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Significant Milestones

Welcome to the June edition of Safety Insite.

I’m pleased to be able to celebrate a significant milestone for Site Safe. Last month we passed the 4,000 member mark – which is a great indication of our increasing relevance and support to the industry. I’d like to take this opportunity to welcome our new members and thank existing members for their loyalty. And that’s not the only thing I’m proud to be celebrating. The 2014/15 year also marked our biggest year for training – which demonstrates to me that great health and safety practices are becoming more accepted and necessary in modern-day construction.

Thanks to this growth in training, increasing new members, and exciting new products such as SiteWise, we are expanding our staff across the country so we can provide better service to you. This growth includes more Safety Advisors on the ground and more support staff to improve health and safety for you and your team.

The re-launch of AppCon as SiteWise has been a great success. Users are commenting on how the tool is more user-friendly and that the prequalification assessment process is greatly improved. Other good news is that non-construction industries are also showing an interest in prequalification, and SiteWise in particular. It’s great to see the construction industry is helping lead the way in health and safety practice.

SiteWise has huge potential, and we’ve got big plans to expand the system. We’ll be working with industry to develop tools and solutions that will benefit both main contractors and subbies alike and will be in touch over the coming months.

In the training space, we are investigating the possibility of forming strategic partnerships with selected providers of skills-based safety training. The idea being that we can formally recognise their courses as part of the passport renewal or Certificate program, and recommend their excellent courses as a good option.

The reform bill is currently sitting in the government select committee, which means that the law will now be passed late in 2015 or early 2016. Once it is passed, we can expect it will take at least three months from the passing of the legislation till it is effective. We will keep you updated on any further developments regarding this new legislation, and will ensure you have all the information you’ll need to adapt to the new environment.

The Site Safe annual general meeting will be held in September so please keep a look out for nomination forms and voting packs on the way to you. Being a member entitles you to have your say, so I encourage you all to vote and attend the AGM in person if you can.

Thanks for taking the time to read this newsletter – and please don’t hesitate to get in touch with me or comments@sitesafe.org.nz. If you have any suggestions on how we can improve our service to you as members.

Alison Molloy
Chief Executive
Site Safe Construction
Health and Safety Awards

The annual Site Safe Construction Health and Safety Awards are a highlight of our calendar, and we’re gearing up to open the entries for the 2015 awards soon. If you’d like to know what it takes to win one of these awards, check out these case studies from two of last year’s winners.

Dominion Constructors Limited (DCL) & Russell Gordon Contracting Limited (RGC), both Russell Group companies, often work side by side on construction sites. Although these businesses run autonomously, they are aligned in their health & safety outlook of ensuring their people stay safe. By utilising Tertiary Education Commission (TEC) funding they commenced a workplace literacy programme tailored to meet its employees literacy, language and numeracy needs. A fundamental part of the training addressed creating a consistent approach to health and safety that has improved the companies culture, fostered community spirit and given employees the confidence to use their voice.

Working together the companies developed a programme called ‘Core Strength’ with Education Unlimited that engages directly with workers to develop their own health and safety solutions. It does this by breaking down complex health and safety legislation and research into dedicated projects that solve on-site problems and frustrations. The programme was made up of several projects that have all been successful in achieving their goals and improving overall employee engagement.

The programme asked all employees to put forward project ideas as either an individual or a group. One of the most successful was the ‘Site Awareness’ posters for encouraging the team to report near misses. Posters were displayed around the work site and as a result there has been over a 300% increase in near misses reported. This allowed the company to see where potential risk trends were and fix them before they could cause an injury.

Another successful project initiative was on improving the induction process as the companies pride themselves on having a high calibre of staff. An induction webinar was created for new employees to watch which embedded the Core Strength initiative and featured other topics such as safe use of tools. One employee commented that they “…work safer now and I take the time to improve with my work”. Another worker mentioned that they speak up more at prestart meetings and “…feel like a valued team member”.

Robert Gibbes, General Manager of Dominion Constructors Ltd, spoke on behalf of both companies when he said “This award is for our people, for their commitment, passion and courage to tackle real safety issues. The initiative we run focuses on education, ownership of challenges, and confidence to empower leadership at every level to make our workplace better and safer. We recognise the journey to a truly safe workplace is one of constant improvement and vigilance so this award is highly valued as an endorsement that we’re on the right track”.

