

TIME TO RESTRUCTURE NZQA – TEN COMPELLING REASONS

You may be aware of the current situation where NZQA is dealing to about 56 Tertiary Training Providers and especially Private Training Establishments. The media is painting a picture that would purvey total incompetence on behalf of the providers and glorification of the NZQA empire. This is not a fair reflection of the situation and you can rest assured that if 58 providers are found to be wanting, the entity making the rules and pretending to help them, monitor and measure (they call it moderation) is a country mile from moderate.

There are some other things that you need to know about NZQA and they are as follows.

1. We made official complaints to the CEO and Ombudsman but the Ombudsman was only able to understand one of the 25 serious claims and required the CEO to provide more copies of correspondence that were not being furnished.
2. It is our belief that NZQA has less than 20 auditors (they call them reviewers) and they have various qualifications that would be suitable for tutors / teachers but of no benefit for auditors that should be qualified under ISO certification.
3. The process of regulating NZQA is partly with TEC and partly self regulation. The dealings we have had would indicate an extremely high level of arrogance.
4. You may be interested to find that less than 2% of our clients have respect for NZQA and desire their courses. We tried to influence clients in NZQA but we have changed this endeavour and now concentrate on the wishes of our constituency.
5. Local Bodies in general are far more interested in certification to international standards rather than NZQA courses which may be of use to young people who need lightweight entertainment. NZQA courses are governed to aim for competency and they seldom achieve excellence.
6. We took on six local people that had been through Level 3 / Level 4 National Certificates for Occ Safety. We found that all of them had shallow understanding and were not suitable for our business. They needed a huge amount of coaching and we did not want to waste our time and resources trying to fix incompetency.
7. NZQA fees amounted to 50% of our total NZQA turnover. The fees are perhaps 1-2% for large institutions that receive subsidies from TEC. This is a total rot.
8. The NZ Government has decided to introduce compliance and risk management audit protocols for NZ Government Departments including NZQA. Of the 10 courses only two of them will become available via NZQA.
9. The inadequacies of NZQA cannot be better explained than to reflect on NZQA 4098 which is the standard for assessors and assessment processes. This unit standard provides for a range of 8 measures and any three are accepted. Using this loophole, it is possible for incompetent people to be classified as competent.
10. NZQA always treats the workers as the client and the company managers have no rights even if they pay for the course.

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TRUE HISTORY OF THE FIRST NATIONS

The history of New Zealand as taught in schools contains much misinformation and myth. It takes no account of first nations Waitaha (960) and Mamoe (1300).

Waitaha landed in South Westland at the Waitaha River about 960 A D. The leader or chief was called Rakai Houtu. I have personally seen a huge white sheet with the thousands of names and family trees going back over 1000 years. This was in the Gore District where it is believed to still be. The original settlers moved south to Glenorchy for the jade or greenstone and then to Queenstown. Later some of them moved to Taiaroa Heads near Dunedin. It is believed that an off-shoot navigated to Chatham Islands having used Otago as their base. They became known as Moriori. Their language was different to Maori. Dr Peter Snow of Tapanui completed DNA tests to establish that the match was with the Indians of South America. The customs of the Waitaha and Moriori were unique in some respects - possibly telling us significant facts from the past. The Moriori had the same custom as the bird people from Argentina who buried their dead in full regalia up a tree. They were a peace-loving people and would not fight against the North Island Maori. A Gisborne tribe invaded Chatham causing genocide with the wiping out 2300 souls - bodies left on beaches.

The reasons for the move from Argentina were possibly related to the time of the Conquistadors that came from Europe and brought with them an epidemic of syphilis. The search for a new land could have been to avoid the new plague. It could also have had something to do with fleeing from the many giants that lived in Patagonia. These giants (if still alive at the time) were not just the 3 metre variety – they were up to 10 metres and there are many burial mounds to prove that this is more than myth. The balsa wood from Argentina neatly lands on the beaches of Stewart Island at the south of NZ. The journey from Terra del Fuego to Westland would take about 14 days by sailing craft if the route was close to Antarctica. Commercial fishermen of NZ know full well that the land of the long white cloud is NOT NZ and that land and sky blend into the horizon. The Antarctica ice shelf is a different matter and would perfectly fit the description of "land of the long white cloud".

