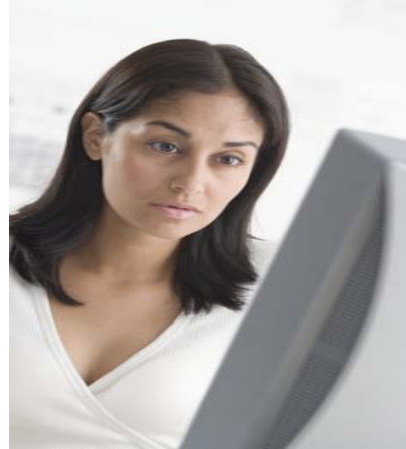


DEFINITION OF SERIOUS HARM BEING REVIEWED




Serious accidents are known as serious harms. In other words an accident is not the only type of injury that must be reported.

There are some incidents or events that also become reportable. For instance if you look at schedule 1 to the Act then you will find the current definition of serious harm. The web link is at http://www.legislation.govt.nz/libraries/contents/om_isapi.dll?clientID=16068025&infobase=pal_statutes.nfo&jump=a1992-096&softpage=DOC



It should be noted that an electrical incident is reportable, as is an explosion of a boiler, as is the capsizing of any crane. Even if nobody was injured in any way.

We have made submissions that the current definition which is cumbersome and difficult to understand should be simplified as follows:

-  Death or serious disease, or
-  Attendance at a Doctor followed by more than 4 hours off work, or
-  Hospitalisation for treatment following an accident / incident

Consultant Name _____

Telephone/Fax _____

All information in this newsletter is to the best of our knowledge true and accurate. No liability is assumed by the author, or publisher, for any losses suffered by any person relying directly or indirectly upon this newsletter. Please call our Head Office for specialist advice.

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Business Qualifications, Accreditation & Compliance Specialists

News & views from Summit Spring 2007



AGRICULTURAL PLANT OPERATOR SCHOOL (APOS).

We are currently researching the various options relating to Agricultural Plant Operation training. We intend that the scope of our training will extend into General Contracting, Civil Infrastructure and Construction.

The chair of NZQA is Sue Suckling. We submitted to her that we are unfairly penalised by the system where safety training actually crosses over many Industry Training Organisations (ITOs) and we end up having to deal with more than a dozen ITOs. They all have their own policies, agendas and requirements and it means that it can take us years to get approvals for courses that have a range of unit standards.

We have made further submissions to some MPs in the National Party asking them to replace the present system with an independent board, that should be set up to consider applications from an impartial perspective.

We are making reasonable progress in our goal to have an Agricultural Plant Operator School (APOS) set up for NZ. We will have to deal with the following ITOs: Infratrtrain, Agriculture ITO, Land Transport NZ, Horticulture ITO, Forestry ITO, Transqual ITO, Transit NZ, plus NZQA. We must also prove sufficient general industry consultation.

If you think that is not a daunting task, it surely is and makes for a large investment in time and labour costs to get all the documentation and various approvals. We estimate that the process costs perhaps \$30,000. Then on top of that there is another \$70,000 for writing lesson plans. It means that it is a major undertaking to set up a series of courses and it is no wonder that the number of Private Training Establishments (PTEs) is diminishing and that there is a moratorium on new ones.

FOOD SAFETY AUTHORITY UNDER WAY

Since its inception in 2002 NZFSA has embarked on three major reviews:

The Domestic Food Review was instigated to update and streamline New Zealand's entire decades-old food regulatory programme to ensure the country's vital food sector is positioned to deal with the significant growth expected over the next 20 years. In October 2006 Government approved a package of recommendations currently being drafted into new legislation – the Food Bill – which is set to be implemented from July 2008.

The Imported Foods Review has resulted in a new programme for importing food that manages food safety issues at the appropriate point in the food chain to ensure controls are effective, efficient and based on sound science. It will come into effect in July 2008.

The Wild Foods Review evaluated wild food in New Zealand to assess the potential risks to public health. The ultimate aim is to provide information about those risks, so that hunters and gatherers can make safe decisions about the wild foods they eat.

NZFSA believes these programmes will meet New Zealand's needs for the foreseeable future. They will take account of rapidly shifting consumer behaviour and expectations, changing food production and distribution systems, and new and emerging pathogens and other risks.



NZFSA is committed to protecting consumers of New Zealand food, no matter where in the world they may be. It is NZFSA's role to ensure that the food we produce in New Zealand is safe, suitable and meets all requirements.

To do this it proposes as follows:

- provide the Minister for Food Safety with policy advice on food and food-related issues
- Set standards relating to food safety and suitability, as required by legislation and our trading partners
- implement programmes that ensure all safety and suitability requirements are met
- enforce legislative requirements
- provide official assurances to importing countries
- enhance New Zealand's economic growth and prosperity through trade and commerce in food and food-related products
- provide effective communication with our stakeholders and advice on safe, suitable and nutritious food for our consumers.

WE CAN OFFER TRAINING FOR FOOD AUDITORS

We are now approved to offer Food Safety Training up to level 5 which means that we can offer training for Food Safety Auditors and Officials that administer the Food Legislation. This means that we can train food supervisors, MAF people, NZFSA people, Local Body people, Crown Health Officers and others.



YELLOW FOLDERS ARE BACK

We are pleased to advise that we have been able to source yellow folders once again. For a period of several years we were unable to obtain suitable stocks. The yellow folders are important to us as part of our branding and image. They have traditionally been known as "the yellow safety systems – the only ones that actually work".