Judges commented that the campaign showed “company-wide adaption and implementation”. In addition they commended the companies for engaging, listening
and investing with employees. The benefits went well beyond just health and safety and evidence shows that employees are more engaged, happier and more productive.

Rupp Consulting Ltd (Rupp) used existing affordable technology to solve access challenges underfloor, within walls and at height. The innovation allows structural assessment without putting the engineer at risk.

The majority of the inspections carried out by Rupp are on residential and commercial buildings and involved climbing ladders to view roof spaces and assessing under floor areas.

Some spaces were too small for an engineer to enter and in some instances a ladder did not give the right access to the area. The result was to engage costly equipment such as cherry pickers for the job to safely gain access. This had the consequence of passing on significant costs to the client.

Rupp came up with a simple yet innovative solution. The use of a GoPro camera and bicycle LED light mounted on a painter’s pole. Both devices could be controlled via a smart phone app and due to their size allowed access to small, confined spaces and heights.

The innovative solution can reach spaces no engineer can.

“We are thrilled to receive an accolade for this category. We are aiming to raise the health and safety of the industry and make others realise that you do not need to be a large organisation or have a large budget to make a difference. Health and safety should be part of our business process and it can be seen from our innovation here that it has a positive impact on time, cost and safety,” Marc Rupp explains.

Judges of the award commented on how this was a “simple and effective solution” which prevented engineers getting into a high-risk situation. Judges also commented that bringing together common products made it even better as it was more accessible to others.

2015 Site Safe Construction Health and Safety Awards -
From July we will be able to confirm the date and venue for the next Evening of Celebration, award categories, nomination and application forms plus our valued sponsors. Keep an eye out for information as it is released.
Update on Site Safe Training in the Philippines

Site Safe has partnered with One World Resourcing NZ in the Philippines to bring qualified workers to New Zealand. Workers are first assessed in a state-of-the-art facility near Manila for construction skills competencies. They are then trained by Site Safe for Building and Civil Construction Passports before travelling to New Zealand. This is a win-win for both New Zealand construction employers and the Filipino workers, who are ready to start work as soon as they get here.

Through this pioneering programme, Site Safe has now accredited more than 60 Filipino workers and the course is being very well received by both trainees and New Zealand employers alike.

Phil Brosnan, of Brosnan Construction, who travelled to the Philippines with One World Resourcing to observe the first round of courses, says he “highly recommends” the new service.

“It’s a practical new initiative that not only saves a lot of time and money for employers like myself but makes a lot of sense for Filipino workers coming here. My company will be supporting this service going forward.”

The Filipino workers are fully engaged in the training, most of them have never done a health and safety course before. The trainees are looking forward to the opportunities New Zealand offers them. Some have previously worked in locations in the Middle East and around the world to earn money to support their families.

Health and safety is taken seriously by the trainees, as getting injured on a site could result in them being sent home. Site Safe trainer, Peter Coldicutt, commented that it was a refreshing change to teach the Passport course in the Philippines, as the trainees didn’t have a ‘she’ll be right’ attitude towards safety.

Once in New Zealand, these workers can either be directly placed with client companies or contracted through One World Resourcing, using their exclusive Ethical Resourcing Model®. The Ethical Resourcing Model® seeks to protect Filipino workers from exploitation by:

- Providing an open and transparent recruitment process for all stakeholders.
- Ensuring they are ready to start earning as soon as they arrive in New Zealand by having them Site Safe accredited before leaving the Philippines.
- Removing their reliance on loan sharks in the Philippines (with extortionate rates of between 70% and 200% per annum) through a partnership with a New Zealand bank, allowing them to open a New Zealand bank account and start a credit history here.
- Ensuring the workers arriving here are met in a culturally sensitive manner through a unique partnership and support structure with local Filipino Migrant Centres.
- Working with accommodation providers to prevent tenant exploitation.

Site Safe’s Chief Executive, Alison Molloy, is pleased with the progress of this new initiative.

“The new training programme has taken off well and we look forward to seeing these workers take up roles on New Zealand construction sites. Having the Filipino workers ready to start with their Site Safe Passports is a big benefit to New Zealand construction and makes them very attractive new employees.”

