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Australian Government
Department of Employment and Workplace Relations
Office of the Federal Safety Commissioner





Achieving Sustainable Safety Culture: An Industry Approach

Tom Fisher
Federal Safety Commissioner

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Office of the Federal Safety Commissioner



The Office of the Federal Safety Commissioner

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Federal Safety Commissioner Vision

- World-class safety throughout the Australian building and construction industry



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The Federal Safety Commissioner

Functions Include:

- Promoting best practice OHS on Australian building and construction projects
- Administering the Australian Government Building and Construction OHS Accreditation Scheme
- Promoting a safety culture through education, consultation, promotion, information sharing, safe design and providing best practice guidance



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OHS Accreditation Scheme

- The Federal Safety Commissioner is using the influence of the Australian Government as a client and provider of capital to foster improved Occupational Health and Safety (OHS) performance in the building and construction industry.




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Criteria

1. Demonstrated senior management commitment to OHS;
2. Whole-of-project consultation and communication;
3. Integration of safe design into the risk management project;
4. Demonstrated effective subcontractor OHS management;
5. Whole-of-project performance measurements; and
6. OHS training requirements.



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OHS Accreditation Scheme

STAGE 1

- \$6 Million or more
- Directly Funded
- Head Contractors

Phase 1 – Provisional Accreditation
1 March 2006 – 30 September 2006

Phase 2 – Full Accreditation
from 1 October 2006




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Federal Safety Officers (FSOs)

Federal Safety Officers act as third party auditors, conducting on-site auditing of companies seeking accreditation or currently accredited under the Australian Government Building and Construction OHS Accreditation (the Scheme)




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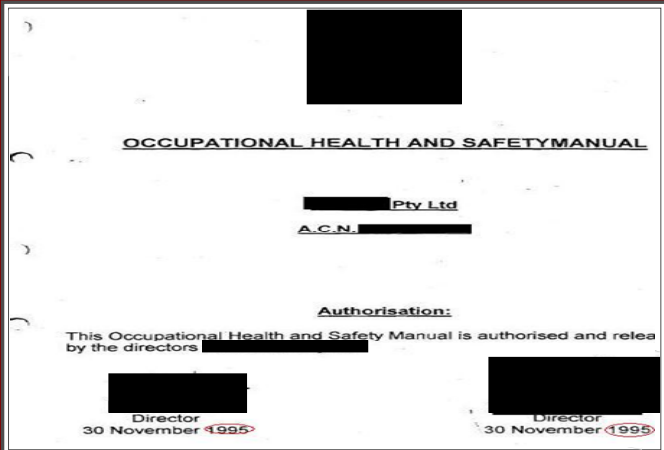
Audit Process

1. Applying for Accreditation
2. Assessment
3. Decision
4. Maintenance of Accreditation status



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OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH AND SAFETY MANUAL

██████████ Pty Ltd
A.C.N. ██████████

Authorisation:
This Occupational Health and Safety Manual is authorised and released by the directors ██████████

██████████ Director 30 November 1995
██████████ Director 30 November 1995

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OHS Accreditation Scheme

STAGE 2

- Directly and indirectly funded
- Thresholds announced by Minister 23 Oct 2006



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Recent Developments



Since March '06 –

- 58 Companies accredited




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Safety Principles and Guidance

1. Demonstrate a tangible commitment to developing a safety culture;
2. Clients Maintain effective OHS measures across a project's life cycle;
3. Strive to develop cooperative business relationships;
4. Ensure safe design and constructability is considered;
5. Effective consultation and communication;
6. Systematically approach OHS & risk management;
7. Clients to demonstrate OHS leadership at all stages of the construction project; &
8. Monitor, report and benchmark OHS at all levels.




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Safe Design

Safe Design will reduce, if not eliminate, OHS risks at the design stage, before construction work begins




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Role of Design in Workplace Fatalities & Injuries

- 77 of 210 identified workplace fatalities had design-related issues involved.
- Design contributes to at least 30% of work-related injuries.
- 40-50% are design-related incidents in the construction industry.




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Benefits of Safe Design

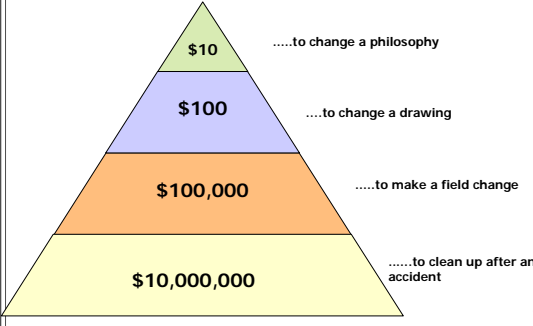
- Improved useability
- Improved productivity
- Reduced costs
- Compliance with legislation; and
- Innovation



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.....to change a philosophy

.....to change a drawing

.....to make a field change

.....to clean up after an accident



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OFSC Non-Scheme Initiatives

- Industry participation in the design of OHS material for subcontractors
- Consultation with government agencies with the aim of helping them become better clients
- International Research
- Case Studies



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Towards the Future



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Any Questions or Discussion Points...

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