Prof David Simmons of Otago Museum did an expedition to Chatham in 1962 to investigate the dendroglyphs (tree drawings) and middens (beach ovens). It was found that many of the former had three legs with the middle one much larger than norma. This may have been telling of the reason why they had to leave South America. The sailors had brought with them vast quantities of kope berries for food and for the growing of trees. This indicated that the voyage was with purpose to find a new land for settlement purposes. The kope trees were suitable for carving of sketches of stick people. The carbon dating of the kope trees and middens proved that the settlement of Chatham had taken place 1000 years ago. For those who wish to know the interim history, it should be noted that the Mamoe landing was at Moeraki near Oamaru about 1300 AD. The Oamaru Library has a useful section about the true history of the first settlers

2.

CONTROL RISKS - SOON AS THEY ARE IDENTIFIED

18 April 2017

Fixing or putting in place interim controls for significant risks at the time they are identified would likely have prevented a visitor's death at South Port New Zealand in November 2015, says WorkSafe New Zealand.

The victim drowned when he lost control of his vehicle and slid off a wharf which had not been properly cleaned. It was contaminated with a superphosphate fertiliser, known to be especially slippery when wet, after a vessel was loaded. Despite an initial sweep of the berth, the surface remained contaminated for two days.

A South Port New Zealand manager whose vehicle slid on the berth while driving at a reported 10 km/hour advised other managers that the area was slippery. The Port did not advise employees or other users of the risk nor did it isolate the affected area or erect hazard signs. Visitors to the port were not warned of the danger posed by the slippery surface.

"Our investigation found that South Port New Zealand did not fulfil their duty to protect workers and others from harm while at work. It lacked basic policies to set procedures for when things go wrong, such as what to do with contamination, and staff were not trained to identify and manage risk," said WorkSafe Chief Inspector, Steve Kelly.

"These failings are systemic. This business must lift its game on health and safety by developing the policies, procedures and training that underpin good risk management," added Mr Kelly.

TWO MORE TRACTOR DEATHS

The incidents. In November 2012, a 59 year old man was killed on his family farm at Millers Flat in Central Otago when the tractor he was driving rolled 50 metres downhill, ejecting him from the cab. The tractor was fitted with a four post rollover protection structure and had a lap seat belt. Coroner McElrea notes in his findings that had the man been wearing the seat belt, "his chances of survival would have been markedly improved".

In February 2013, a 62 year old contractor who had driven tractors from a young age was killed when he lost control of a tractor on steep terrain near Gore. The contractor was ejected from his seat and suffered multiple traumatic injuries. Coroner McElrea noted "given the violent movement of the tractor he had no chance of controlling the unit without his lap seat belt in place."



3.



SAFETY & COMPLIANCE AUDITOR ISO 45001 & AS/NZS 4360

4-6 hours of lessons followed by workshops, private study, tests and other assessment. The Role of the Internal auditor is diverse and important - embracing several functions. This course is suitable for HR / Safety / Admin Managers, Project and Operational people plus Divisional Leaders. The modules will provide adequate training for the Internal Auditor to assist the employer to meet the requirements of the legislation, the regulations, codes of practice and international standards. All clients should have at least one Internal Auditor.

Module 1: Review of Safety Officer work and performance. Session of one hour on contents of the Safety Officer course so that the Auditor is fully aware of the role and expectations.

Module 2 Review of requirements - International Standard ISO 45001. 90 minute session with power point training of what the International Standard specifies for good performance of the Safety and Health laws .

Module 3 Annual Calendar establishment and operation. 30 minutes on how to set up an annual calendar, how to notify to staff and how to review monthly goals that are set for high quality conformance.

Module 4 Safety and Compliance Auditor course on how to establish Safety Committee to comply with Part 3 sub sections 1-2 of HSAW Act 2015. One hour session covering the roles and legal issues that need to be monitored and checked from time to time. This module has a world class training guide.

Module 5 How to measure the performance of site audits. How to assess whether the logs are adequate and are being reviewed for suitability. One hour session on site auditor role and how to action defects.

Module 6 Performance of the new laws. One hour session to look at an audit log for checking up on whether the site is moving towards compliance with new laws. Risk management is a major consideration and the international standard AS/NZS 4360 needs to be met.

Certificate to state Safety and Compliance Internal Auditor ISO 45001 & AS/NZS 4360