For more information on the programme contact Declan Clancy at One World Resourcing:

p. 03 928 1432
e. declan@oneworldresourcing.com
Site Principals Lack of Contractor Supervision Leads to Fine

A WorkSafe NZ Case:
An Auckland-based construction company has been prosecuted for failing to take all practicable steps as a site principal to ensure the safety of a contractor’s employee, so that they were not exposed to the risk of a fall from heights when installing purlins. The employee suffered severe injuries, including fractured bones, a head injury and ongoing amnesia and headaches.

The company was fined a total of $40,000: $10,000 in reparation and a fine of $30,000. The reparation was offered by the company before prosecution.

The job:
Work was underway in the construction of a four storey building in Auckland. A construction firm had subcontracted the concrete, formwork and carpentry work to another company.

The employee was working for the subcontractor on the site to build the roof and was installing purlins at the time of the accident.

The accident:
Two employees were working together to pass material from one another from the fourth floor to the roof. A piece of timber snapped that the employee on the roof was standing on and caused them to fall over five metres onto a concrete floor. The worker suffered severe injuries as a result.

What went wrong?
The company failed under section 18 of the HSE Act 1992 which is failing as the site principal to take all practicable steps to ensure that an employee of the contractor is not harmed when engaged in work.

A series of factors contributed to the severity of this accident:
• The safety equipment outlined in the site specific safety plan (SSSP) and task analysis was scaffolding, however this was not used.
• Documentation did not identify the potential hazards on site and this was not properly reviewed or assessed by the principal.
• The principal did not supervise the contractor to ensure that they followed the SSSP and task analysis.

Lessons learnt:
The lesson to be learnt from this accident is the importance of both principals and contractors taking all practicable steps to ensure the safety of a worker. Had steps been followed such as adhering to a comprehensive SSSP and task analysis then this accident should not have happened.

Things you can do:
• Make sure both contractor and principal agree to a comprehensive and complete SSSP and task analysis.
• Follow the appropriate steps that are outlined in the SSSP and task analysis.
• Isolate potential hazards when working at heights; for example install scaffolding.
• If isolation is not possible minimise the risk of harm by using equipment such as safety nets.

Further info:
Refer to Worksafe NZ publication: Best Practise Guidelines for Working on Roofs and Best Practise Guidelines for Working at Heights, sourced from WorkSafe NZ.
INDUSTRY UPDATES

Reform Bill Progress

Why is there a new reform bill?
In New Zealand too many people get injured or killed at work. 75 people per year die on the job, one in ten are harmed. In order to change that, the current Health and Safety law is being reformed. The goal is aimed at bringing down New Zealand’s workplace injury and death toll by 25 per cent by 2020. The new Health and Safety Reform Bill will make every workplace responsible for the health and safety of all workers.

The new law is based on Australia’s which was launched in 2012. Since 2012 Australia has seen a 16% drop in work-related deaths.

Progress of the Legislation
The latest report so far is that the reform bill will come into force in late 2015. There will be a period of at least three months between when the bill is passed and when it comes into force. This will allow those affected by the new laws to be aware of their new obligations.

The help that will be available
The period of time between the law being passed and coming into force will be an excellent opportunity to work with Site Safe to ensure you are ready.

WorkSafe NZ will also be providing various tools to help:

• A Comprehensive Guide to the Act, covering what everyone needs to know about general workplace health and safety.
• Factsheets on key topics.
• An Approved Code of Practice, outlining the Worker Engagement, Representation and Participation requirements in the Act.
• A Good Practice Guide, explaining how workplace risks can be managed, and the requirements under the Health and Safety at Work Regulations.

Growth in Building and Construction Looks Promising

The second National Construction Pipeline Report predicts continued growth in building and construction in New Zealand. The report draws on evidence from Statistics NZ, Pacifiecon NZ Ltd and forecasts by BRANZ covering both residential and non-residential building.

The key findings are:
• construction activity is forecast to grow across New Zealand.
• at least 10% increase is expected every year to 2017.
• the value of construction work undertaken in June 2014 was similar to the last peak in 2007.
• growth centres around Auckland residential housing demand and the Canterbury rebuild.
• growth in Canterbury construction activity is lower than previously forecast.

The report identifies a small number of very large projects each valued at more than $100 million. Central government projects don’t feature largely in the forward work programme outside of Canterbury where nearly $1 billion of public works are scheduled to start in 2015.

