



May, 2010

ONTARIO FATALITIES AND CRITICAL INJURIES

	(January 1 st to March 31 st)	
	2010	2009
Fatalities	4	2
Critical Injuries	32	32

Note: these figures represent preliminary data and are not to be considered official statistics from the Ministry of Labour. Official statistics will be issued quarterly by the Occupational Health and Safety Branch of the Ministry of Labour.

MINISTRY OF LABOUR

There were no fatalities in the month of April. There were however, 7 critical injuries. 5 were falls related (2 being a fall from a ladder), 1 result of being crushed by material, 1 was struck by and 1 was caused by slip/trip hazard.

Of the 7 criticals, five occurred in the residential sector (RESS), 1 in commercial building construction (COMM) and 1 in institutional building construction (INST).

MINISTRY OF LABOUR – Construction Enhanced Enforcement Campaigns

Starting May 1-August 31, 2010 the MOL will be conducting a cross program enhanced enforcement campaign focusing on new and young workers. In the construction program inspectors will be focusing on young worker ages 16-24, new workers (permanent or temporary, with or without experience in the industry), student's co-op placements or apprentices and workers new to the industry.

The construction inspectors will also be focusing on the sectors of residential construction (single family housing, apartment or multiple housing, commercial), highway and road work (repair, asphalt paving, bridge work, underground utilities) and residential/ICI landscaping. Inspectors will be looking at training, proper use of personal protective equipment, fall protection, ladder use, traffic protection, control and WHMIS. They will also be asking workers questions around their rights and duties under OHS, supervisor duties and emergency procedure on the job site.

MINISTRY OF LABOUR - Blitzes

Equipment Focus – June – July, 2010

MSD Focus – September – December, 2010

Falls Focus – September, 2010

MINISTRY OF LABOUR – Class Front-Fixed Rail Ladder

Please be advised that the Ontario Ministry of Labour has posted a new alert regarding the safe use of Class Front-Fixed Rail Ladder (FRL) Fall Protection Systems.

<http://www.labour.gov.on.ca/english/hs/pubs/alerts/a26.php>

In summary, the Ministry of Labour has determined that the design of the Class FRL Fall Protection System used by the worker, which was certified to the standard CSA Z259.2.1-98 Fall Arresters, Vertical Lifelines, and Rails, did not address all potential fall conditions.

In particular, a Class FRL Fall Protection System may not adequately protect workers who fall backward while connected to a vertical rail. Leaning back pulls the trolley's internal braking system off the rail, allowing the trolley to slide down the rail. If a worker falls backwards (as opposed to straight down or inwards) the trolley may not lock, allowing a worker to fall.

IHSA – In Partnership with Employers' Advocacy Council

Spring 2010 Seminar Series

IHSA in partnership with Employers' Advocacy Council present: Spring 2010 Seminar Series
"Tool Box" for Return to Work & Case Management

Monday May 31, 2010

Each session is as follows:

Time: 8:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

Location: Centre for Health & Safety Innovation (CHSI)

Presentation Centre South

5110 Creebank Rd.

Mississauga, Ontario.

L4W OA1

Seminar Cost:

\$250.00 ea. plus GST = **\$262.50** (includes Lunch & Session Materials)

For more information please visit the IHSA website

IHSA – AGM

HSA is hosting its Annual General Meeting on June 14, 2010. The event features a business meeting coupled with informative speakers and networking opportunities. To register for the conference please visit the IHSA website.

IHSA – New Course : Contractor Safety Essentials

IHSA has developed a new course called Contractor Safety Essentials for owners and senior managers of small and medium-sized construction firms. This one day course is broken down into three parts.

1. Improve your bottom line
2. Reduce your liabilities
3. Control your jobsite hazards

For more information please visit the IHSA website.

IHSA – Sloping, Shoring and Trench Boxes

Cave-ins are one of the main hazards in trenching and excavation projects. Vibrations from heavy equipment spoil piles that are too close to a trench wall and weather (e.g., rain, melting snow) are some of the things that can cause a cave-in.

Sloping, shoring and trench boxes are the three best methods to prevent cave-ins, unless you are working with solid rock, workers should never enter a trench that is deeper than 1.2 meters (4 feet) unless one of these controls are in place.

For more information please visit the ILSA website under the Trenching and Excavation page.

TSSA - Harmonized Sales Tax

Harmonized Sales Tax

On July 1st, 2010, Ontario's "Harmonized Sales Tax" (HST) becomes effective. HST will replace the GST currently charged for TSSA services. GST/HST registered customers can claim an input tax credit with the Canada Revenue Agency for HST charged by TSSA.

Ontario's Ministry of Revenue has developed transitional rules for GST/HST charged on billings from May 1st, 2010 to June 30th, 2010.

For further information on Harmonized Sales Tax, please click on the following link to the Government of Ontario's website: <http://www.rev.gov.on.ca/en/taxchange/transition.html>.

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

1) What is HST? HST or Harmonized Sales Tax combines Ontario's provincial sales tax (PST 8%) with the federal goods and services tax (GST 5%) to produce a rate of 13%. Currently, TSSA charges only GST (5%) on its services but this will increase to 13% with the introduction of HST.

2) When does it come into effect? HST will be effective July 1, 2010. Please see the corresponding fee schedule for all applicable programs under the 'Forms and Fees' page for more details on the TSSA website.

THE BULLETIN - KEEPING MEMBERS INFORMED

The Bulletin is not a comprehensive document, but the Committee believes you will find value in receiving a monthly update to health and safety related issues that will affect the residential construction industry and your business.

E-SCRIPTION LIST

The Bulletin is automatically distributed to all 29 local associations. Individual members can be added to the e-scription list by request through email to healthandsafety@ohba.ca.