

SAFE WORK

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SPOT THE HAZARD
ASSESS THE RISK
FIND A SAFER WAY
EVERYDAY

WINTER 2003
Vol.1 No.2

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*Document available
in French/Cette
information existe
également en
français au:*

www.gov.mb.ca/labour/safety/index.fr.html

For further information
please contact the
Workplace Safety
and Health Division

New Safety and Health Minister Appointed



The Honourable Nancy Allan, MLA for St. Vital was sworn in as Minister of Labour and Immigration on November 4, 2003, assuming responsibility for the Workplace Safety and Health Division. The Division is made up of six branches, including Inspection Services, Prevention Services and Partnerships, Hygiene and Technical Services, Mine Safety, Occupational Health, and Mechanical and Engineering.

The new minister acknowledged the efforts, commitment and accomplishments over the past few years by government, employers, workers, and prevention organizations towards improved occupational safety and health in the province.

"The framework is in place for building a strong workplace safety and health culture in Manitoba," said Allan. "A lot of work has been done to this point, and we must continue our efforts on a daily basis to provide healthier and safer work environments for all workers in the province."

Workplace Safety and Health legislation places the primary responsibility for safety and health on the employer, but also spells out responsibilities for all workplace parties, including the worker.

(Continued on next page)

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“There seems to be a greater awareness among Manitobans around the importance of safe work practices”, said Allan. “We don’t prevent occupational injury or illness by absence of thought.

We each have a role and responsibility for our own safety as well as the safety of others in the workplace. “

Prior to being elected to the Manitoba Legislature in 1999, she managed Nancy Allan Associates, a fund development and strategic planning service for small businesses and non-profit organizations. Her active community involvement included serving as school trustee in the Norwood School Division, Director of Development for the Canadian Diabetes Association, and teaching two Continuing Education courses at the University of Winnipeg. As a member of the Legislative Assembly Management committee, Nancy Allan participated on the Task Force for Graduated Drivers Licenses.

She also served as Legislative Assistant to the Minister of Culture, Heritage and Tourism, and to the Minister of Education and Youth.

The minister is also responsible for Multiculturalism, the Status of Women, and The Workers’ Compensation Act.

Worker's Eye *Saved by* Safety Glasses

- by Mark Blackburn and Bryan Zirk

Alastair Ross says he’s “very lucky” to still have his left eye - and it’s only because of the safety glasses, provided by his employer, “did their job.” A cutting-wheel he was using on a hand-held grinder “exploded at about 14,000 rpm” and came hurtling at his face. Alastair, an autobody technician at Maxim Truck Collision in Winnipeg, says he can recall “in vivid detail” what happened that day last June at his workplace - probably, he says, because of how close he came to a career-ending injury.

Alastair describes what happened: “I was about two hours into my shift that morning. I was grinding welds off the bottom frame of a truck. I probably had ground off about eight welds when I noticed the cutting wheel was starting to vibrate. So I changed it. I put a new one on. On the second weld I cut after that, it exploded – just let go, broke in half. It came pretty much straight at me and caught me dead center on the left eyepiece of my safety glasses. It rolled down my cheek, still spinning at high speed. My safety glasses went flying one way, and my hat flew the other way. As I looked down I noticed blood dropping down onto the floor. I immediately jumped out of the truck’s empty engine compartment where I’d been working, and walked fast through the shop to the sinks. I had grease all over my hands so as I was washing my hands, one of the journeymen came up to me and said, “Good, keep washing your hands, keep washing!” The next thing I knew he had a piece of gauze against my cheek and he wrapped my head with a bandage. The boss had me driven to the Health Sciences Center immediately.”

Alastair Ross’s incident is hardly unique. Last year alone, workers in Manitoba suffered a total of 2,090 lost (WCB) days from work due to serious eye injuries.

- The Workplace Safety and Health Act requires employers to have an ongoing system in place to identify existing or potential dangers to workers – as well as measures to reduce, eliminate or control those dangers.
- Hazards associated with grinding tools must be identified and assessed through a ‘JHA’ (job hazard analysis). A ‘JHA’ for grinding operations would specify each hazard involved in the grinding process.



“If I wasn't wearing my safety glasses, I hate to think what might have happened.”

- Once hazards are identified, employers must develop and implement control measures to prevent injury. Well-documented safe work procedures, competency training for employees and the use of approved grinding tools will result in fewer injuries.
- Ensure workers wear eye and face protection that meets CSA standards (see WorkSafe! Bulletin #154 'Eye and Face Protection').
- Each grindstone must be approved for safe operation at the revolutions per minute (rpm) of the machine it's used with (e.g. in accordance with manufacturer's specifications and instructions). It is also important to involve your company's purchasing department to ensure the ongoing compatibility of grindstones-to-grinding tools.

