



RECOVERY RAG

FEATURED PRODUCT

Safety Survey

Do you know how safe your workplace really is? Do you know what your employees think about health and safety in your workplace? Eliminate the uncertainty and get Recovery Partners to conduct a Safety Survey for you. The results will enable you to get a clear direction for improvement.

Your survey will be customised to your business and will give you a thorough understanding of how your health and safety

efforts are viewed by your employees. This is just another way to facilitate continuous improvement and to determine how effective your current workplace safety methods are.

You will be provided with the survey link (completed online), and at the completion of the survey you will receive the full results, reports and executive summary with recommendations on areas for improvement.

Check out our monthly special for your September savings

Legislative Update/Safety Alert

Third prosecution after apprentice burnt in workplace 'prank'

01 July 2010

An apprentice who set fire to a new workmate in a workplace 'prank' has been prosecuted by WorkSafe Victoria. Matthew Lever, 23, was the third apprentice to be prosecuted after a January 2008 incident where three apprentice mechanics ignited brake-cleaning fluid which they sprayed on another apprentice.

The injured apprentice had been working at a Hallam workshop for just three days when the incident occurred, and spent a week in hospital with burn injuries. The Ringwood Magistrates' Court today convicted Matthew Lever on three charges under the Occupational Health and Safety Act and fined him \$5,000. The two other apprentices were convicted on health and safety charges in December 2008, and also fined \$5,000 each.

WorkSafe is currently investigating a similar incident which occurred in Dandenong in March, where two apprentice mechanics suffered burn injuries after allegedly igniting brake fluid. "This sort of behaviour might be called horseplay or excused as a prank – but can lead to serious, permanent injuries. It's against the law and it's not acceptable," WorkSafe's Strategic Programs Director Trevor Martin said.

"We know that young workers, including apprentices, are less likely to speak up about bullying behaviour at work or pranks that go too far. "We want young workers to know that just because their mate's the one carrying out the prank, it doesn't make it ok," he said.

WorkSafe has a specific programme of work targeting 15-24 year olds in the workplace. This includes making sure workplaces have transparent policies in place for bullying, harassment; and that young people recognise it's not acceptable and that they can seek help. "In this case, the company had done the right thing – they'd spelt out their expectation that bullying and pranks would not be tolerated, and disciplined all three apprentices on a previous occasion." Mr Martin said.

"Our message for other companies employing young workers is clear - the company's rules around this kind of behaviour need to be clearly communicated, and young workers need to be supervised.

"The injured apprentice had been working for the company for only three days. WorkSafe knows that new workers are more vulnerable - they're more likely than other workers to get severe injuries and be hospitalised. That's why they need even more supervision at this time.

"You don't go to work to muck around with dangerous substances – situations like this can escalate and eventually someone will get hurt," he said.

REF:

<http://www.worksafe.vic.gov.au/wps/wcm/connect/wsinternetworksafe/sitertools/news/third+prosecution+after+apprentice+burnt+in+workplace+prank>

Did You Know?

Teacher in Legal Battle

A School Teacher who claims she damaged her larynx yelling at children, including some with special needs, is suing the Queensland Government for more than \$400,000.

The teacher claims she had to overuse her voice in attempt to control the pupils in her composite year 6 and 7 class at a State School in Bundaberg, QLD in 2006.

Her claim, filed in the Supreme Court in Brisbane, said the class included 31 special-needs children.

Ref: Sunday Telegraph; Sunday 11th July 2010 and

<http://www.heraldsun.com.au/news/national/teacher-valissa-bauer-claims-400000-for-yelling-damage/story-e6frf7l6-1225890270344>

GREG'S WHAT THE...?



UPCOMING EVENTS



Date: Friday 1st October 2010

Topic: How to achieve best practice in Chemical Management

Speaker: Russell Bradley
Milestone Chemicals

Time: 8:00am-9:00am, Registration Desk open from 7:45am

Location: Cabra-Vale Ex-Active Serviceman's Club Ltd, 1 Bartley Street, Canley Vale NSW 2166

Sponsor: Milestone Chemicals

Inclusions: Breakfast, business card draw, and informal networking with other clubs and sponsors

This 'Safety Hour' is an ongoing project by Cabra-Vale Diggers to assist and support the local community and strengthen their commitment to safety. Each 'Safety Hour' will have a different focus where you are able to ask questions on relevant safety related issues affecting you and your business. You will also be able to hear from other businesses as well as keynote speakers.

RSVP: Friday 24th September 2010*

Email: safetybar@cabravale.com

Phone: 1300 OHS RTW (647 789)

*Be quick to register as this is limited to the first 100 guests

TRAINING DATES

4 day WorkCover Accredited OHS Consultation Training Course

Dates: 19th, 20th, 26th and 27th October 2010

Venue: Suite 203, Ground Floor, Endeavour House, 3-5 Stapleton Ave, Sutherland

Time: 8:30am until 3:30pm each day

Cost: \$550 + GST per participant*

For further information, please download the Course Flyer and Enrolment Form

[DOWNLOAD](#)

***Discounts may apply for multiple participants from the same company attending the same session. For further information, please call our Head Office on 02 9532 0988.**

We offer all sorts of training courses, such as;

- Fire and Emergency Training
- Manual Handling Training
- Director's OHS Training
- Manager's and Supervisor's OHS Training
- Bullying and Harassment Training

We can come out to YOU on-site and train your employees, OHS Committee or Team, Managers, ANYONE! Check out our training page on our website by clicking [HERE](#) or call us on 02 9532 0988 for a quote. We would be more than happy to assist you with your training needs.

If you wish to unsubscribe from this mailing list, please respond to this email with UNSUBSCRIBE in the subject line