

ACTU OHS and Workers' Compensation Conference

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27 May 2010



safe work australia

Functions of Safe Work Australia

- Develop national policy on occupational health and safety and workers' compensation
- Develop national model work health and safety legislation
- Develop policy dealing with enforcement and compliance of the model legislation
- Collect and analyse workplace injury and disease data
- Undertake research
- Drive national communications strategies to raise awareness of health and safety at work

Model WHS Regulations

- Licences – general eg. asbestos and high risk work
- Workplaces – facilities, first aid, personal protection equipment and emergency management
- Plant – general
- Chemicals – inorganic lead, asbestos, labelling, safety data sheets and major hazard facilities
- Other hazards – manual tasks, noise, work at heights, remote and isolated work, confined spaces
- Construction – general, excavation, demolition, scaffolding, tilt up, fragile roofing
- Other Hazardous Work – diving, abrasive blasting, fire and explosion



Model Codes of Practice

- Managing risk and consultation
- Workplaces – traffic management, fatigue and first aid
- Plant – general
- Hazardous substances – asbestos, labelling and safety data sheets
- Other hazards – manual tasks, noise, work at heights and confined spaces
- Construction – excavation, demolition, scaffolding and tilt up
- Other hazardous work – diving, abrasive blasting, logging, welding and spray painting



COAG Timeline

Output	Milestones				
	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13
<p>1. Occupational health and safety (OH&S) Nationally uniform OH&S laws, comprising a model Act, model regulations and model codes of practice and a nationally consistent approach to compliance and enforcement policy.</p>	<p><u>Independent review</u> of the national OH&S system: final report to Workplace Relations Ministers' Council (WRMC) by 30 Jan 2009</p> <p><u>Commonwealth:</u> establish new national entity, Safe Work Australia</p> <p><u>All jurisdictions:</u> Safe Work Australia to release model OH&S Bill exposure draft and draft Regulatory Impact Statement (RIS) for public comment by May 2009</p>	<p><u>All jurisdictions:</u> WRMC to agree model OH&S Bill by Sept 2009</p> <p><u>All jurisdictions:</u> Safe Work Australia to commence developing model regulations by Oct 2009</p> <p><u>All jurisdictions:</u> Safe Work Australia to commence developing model codes of practice by late 2009</p> <p><u>All jurisdictions:</u> WRMC to report to COAG, through BRCWG, on reform progress by June 2010</p>	<p><u>All jurisdictions:</u> Safe Work Australia to finalise model regulations by May 2011</p>	<p><u>All jurisdictions:</u> enact model legislation and regulations and complete all related transition arrangements by Dec 2011</p>	

Where to next?

Date	Milestone
Currently	Model WHS Regulations and Codes of Practice are being developed
Late 2010	Public comment period on the model WHS Regulations package
June 2011	WRMC to approve model WHS Regulations package
January 2012	Commencement of model WHS Act and model WHS Regulations

Workers' Compensation

- National Workers' Compensation Action Plan 2010-2013 under development.
- Objectives:
 - o communicate effectively on nationally significant workers' compensation matters
 - o undertake policy research on high priority workers' compensation arrangements
 - o provide evidence to inform and evaluate workers' compensation policy and performance, and
 - o evaluate and report on the Action Plan.



Further Information

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