Alastair says, “Probably every single person in a body shop has to do some grinding at one time or another. When they do, they should always wear eye and face protection. When my safety glasses get too scratched or uncleanable, I replace them immediately.”

“If I wasn't wearing my safety glasses, I hate to think what might have happened. At the very least, I would have completely lost my eye. My advice then, is 'Always, always wear your safety glasses.'”

Manitoba Workplace Eye Injuries 2002

WCB Days Lost From Work
(Average 2.9 days/claim)

2,090 Total Days, by Type of Event

Data:

struck against	1.1%
other	0.1%
assault	2.9%
exposure, welding light	4.2%
contact, harmful substance	9.9%
body reaction, exertion	2.5%
abrasion, foreign matter	38.4%
struck by...other	12.4%
struck by flying object (Average - 9.4 days/claim)	28.4%

LEGALLY YOURS

In the pursuit of the objectives of *The Workplace Safety and Health Act* (Chapter W210), it is necessary to prosecute individuals or firms who are in contravention of the Act. Publication of this information is intended to inform and educate both employers and workers of the responsibilities that are **legally yours** in the hope that some may learn from the experiences of others. Any similarity between the names of persons charged and those not connected with the infraction or operation are coincidental.

COURT DATE	PERSON/CO. CHARGED	CONTRAVENTIONS	TOTAL PENALTIES
Feb 21/03	Alumicor Ltd.	Failure to provide and maintain a workplace, equipment and systems that were safe. W210 Sec. 4(2)(a)	\$18,000 + \$ 2,700 (Victim's Surcharge)
Mar 20/03	Perimeter Industries	Failure to guard a machine so far as was reasonably practicable M.R. 108/88 R, Sec. 15(a)	\$12,500 + \$ 1,875 (Victim's Surcharge)
Mar 28/03	Great Northern Lumber and Forest Products Inc.	Failure to take effective steps to forbid the clearing of wood jams in a saw machine. M.R. 108/88R, Sec. 15(b)	\$11,000 + \$ 1,650 (Victim's Surcharge)
April 11/03	Copperweld Canada Inc.	Failure to guard a machine so far as was reasonably practicable. M.R. 108/88R, Sec. 15(a)	\$35,000 + \$ 5,250 (Victim's Surcharge)
May 15/03	Triple E Canada Ltd.	Failure to provide a workplace, necessary equipment and systems that was safe. W210 4(2)(a)	\$20,000 + \$ 3,000 (Victim's Surcharge)
May 23/03	Westco Storage Ltd.	Failure to notify the Workplace Safety and Health Division of a serious accident. M.R. 108/88R Sec. 8 Being a principal contractor failing to ensure that another employer complied with The Workplace Safety and Health Act. W210 Sec. 7	\$ 5,000 + \$ 750 (Victim's Surcharge) \$11,000 + \$ 1,650 (Victim's Surcharge)
Aug 21/03	JF Mobile Industrial Services Inc.	Failure to ensure the safety, health and welfare of a worker. W210 Sec. 4(1)(a)	\$ 5,000 + \$ 250 (Victim's Surcharge)
Aug 25/03	E.H. Price Limited	Failure to provide a system respecting the operation of a hydraulic brake press that was safe. W210 Sec. 4(2)(a)	\$25,000 + \$ 3,750 (Victim's Surcharge)
Sept 8/03	Franklin Enterprises Ltd.	Failure to provide a safe system respecting the changing of dies on a punch press. W210 Sec. 4(2)(a)	\$30,435 + \$ 4,564.25 (Victim's Surcharge)

IMPORTANT REMINDER:

Trade Certification Process for Sprinkler System Installers Ends Soon

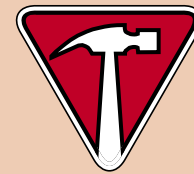
A new regulation for the trade of Sprinkler System Installer came into effect on February 22, 2003. To legally work in Manitoba, individuals who perform duties according to the scope of the trade will be required to hold a valid Certificate of Qualification or be registered as an apprentice.

Uncertified individuals who wish to continue working in the trade have until February 23, 2004 to:

- apply for a Manitoba-only Certificate of Qualification through a grandparenting provision called *Trades Qualification without examination*; or
- apply for, and upon review and approval receive, an *Exemption from Certification* if working in a small portion of the trade.

NOTE: *Individuals who perform the duties of a Sprinkler System Installer in the residential sector, or who work in all other sectors and perform routine maintenance tasks, as defined by the regulation for this trade, do not require certification or additional documentation to continue working.*

For more information, or a Sprinkler System Installer Certification package, call Ron Krshka, Prior Learning and Assessment Coordinator in Winnipeg, at 945-4169. In rural Manitoba, call toll-free at 1-877-978-7233.



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Visit our WEB page at
www.gov.mb.ca/labour/safety/
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SEND YOUR COMMENTS on the Proposed WS&H Regulations!

