



Seminars and solutions demystify WHS at the Queensland Safety Show in June

Practical know-how will be coupled with practical products and services at the Queensland Safety Show when it returns to the Brisbane Convention & Exhibition Centre from June 21 to 23.

During three busy days, organisers anticipate over 5,000 trade visitors and industry professionals will visit the co-located trade shows hosting over 200 exhibiting companies.

"The people who come to the Queensland Safety Show want to know what they need to do to comply with their safety obligations and where to find the right products and services to put that knowledge into action," says show organiser, Marie Kinsella of Australian Exhibitions & Conferences. "The show lets them do that in a few hours under one roof."

"There's plenty to see, from alcohol and drug testing, breathing apparatus and corporate health right through to vehicle safety. It's a big job for WHS professionals just to keep up with new safety products and a large dedicated work health and safety event like this makes it so much easier."

Complementing the products and services, the Queensland Safety Show will offer a line-up of free manufacturing and workplace safety seminars. Experts including representatives of Safe Work Australia, Norton Rose law firm, the Chamber of Commerce and Industry Queensland, Queensland Fire and Rescue Service and Enterprise Connect will explain how to attract funding, what to expect from new WHS laws, how to meet obligations manageably and within budget.

Speaking ahead of his Queensland Safety Show seminar, Norton Rose partner, Aaron Anderson says it is essential workplaces begin preparing for new workplace safety laws immediately.

"No matter who you are, it will be almost impossible to escape responsibility for workplace safety when the national model Work Health and Safety Act is adopted by Australian states at the end of this year," he says.

Significant changes in all jurisdictions will include:

- Moving from employment as basis for duties, obligations and rights
- New positive duty of care for officers, with due diligence defined
- Broadened consultation obligations – vertical and horizontal
- Broadened union right of entry
- Greater protection against discrimination and coercion
- Emphasis on graduated enforcement but higher penalties
- Easier modification of notices
- Changes to powers of questioning and reduced rights of individuals

New to Queensland will be the power of health and safety representatives to issue PINs and direct a work stoppage.

Sponsored by myosh, the Queensland Safety Show, Materials Handling Show and co-located Queensland Manufacturing Show run from June 21 to 23, 2011, at the Brisbane Convention & Exhibition Centre. For more information, visit qldsafetyshow.com.au, email safetyvisitor@aec.net.au or phone Australian Exhibitions & Conferences Pty Ltd on 03 9654 7773.

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