

4.

TRAINING COURSE NOW AVAILABLE FOR SAFETY OBSERVER
(repeat article due to importance)

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SAFETY OBSERVER COURSES – INTRODUCTORY FEES

Safety Observer 2 candidates each \$199+\$25+\$25 = \$249+
 Safety Observer 4 candidates each \$139+\$25+\$25 = \$189+
 Safety Observer 6 candidates each \$99+\$25+\$25 = \$149+
 Two Trips for travel and add GST



SAFETY OBSERVERS

Safety Observers need to be trained and qualified. They can include all normal workers but this will only work where they agree to the role and get formal training and then undertake the duties that are involved in a faithful manner. Nearly every site should have several qualified people.

Summit Manager Name _____
 Telephone/Email _____

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. Call our Head Office for advice.

Rev 14.11 KJV Triumph. And they overcame him by the blood of the Lamb, and by the word of their testimony; and they loved not their lives unto the death.

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WORKSAFE IS NOW USING ALTERNATIVES TO LARGE FINES

Hard times may be directly ahead for NZ.

If you go to the WorkSafe NZ website you will find that there are now several methods to get managers to “come on board” and to join the efforts for improvements in safety standards. This is a sign of the times that cash is short.

We happen to be in favour of the alternatives provided that we make real progress and not waste time in a blind alley. At the present time I do not know of many companies with plenty of money and I know that our clients are finding it very hard. At the same time we have a Government that has provided help for the workers but extremely limited help for companies and most sites do not have any spare money.

We see on TV that some of the hallmark retailers of Wellington are going out of business and there will be another big round to come for Auckland. Cutting out costs will never work for more than one round and any Accountant that advocates a second round will be sure to damage your business. You may even end up going out of business as normally the first round of cuts is 15% and then there is another attempt but this will bring the company to an end in time.

We would much favour incentives for the workers and efficiency gains that will work. For example we would advocate the following:

- a) send us your annual invoice from ACC and we will advise you how to get and lock in the experience rating and there are 33 different levers that can be used for ultimate success.
- b) If possible have a few independent contractors and even Helen Clark was accepting of this measure as she realised the reality of flexibility of employment. We can supply a simple and highly effective set of papers for this to be done.
- c) In Auckland and Northland one of the most important measures is to have performance management so that you do not get caught in the traps of the “going religion” where workers are always going somewhere – but not to go to work. The best indicators for performance management are zero accidents / drug free / assured attendances / no damage to plant or equipment / no reruns required. You can set 4 monthly awards and they can vary in importance from \$20 - \$50.
- d) Incentives e.g. fuel or food vouchers can be sought after by most workers.
- e) Rewards for innovations or flow chain improvements.
- f) An extremely important clause in your employment agreement that is guaranteed to stop frivolous and vexatious claims from disgruntled workers who want to change their car.
- g) Our Worker Empowerment scheme has 7 high quality benefits for workers.

2.

CAN YOU DO PROPER SITE AUDITS USING A TEMPLATE?

We have a 105 question checklist in our main Safety Audit document and it is an excellent way to identify and nail down the things that matter and need to be sorted out as a matter of urgency.

For repetitive checking we have routine logs that are designed for factories, facilities, foundries and farming. If you wish to become a fully qualified auditor then please let us know soon.



THE THINGS THAT SOME INSPECTORS MISS

1. Hydraulic presses can be as dangerous as Press Brakes. Most operators do bearing shells at times. They can easily explode. We know of workpieces going through fences 50 metres away. This can be controlled in three ways. a) heavy towel or b) Mesh screen or c) strong bowl to contain the workpiece.
2. Large grinders kill people and we know of deaths. The ledge guards should not have gaps of more than 3mm and need frequent adjustment. The top guards are equally important and must be in place to stop a grinder wheel break up with pieces travelling through the abdomen of the operator.
3. Gas bottles must be properly managed and must have chains to hold bottles and the bottles must have spark arrestors. Bottles must be switched off when not in use. Never use copper pipe to fix acetylene hoses as it will explode.
4. Every site should have evacuation procedures plus emergency phone numbers listed plus sign to state names of Safety Officers and when renewal is due (two years). The same applies for Fire Wardens, First Aiders and Medical checks for elderly or those handling hazardous substances.



426 Prosecutions since 2016?

It now seems to be policy that alternatives to fines should be considered in appropriate cases. There appears to be about 100 prosecutions per annum at present. This compares with about 300 in the years after 2000 AD.

Dept of Labour took appeals against 3 fines that were quite small and they obtained a ruling from Appeal Court as guidance to judges that low culpability would be in range \$50 to \$100 and medium culpability up to \$175k and serious culpability above \$175k.

3.

THINGS TO BE NOTIFIED TO WORKSAFE NZ

Do you need to notify? You need to notify WorkSafe if a serious injury, illness or incident happened to a person or people carrying out work, or as a result of work that your business or organisation is responsible for.

If you're unsure of what needs to be notified please read our guide What events need to be notified?

Their 'Notify WorkSafe' tool will guide you through a series of questions to assist you with providing all of the information they require.

Other notifications

Hazardous work - use this form to notify them of particular hazardous work.

Raise a health or safety concern - if you have a concern about an unsafe or unhealthy work situation that could lead to a death or serious injury or illness, then you can contact WorkSafe NZ and raise your concerns.

Electrical and gas non-workplace event - use this to notify WorkSafe of a non-workplace electricity or gas accident, including a non workplace death.

Electrical and gas product appliance complaint form - use this to notify us if you have a complaint about an electrical or gas product.

Electrical and gas installation fault notice form - use this to notify WorkSafe about an electrical or gas installation fault.

Asbestos removal - use this form to notify WorkSafe of upcoming licensed asbestos removal work

Major Hazard Facilities- use this form if your major hazard facility has specified hazardous substances present or are likely to be present.

Extractives - use these forms to notify of mining, tunnelling and quarry and alluvial mine high risk activities

Petroleum - use this form if you are a drilling contractor or permit operator and need to notify WorkSafe of certain well operations.

Geothermal- use these forms if you are bore owner or manager and need to notify them or apply for a consent.

Commissioning of hazardous substance location or transit depot - use this form if you need notify before commissioning a hazardous substance location or a transit depot.