All workplace safety and health regulations, with the exception of the Operation of Mines Regulation, are undergoing the final stages of the review process. The purpose of this review is to facilitate the development of regulations that are comprehensive, clear and easily understood.

At the outset, Workplace Safety and Health Division staff undertook a complete review of the regulations, submitting their recommendations for further review by technical working groups established for this purpose.

The recommendations of the technical working groups have gone forward to the Minister's Advisory Council on Workplace Safety and Health, and have been posted on the Division's Web site for public comment prior to the end of March, 2004.

You can view these documents, and send your comments via e-mail by visiting: <http://www.gov.mb.ca/labour/safety/index.html>

New Standard 'Brightens' the Need for Worker Visibility

Hazards exist in every workplace, so strategies to protect workers are essential. The Canadian Standards Association (CSA) exists to produce standards that help to protect Canadians from hazards in almost every aspect of daily living. Recently, a new standard for personal protective equipment was developed by CSA with the support of many Canadian employer/labour users, producers, special interest groups, and regulators. The CSA Z96-02 addresses high visibility safety apparel, an area where consistency in Canadian regulations and standards was needed.

The new standard helps ensure that workers routinely exposed to the hazards of low visibility on the job are more easily seen. Garments that meet this standard can be worn 24 hours a day to provide users with a high level of visibility to others through the use of bright and fluorescent background materials and retroreflective trims.

The CSA Z96-02 has three classes of garments for employers to choose from, depending upon the workers' activities and the level of risk in their working environment. When buying garments, organizations should write a specification that details the exact purpose(s), and in what format each product should be used.

Class 1 Apparel consists of a basic harness or stripes/bands over the shoulder(s) and encircling the waist. The center portion of the front torso band between the two vertical bands is optional.

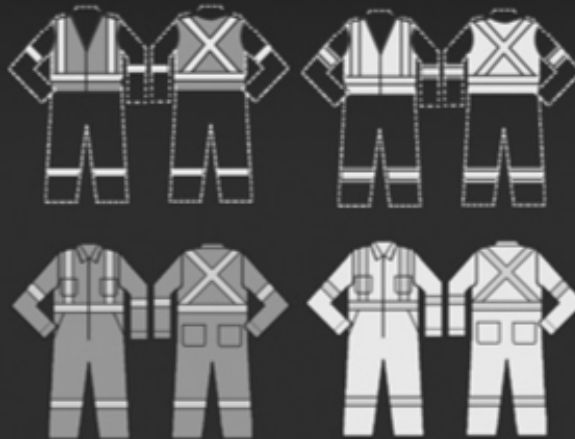


CSA Z96-02 High Visibility Safety Apparel Garment Classes and Illustrations

Class 2 Apparel has full coverage of the upper torso (front, back, sides, and over the shoulders). Stripes/bands shall be composed of retroreflective or combined performance materials.



Class 3 Apparel meets the same requirements as Class 2 with the addition of bands encircling both arms and both legs. These bands shall be composed of combined performance stripes/bands or a combination of retroreflective and background material.



The standard lists three classes of high visibility clothing and three levels of retroreflective trim to improve conspicuity under all light conditions. Compliance with the standard will be mandatory where specified by government authorities. The result is enhanced worker safety.

WHAT'S NEW & UPCOMING EVENTS



Jeff Parr, former Assistant Deputy Minister of the Workplace Safety and Health Division, was appointed Deputy Minister of Labour and Immigration on November 4, 2003.



Manitoba Safety Council's Occupational Health & Safety Conference

January 19th & 20th, 2004
Canad Inns Polo Park
Register by calling
1-888-332-2623; (204) 775-8791;
or register online at
www.mbsafety.org

Agriculture Days

January 20th, 21st & 22nd, 2004
Keystone Centre, Brandon, MB
Contact: Owen Beever
at (204) 571-6566

Manitoba Construction Safety Association Safety Conference

March 10th, 2004
Royal Oak Inn, Brandon, MB
To register, call Sean Scott (Wpg)
at 775-3171, or
Richard McCallum (Brandon)
at (204) 728-3456

Farm Safety Week

March 10th – 17th, 2004

It is extremely important that the people writing specifications know the needs of the workers; that they conduct a risk assessment, and are knowledgeable on what materials are available in the market. While the use of high visibility trim may improve worker visibility, the required amount and type of trim will vary depending upon the application. Furthermore, it is important to regularly review the product specifications. As your workplace environment changes, so do your workers' visibility needs.

3M Canada Company, Personal Safety Products Department provides technical support on standards and the performance properties of retroreflective materials.

For additional information please contact 3M Canada Company, Personal Safety Products Department, Laura McDonald at 1-800-265-1840 ext. 6236.

