \$3,500. [More...](#)

WorkCover NSW urging businesses to focus on young workers safety

21 January 2010

WORKCOVER NSW is urging businesses across the state to prioritise the safety of young workers during the 2010 new year. [More...](#)

NOPSA ready to take over administering offshore well integrity and safety regulations

22 January 2010

The National Offshore Petroleum Safety Authority (NOPSA) says it has the appropriate experience to take over the administration of offshore well integrity and safety regulations. Currently, NOPSA is responsible for the OHS of people at offshore petroleum facilities not the integrity of wells. [More...](#)

Safety blitz targets Queensland insulation installers

21 January 2010

Industrial Relations Minister has announced inspectors from the Electrical Safety Office (ESO) and Workplace Health and Safety Queensland are well on track to achieve their target of auditing 500 companies by the end of January as part of a state wide safety blitz on insulation installers. [More...](#)

MUA claim asbestos safety breach

14 January 2010

Members of the Maritime Workers Union who have been shifting asbestos to Barrow Island for the Gorgon gas project are refusing to return to work until their safety is guaranteed. Asbestos was used in pipes and fences about 40 years ago and buried when oilfields were first developed. [More...](#)

WorkHealth initiative available in all regions of Victoria

19 January 2010

WORKSAFE Victoria's WorkHealth initiative, which is said to improve the health of Victorian workers and the productivity of workplaces, is now available in all regions across the state.

[More...](#)

Surf Coast unsafe work sites

14 January 2010

WorkSafe spokesperson Michael Birt said he was "disappointed" with a November blitz to check on compliance with occupational health and safety laws at workplaces around the Surf Coast, with an enormous number of Surf Coast employees working at heights without fall protection, constructing unsafe scaffolding and operating unguarded machinery. [More...](#)

Enforceable code of practice for abalone fishing work: Tasmanian Coroner

16 January 2010

A Tasmanian Coroner said he was concerned with a lack of clear workplace standards for commercial fishing vessels and has recommended an enforceable code of practice for abalone fishing work after hearing that an abalone quota-holding businessman believed he had no occupational health and safety duty to those on the boat, whom he saw as independent sub-contractors.

[More...](#)

Malu Sara sea tragedy case referred to CMC

14 January 2010

A month after federal workplace safety regulator Comcare confirmed it was planning to prosecute the Department of Immigration and Citizenship and the boat's manufacturer Subsee Explorer Pty Ltd, the Queensland Crime and Misconduct Commission has also said it is looking into the case. [More...](#)

Queensland teachers take on nonviolent crisis intervention

17 January 2010

Once confined mainly to staff in special education units, courses have been rolled out to mainstream Prep and other classrooms to counter the number of workers' compensation claims arising from injured teachers. Sheila Hunter, representing teacher aides through the Liquor Hospitality and Miscellaneous Union said staff were suffering physical and psychological injury from student attacks. [More...](#)



What's News? - Occupational Health & Safety

28 January 2010

WorkSafe issues warning against working in confined spaces

12 January 2010

WORKSAFE has issued a warning about the dangers of working in confined spaces after a tank cleaning company was convicted and fined \$500,000 following the death of a worker. According to WorkSafe, Depot Vic, a company which cleans and repairs storage tanks for the chemical industry, pleaded guilty to failing to provide and maintain a safe workplace. [More...](#)

Construction company fined \$15,000 for inadequate fall protection

11 January 2010

A WA Construction company has been fined \$15,000 for failing to adequately cover an opening after a worker fell more than three metres through a gap in a third storey floor. [More...](#)

Contact Details

Melbourne

Charles Power

Partner

T: +61 (0)3 9321 9942

E: charles.power@holdingredlich.com.au

Sydney

Stephen Trew

Partner

T: +61 (0)2 8083 0439

E: stephen.trew@holdingredlich.com.au

Brisbane

Paul Hardman

Partner

T: +61 (0)7 3135 0675

E: paul.hardman@holdingredlich.com.au

Disclaimer

The information in this publication is of a general nature and is not intended to address the circumstances of any particular individual or entity.

Although we endeavour to provide accurate and timely information, we do not guarantee that the information in this publication is accurate at the date it is received or that it will continue to be accurate in the future. We are not responsible for the information of any source to which a link is provided or reference is made and exclude all liability in connection with use of these sources.

Melbourne

350 William Street, Melbourne VIC 3000

T: +61 (0)3 9321 9999 F: +61 (0)3 9321 9900

Sydney

Level 65, MLC Centre, 19 Martin Place, Sydney NSW 2000

T: +61 (0)2 8083 0388 F: +61 (0)2 8083 0399

Brisbane

Level 1, 300 Queen Street, Brisbane QLD 4000

T: +61 (0)7 3135 0500 F: +61 (0)7 3135 0599