WSH Institute

OWLinks
A publication of Workplace Safety and Health Institute, Singapore

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NTU and WSH Institute collaborate to deepen understanding on industry ownership of WSH

Nanyang Technological University, Singapore, and WSH Institute are collaborating to understand the individual, cultural and organisational factors in influencing greater ownership of workplace safety and health (WSH) outcomes in Singapore. The project aims to identify the key success factors, propose recommendations and test interventions to inculcate greater ownership of WSH in the industry to advance WSH performance. For more information, click here.

National WSH Statistics for 2016

Senior management could be taken to task for workplace safety violations

MOS (Manpower) Sam Tan said that MOM will consider defining the role of corporate officers in ensuring workplace safety. MOM will take action against companies, and senior management will be held responsible and accountable if their actions breach the WSH Act.

(Source: Today Online)

More...

Musculoskeletal Disorders Infographic

Share this infographic outlining common causes and symptoms, and some actions that employers can take to address this issue, including the development of a prevention

Top 3 Incident Types of Workplace Injuries

Severity of Injury	Falls from Heights (FFH)	Slips, Trips and Falls	Struck by Moving Objects	Caught In/Between Objects	Cut/ Stabbed by Objects	Struck by Falling Objects
Fatal	13 (20%)	6 (9%)	13 (20%)	8 (12%)		6 (9%)
Major	73 (12%)	173 (29%)	73 (12%)	68 (11%)		
Minor		3,315 (27%)	2,031 (16%)		1,525 (12%)	

For the full infographic, click here

The WSH Institute has recently published the key national statistics on WSH for 2016. Click here to download the full report.

Post-event Report for Major Hazard Installations Symposium

The Major Hazard Installations (MHI) Symposium was organised on 20 Oct 2016 at the JTC Summit Theatrette to update MHIs on the impending Safety Case regime. The post-event report is now available here.


Musculoskeletal Disorders

(Source: CCOHS)

programme and encouragement of early reporting from workers.

More...

Relevance: Work-Related Musculoskeletal disorder (WRMSD) is the second most common Occupational Disease in Singapore. We should take an active stance towards the prevention of WRMSD before they become a serious issue.
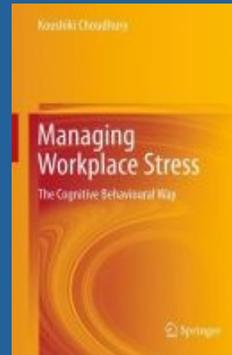

RECOMMENDED READING FROM THE WSH INSTITUTE COLLECTION*
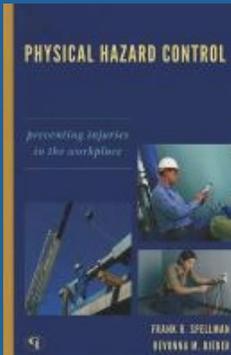
TITLE:
Physical hazard control: preventing injuries in the workplace

AUTHOR:
Frank R. Spellman and Revonna M. Bieber

AREA OF INTEREST:
Physical hazards and controls, Layout, construction, and maintenance of facilities, Safeguarding, lockouts, and tagouts

TITLE:
Managing workplace stress: the cognitive behavioural way

AUTHOR:
Koushiki Choudhury

AREA OF INTEREST:
Job stress, Management and Prevention, Cognitive therapy

Click here to access WSH Institute's e-books collection.

* The WSH Institute Collection is a compilation of WSH-related resources accessible to the public through our collaboration with the National Library Board (NLB).

