



OHBA Health and Safety Bulletin

November 2007

Keeping Members Informed

ONTARIO FATALITIES AND CRITICAL INJURIES

	2007 (January 1 st to October 31st)	2006 (same time period last year)
Fatalities	14	27
Critical Injuries	150	183

MINISTRY OF LABOUR -- BLITZ --- LOW RISE RESIDENTIAL CONSTRUCTION ---

Ministry of Labour is focusing on the following areas of concern in the residential sector:

- **Fall Hazards and Protection**
- **Ladder and Scaffold Safety**
- **Trades Qualification and Apprenticeship licensing for compulsory trades**

CRANE BLITZ – CONTROL SYSTEM FOLLOW-UP WITH ESA

The Ministry of Labour has officially completed its blitz on cranes in the province. All Tower cranes in Ontario have been inspected. As a necessary follow-up, due to the persistent electrical problems identified in the crane blitz, Ministry of Labour with Electrical Safety Association inspectors will be conducting visits to ensure that electrical components of cranes are safe and continue to promote crane safety.

REGISTRATION OF CONSTRUCTORS AND EMPLOYERS ENGAGED IN CONSTRUCTION – FORM 1000's

Questions continue to arise about MOL's position with respect to Form 1000's for suppliers, or visitors (i.e. building inspectors etc.) to projects, and whether they must file a Form 1000 with the constructor, which is kept on site.

The program committee has discussed the issue, and considers that all suppliers and short term visitors who come to the project to perform a task or deliver material, are workers, including independent operators etc., and they must have with them a completed Form 1000, for an examination by an inspector, or to provide a copy to the Constructor upon request as required by the regulation.

MOL Inspectors will not be asking Constructor's for the Form 1000's for these short term type of visits. However, an inspector may during an inspection, ask to see a Form 1000 for these workers if they are involved in an event, investigation or they are observed to be working unsafely. Should a Form 1000 not be available, in the vehicle, or on the workers person for examination upon the inspector's request, it will be considered a non-compliance with section 5 of regulation 213/91.

For visitors that are not there to produce active construction work, such as the "coffee truck", or FedEx, no Form 1000 is required, and inspectors will not be asking for one.

MINISTRY OF TRAINING, COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES – COMPULSARY CERTIFICATION REVIEW

Mr. Tim Armstrong has been appointed Special Advisor to the Minister to conduct a review of the current compulsory certification in skilled trades and determine if expanding the current list of compulsory certified trades would benefit apprenticeship completion, health and safety, consumer protection along with the potential economic impact

Compulsory certification means that only certified skilled workers or registered apprentices can work in that trade - as opposed to voluntary certification, where it is left up to individual employers, workers and consumers to determine the level of training required to do the work. Currently, 21 of the more than 140 skilled trades in Ontario that involve apprenticeship require compulsory certification. Specific to residential construction the following 6 trades require compulsory certification:

- Electrician
- Sheet Metal Worker
- Refrigeration and Air Conditioning Mechanic
- Plumber
- Steamfitter
- Hoisting Engineer (crane operator)

OHBA will be actively consulting with our 30 local associations through the Training and Education Committee, however, with Health and Safety as an area of review, members interested in discussing the merits of compulsory certification as it relates to the safety of projects are asked to contact Joe Vaccaro, OHBA Director - Public Affairs.

SAFETY COMES FIRST – WSIB SAFETY GROUP

Join the BILD Safety Group by creating your own local chapter. Eliminate workplace injuries and illnesses; develop and implement a Health and Safety action plan; comply with the Occupational Health & Safety Act (OHSA) and the Workplace Safety and Insurance Act (WSIA); achieve success by pooling resources, mentoring and networking; and attain a financial incentive of up to 6% of WSIB premiums you pay. Contact Lara Coombs at lcoombs@bildgta.ca or 416-391-1997 for more information.

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 .