To find out more visit: http://www.buildingvalue.co.nz/home.
WorldSkills Oceania 2015

Site Safe is proud to celebrate the success of its member companies who have won awards at the WorldSkills Oceania Competition. The New Zealand team won 18 medals and four of these came from Site Safe member companies.

WorldSkills is an international competition that this year saw 101 competitors from seven countries compete in 30 practical skills for top honours. Competitors are the best of the best in their respective skill areas. Some of the competition areas include: bricklaying, carpentry and electrical installation.

Gold
The New Zealand Defence Force won gold with Chris Robertson in ‘Aircraft Maintenance’, ETCOs Cameron Shailer won gold in ‘Electrical Installations’ and Adam de Pass won gold on behalf of Jackson Plumbing Ltd in the ‘Plumbing and Heating’ category.

Silver
The New Zealand Defence Force won two silvers awards in ‘Aircraft Maintenance’ with Liam Riley and ‘Restaurant Service’ with Kassey Samuels.

Bronze
In Bronze Stacy Smyth from RCR Energy won bronze in ‘Welding’.

Price Changes
As of 1 June this year, there was a slight increase to some of our pricing for our training courses, both for passport level and higher level courses. There is no increase in our membership fees, our consulting fees or our product prices.

We have increased our training pricing because as we are a not-for-profit, we need to be able to continue to maintain the high standard of our training and services in the coming years.

We are pleased that we have been able to keep our membership fees, consulting and products all at the same prices, and as a reminder we are still offering members substantial discounts on training – up to 30% for a 5th year (plus) member.

Go to our website to see the new prices.

Mandarin Building Construction Passport Delivered by Ann Chia

Auckland’s newest Safety Advisor, Ann Chia, brings to Site Safe a unique skill set. Ann is fluent in Mandarin and Cantonese, which means passport courses can now be delivered by Ann herself and do not need to be translated. This May saw the first Mandarin class run by Ann and a full house showed that there was strong demand.

Site Safe is aware that many trainees are not always entirely fluent in English, so delivering some courses in other languages is a logical solution for maximising trainee learning. Ann commented that the course went very well, and that “the trainees were fully engaged in the class”.

To find out more about the Mandarin class please contact the Auckland training centre on 09 634 0365.
Health and Safety Prequalification

Introducing SiteWise (the new AppCon)

Health and Safety Prequalification is a term that’s gaining some traction around New Zealand workplaces, and especially within the construction sector. But what is prequalification, exactly? And why does it matter?

SiteWise is a prequalification system that grades a contractor’s health and safety capability and publishes that grade in a database that can be viewed by main contractors and principal organisations. These organisations use SiteWise to make better-informed contractor selections, making the tendering process simpler and more efficient for everyone involved.

Following the Christchurch earthquake, main contractors and subcontractors alike wanted a system that could speed up the tendering process, particularly in relation to the health and safety systems and capability. The result was an online questionnaire and database called AppCon.

AppCon operated successfully in Christchurch for a few years, but the recent interest in health and safety prequalification saw it begin to expand to include main contractors and other principal organisations around the country.

In order to improve the performance and expand its benefits to all users, Site Safe has built an in-house replacement to the AppCon database and it re-launched it as SiteWise in March 2015.

SiteWise is now easier to use and more adaptable to users’ specific needs. It is built on a software platform that will provide improved performance and greater flexibility.

How does SiteWise work?

Prequalification is designed to really help during the tender process for contract work. It means that the usually complex process of assessing a tendering contractor’s health and safety practices has already been done, saving time and money for both principals and contractors alike.

Businesses (contractors or subcontractors) wishing to be considered for tenders complete a questionnaire on their health and safety systems, including:

- Health and safety accreditation programmes (such as ACC’s Workplace Safety Discount or Workplace Safety Management Practices)
- Site Specific Safety Plans
- Accident/incident reporting and investigation
- Hazard Management
- Training
- Employee and subcontractor engagement
- Monitoring and performance.

The questionnaires are assessed by Site Safe’s qualified health and safety professionals. The assessment results in a grading (green, amber, red) and a detailed report is provided privately to the contractor, along with suggestions for improvement if required.

