

MANUAL HANDLING IN THE WORKPLACE

Melbourne Wednesday 18 July 2012

All business sectors have manual handling related hazards: from manufacturing, construction, transport and storage, to health and community services. Hazardous manual handling is the biggest cause of musculoskeletal injuries – accounting for approximately 53% of workers' compensation claims in Victoria.

The good news is that the *Manual Handling in the Workplace* seminar will give you practical information on how an effective manual handling program can control the risk, ensuring you comply with the legislative requirements and maintain profitability by protecting against the impact of costly lost time injuries.

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Every Victorian worker will undertake some form of manual handling as part of their day-to-day duties. Manual handling is hazardous when workers are exposed to physical and psychological demands beyond their limitations.

Managing the risk associated with work-related musculoskeletal disorders (WMSD) requires commitment, consultation, resources and a strategic risk management approach.

Manual handling related injuries sustained by Victorian machine operators have resulted in more than 700 claims, at an average cost of \$52,000 per claimant for treatment and rehabilitation.

The Regulator noted that about 60% of all workplace injuries in Victoria were musculoskeletal injuries such as sprains and strains, bone fractures and ligament damage caused by manual tasks and slips, trips and falls (Worksafe Victoria 2011 Media Release).

WorkSafe will target up to 1000 manufacturers as part of a six-month blitz on manual handling risks. Workplaces found to be exposing workers to hazardous manual handling risk can expect WorkSafe Victoria to act swiftly and enforce compliance through safety improvement notices, prohibition notices and prosecution.

This seminar will provide you with practical solutions to deal with hazardous manual handling in the workplace.

A selection of recent manual handling related decisions:

- The Supreme Court of Victoria awarded an injured worker nearly \$1.4 million in damages after an employer failed to provide a safe system of work and failed to comply with the manual handling Regulations.
- The Supreme Court of Victoria awarded \$240,000 in damages to an injured worker after an employer produced no evidence to support its claim that it had in place “a system of hazard identification, risk assessment and control implementation for all manual tasks”.
- The Court of Appeal in Queensland awarded an injured worker \$640,000 in damages after the employer failed to comply with legislative obligations.
- The Supreme Court of Victoria awarded more than \$1,000,000 in damages to an injured worker after an employer failed to establish, implement and maintain a safe system of work.

TOPICS

- Introduction to hazardous manual handling
- WorkSafe Victoria’s expectations
- Developing a systems approach to managing manual handling risks
- Understanding the physical and psychosocial risks associated with manual handling

WHO SHOULD ATTEND?

- Managers/ Supervisors
- OHS Managers / Coordinators
- Return to Work Coordinators
- Safety Professionals

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PROGRAM

TIME	AGENDA	PRESENTER
8:15am	REGISTRATION	
8:30am	WELCOME & INTRODUCTIONS	David Savio Senior Adviser – WHS Ai Group
8:40am	INTRODUCTION TO HAZARDOUS MANUAL HANDLING This session will provide participants with a national overview and update of key changes and actions required for workplaces in relation to hazardous manual handling in the workplace under the Victorian and Model Work Health and Safety Laws.	David Savio Senior Adviser – WHS Ai Group
9:00am	WORKSAFE VICTORIA'S EXPECTATIONS This session will provide you with the Victorian Regulator's view on hazardous manual handling and the risk of musculoskeletal disorders. The Regulator will present what an Inspector expects to see at the workplace. Examples of sources of risk and risk controls will be shown for some common tasks in industry. 'Reasonably practicable' risk controls will be discussed. Worksafe will discuss their focus on manual handling and tools available to assist industry.	Alison Gembarovski Senior Ergonomist Hazard Management Division WorkSafe Victoria
9:30am	MANAGEMENT OF HAZARDOUS MANUAL HANDLING – A SYSTEMS APPROACH This presentation will provide participants with an understanding of management issues. Practical examples and tools will be provided to assist companies to meet their legal obligations. This session will explore the management of hazardous manual handling including risk management policies and procedures, employee competency, training and supervision.	David Savio Senior Adviser – WHS Ai Group
10:30am	MORNING TEA	
10:50am	UNDERSTANDING THE PHYSICAL AND PSYCHOSOCIAL RISKS ASSOCIATED WITH MANUAL HANDLING Hear from those who have to deal with injuries first hand. This session will provide participants with an appreciation of the physical and psychological risk factors associated with manual handling; and provide practical strategies for effective injury management.	Anjelo Ratnachandra Manager – Injury Management Services (Consultant Physiotherapist) B Physio (Hons) Cert CBT
11:50am	SUMMARY & QUESTIONS	David Savio Senior Adviser – WHS Ai Group
12:00pm	CLOSE	

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SEMINAR REGISTRATION

☐ MELBOURNE

Wednesday 18 July 2012
Australian Industry Group
20 Queens Road
Melbourne VIC 3004

Ai Group Members: \$374

Members: 2 or more participants \$330

Non Members: \$484

Non-members: 2 or more participants \$440

Registration: 8:15am – 8:30am **Seminar:** 8:30am – 12 noon

All prices are GST inclusive. Payment must be made at time of registration. Australian Industry Group – ABN 76 369 958 788

☐ **Ai GROUP MEMBERSHIP NO.**

☐ **NON-Ai GROUP MEMBER**

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Send your registration to:

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