Manitoba Construction Conference
February
3rd & 4th, 2004
Winnipeg Convention Centre



CONFERENCE
SAFETY HEALTH ENVIRONMENT

For further details, contact the Conference Co-Chairpersons:
Sean Scott (204) 775-3171, or,
Dave Gylywoychuk (204) 947-1379.
To register, call Pam at (204) 775-3171.

New Training Program for Supervisors

This is a one-day course for supervisors (team leaders, foremen, lead hands, etc.) or those who are soon to become supervisors. A new section in the Workplace Safety and Health Act spells out the duties of supervisors, including:

- taking all reasonable precautions to protect the safety and health of workers under their supervision;
- ensure workers comply with safety and health requirements, and use/wear safety devices; and
- advise workers of hazards to their safety and health.

If you have ever wondered what you need to know about safety and health, due diligence, and your responsibilities under the Act, this course is for you!

Training Program Schedule 2004

All courses are **FREE OF CHARGE** * (except Blaster Certification - see details below)

Location Legend:	W - Winnipeg 200-401 York Ave Wpg. MB (204)945-3610 Fax: (204) 948-2209	B - Brandon 304 - 340 9th Street Brandon, MB (204) 726-6361 Fax: (204) 726-6749	P - The Pas T - Thompson (For the above, register and check with Brandon Office for course location)	S - Swan River D - Dauphin A - Altona K - Selkirk (For the above, register and check with Winnipeg Office for course location)	F - Flin Flon R - Winlker
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COURSE LISTING:	FEB. 2003	MAR. 2003	APR. 2003	MAY. 2003	JUN. 2004
LEVEL 1 (2-day course) Overview on the rights and responsibilities of people in the workplace for: meetings, hazard recognition and control, incident investigation, inspections and right to refuse situations.	10,11-W 10,11- B 25,26-W	8,9-W 16,17-P 17,18-E 24,25-W	6,7-W 27,28-W 6,7-B 14,15-R 20,21-D	4,5-T 26,27-W 5,6-K 12,13-W 19,20-H	2,3-A 15,16-W 28,29-W
Hazard Recognition and Control Recognizing and controlling hazards in the workplace, including how to complete a job safety analysis and conduct an inspection.	5-W 17-B	4-W 18-P 25-A	7-H 8-B 15-W 21-K	5-W 6-T 11-R 19-F	10-W 15-E
Investigating Workplace Incidents Overview on how to conduct an incident investigation at your workplace. Includes techniques for information gathering, interviewing witnesses and preparing the report.	13-W 18-B 27-W	10-W 26-W	14-W 22-D 29-W	6-W 18-F 20-P 28-W	11-W 25-W
Workplace Hazardous Materials Info System How to maintain an effective program for: Labeling, Material Safety Data Sheets, Worker education for hazardous/controlled products.	3-B 9-W 23-W	3-W 17-W	5-W 14-B 22-W	3-W 20-W	2-W 8-P 10-T 23-W
Workplace Health Hazard Regulation WHHR Required inventories & evaluations of controlled products, monitoring worker exposure, occupational exposure limits, record maintenance.	4-B	5-W		4-W	9-P 21-W
Introduction to Office Ergonomics Overview on how to recognize and prevent typical office injuries, and how to set up office workstations for maximum comfort and efficiency.	12-W	9-B 12-W	16-W	7-W	17-W 22-T
Introduction to Industrial Ergonomics How to start and maintain an effective ergonomics program in an industrial setting. Includes techniques for conducting ergonomic interventions.	20-W	10-B 22-W	23-W	17-W	4-W 23-T
* Blasting Blaster Training Course and Examination or Re-examination to acquire Blaster's Certificate.	19-B	18-W			24-W
Supervisor & Safe Work Outlines what you need to know about safety and health, due diligence and your responsibilities as a supervisor, under the Act.			1-W	4-B	3-W

Note: All Winnipeg Courses are held at the above Winnipeg location.

Classes start at 8:30 a.m. and end at 4:00 p.m.

*** Blaster Certification Course Fee (includes GST):**

Blaster Course & Exam - \$53.50 Blaster Training Course - \$26.75 Blaster Examination / Rewrites - \$26.75
(Forward course payment and registration form to Wpg/Bdn office.)

- Return of tuition fees (course costs) will be made, provided 14 days notice.
Note: Blaster Course can be taken without writing the exam, and vice versa.

COURSE REGISTRATION FORM:

- Instructions for registration now available on W.S.&H. Division Internet Web site at <http://www.gov.mb.ca/labour/safety/select> "Events/Training Courses"
- E-mail completed form to: sludwig@gov.mb.ca
- **ONLY IF YOU DO NOT HAVE COMPUTER ACCESS**, call or fax the appropriate office above to receive a form.
- Please submit any registration changes at least 5 days prior to class date.