Major benefits of SiteWise Prequalification:

For Main Contractors/Principals

- View all tendering contractor prequalification results in one place
- Create shortlists based on health and safety assessment results
- View contractor health and safety performance across different worksites
- Streamline your tendering process.

For Subcontractors

- Obtain a snapshot of your health and safety systems performance
- Save time by creating just the one health and safety document for tendering
- Receive feedback from professional health and safety assessors
- Use SiteWise as a framework for improvement in health and safety performance

To find out more visit www.sitewise.co.nz.

Industry Events

Master Painters National Conference and Trade exhibition 19 – 21 June

We’ll be at the National Safety Show 21 – 23 June at the ASB show grounds in Auckland. Visit us to find out more about what we have been up to and have a chat with an advisor with any questions that you have. You’ll find us at stand #359.

Master Builders Conference and exhibition 2 – 5 July

SARNZ Conference 30 – 31 July

ACENZ Conference 30 July – 1 August
Partnering Trade Associations

Receive 10% off your Site Safe membership if you are a member of any of the following trade associations!

Association of Consulting Engineers of NZ (ACENZ)
www.acenz.org.nz

Association of Wall & Ceiling Industries of NZ Inc (AWCINZ)
www.awcinz.org.nz

Auckland Painting Contractors Association
www.akmasterpainters.co.nz

BCITO
www.bcito.org.nz

Brick & Blocklayers Federation of NZ
www.brickandblocklayersfederation.co.nz

Certified Builders Association of New Zealand (CBANZ)
www.certified.co.nz

Climate Control Companies Association
www.ccca.org.nz

Electrical Contractors Association of NZ (ECANZ)
www.ecanz.org.nz

Fencing Contractors Assn of NZ (FCANZ)
www.fencingcontractors.co.nz

Fire Protection Association NZ
www.fireprotection.org.nz

Independent Optical Partners (IOP)
www.iop.org.nz

Master Painters New Zealand Association
www.masterpainters.co.nz

National Flooring Association
www.floornz.org.nz

Northern Amalgamated Workers Union
www.awunz.org.nz

New Zealand Concrete Sawing & Drilling Association (NZCSDA)
www.nzcsda.co.nz

New Zealand Master Concrete Placers Association
www.mcpa.org.nz

New Zealand Sign & Display Association (Inc)
www.signs.org.nz

Civil Contractors New Zealand
www.nzcontractors.co.nz

NZ Engineering, Printing & Manufacturing Union (NZEPMU)
www.epmu.org.nz

NZ Heavy Haulage Association
www.hha.org.nz

NZ Institute of Architects (NZIA)
www.nzia.co.nz

NZ Institute of Building Surveyors
www.buildingsurveyors.co.nz

 Registered Master Builders
www.masterbuilder.org.nz

Roofing Association of New Zealand
www.roofingassoc.org.nz

Scaffolding & Rigging New Zealand (SARNZ) Ltd
www.sarnz.org.nz

Steel Construction New Zealand
www.scnz.org

Window Association of NZ (Inc)
www.wanz.org.nz

Window Film Association of Australia and New Zealand (WFAANZ)
www.wfaanz.org.nz

Helpful Links

• www.worksafe.govt.nz
• www.mbie.govt.nz
• www.acc.co.nz
• www.dbh.govt.nz

Small businesses should take advantage of ‘Regional Business Partners’ – find the contact details of the nearest Regional Business Partner at www.business.govt.nz

Promote your Membership

Head to www.sitesafe.org.nz, under the *member* tab to download your Site Safe Member logo file pack!

Ask an Advisor

Ask Us Anytime Online

Need help with a health and safety task on your construction site or perhaps you’ve got a burning health and safety issue and are not sure who to ask? Ask our Site Safe Advisor experts and they can help you with free advice and information direct to your inbox.

Try out the Site Safe Ask an Advisor expert free service at www.sitesafe.org.nz

Hardcopy Safety Insite Newsletter

If any member wishes to receive this newsletter in hard copy, please let us know and we will arrange for it to be sent to you.

Please contact: 0800 SITE SAFE

General Site Safe Feedback/Enquiry

our contacts:

Upper North Island: 09 634 0365
South Island: 03 348 5788
For general enquiries: comments@sitesafe.org.nz

If you do have feedback regarding our membership newsletter we would appreciate hearing from you. Contact: 0800 SITE SAFE
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