OWL HIGHLIGHTS

1 Recommended practices for safety and health programs in construction

Date of publication: 2016
Source: OSHA

Construction companies are encouraged to implement proactive programmes that address and manage safety and health issues involving the employers, workers and worker representatives. An effective programme emphasises top-level ownership, participation by employees, and a "find and fix" approach to workplace hazards. A good program will see improvements in production and quality, better employee morale and improved employee recruiting and retention.
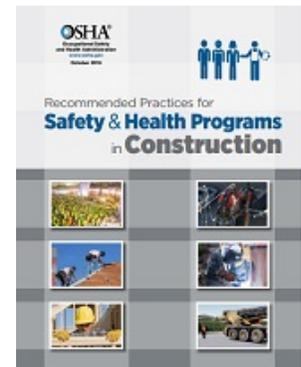
Recommended practices for safety and health programmes in the construction industry include:

(i) Management leadership – Providing the leadership, vision and resources needed to implement an effective programme and creating a culture of safety, facilitating trust, and reinforcing the core elements.

(ii) Worker participation – Participation of workers in establishing, operating, evaluating and improving the safety and health programme.

(iii) Hazard identification and assessment –Identifies/recognises and documents all known and suspected hazards.

(iv) Hazard prevention and control – Preventing injuries using hierarchy of controls: engineering, work practices, administrative, and personal protective equipment.

(v) Education and training – Ensuring that all workers are familiar with hazards and understand safe work practices and control measures

(vi) Programme evaluation and improvement – Assessing programme effectiveness and modifications needed and identifying opportunities to improve the programme.

(vii) Communication and coordination for employers on multi-employer worksites – Ensuring communication and coordination to protect all workers onsite.

2 Occupational safety and health considerations of returning to work after cancer

Date of publication: 2017
Source: IOSH UK

More people are returning to work (RTW) after cancer, but there is little information available relating to the safety and health issues, and effective approaches to risk assessment and risk management for OSH professionals and others to support the RTW process. This project aimed to understand the safety and health implications of RTW during treatment and what employers can do to facilitate RTW for cancer survivors. Highlighting the importance of risk

assessment, it profiled several areas that should be covered, including physical aspects such as journeying to work and mental changes i.e. cognitive impairment following chemotherapy. The project also emphasized that the RTW process could be long term, hence offering flexibility in these workers' RTW journey is important.

Following evidence collected from this project, an OH toolkit was developed to cover WSH issues for RTW after cancer.

To read more, click here

# 3   Managing Europe's ageing workforce: challenges in facts and figures

Date of publication: December 2016
Source: EU OSHA

An infographic on managing Europe's ageing workforce highlights the need for new approaches in human resources and occupational safety and health management in order to enable and motivate people to remain in the workforce. It shows the key elements and benefits of successful age management to the workers and employers, and the importance of risk assessment to address physical and psychosocial risks so as to make adjustments to the work environment to account for changing capacities as worker ages.

To read more, click here

4   How to choose slip-resistant occupational footwear
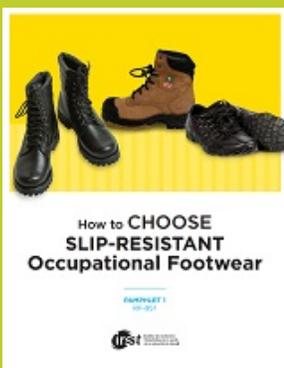
Date of publication: January 2017
Source: IRSST

This information pamphlet provides steps on selecting proper footwear that gives good grip and adequate protection against workplace hazards. It further highlights the importance of understanding factors relating to the worker, the working environment as well as the tasks to be completed before selecting the proper footwear.

Other Useful Resources

- **Key differences found in return-to-work process for MSD and psychological claims** *(At Work)*

- **Sustainability in the workplace: a new approach for advancing worker safety and health** *(OSHA)*

- **Taking a personal interest in WSH** *(WSH Institute)*

- **The importance of root cause analysis during incident investigation** *(OSHA)*

- **Forceful repetition a carpal tunnel risk factor** *(At Work)*

OWLinks is brought to you by **Workplace Safety and Health Institute, Singapore. OWLinks** enables leaders and professionals to keep abreast of the latest WSH development and trends from around the world.

For enquiries or feedback, please email us at *contact@wshi.gov.sg*
Visit the *WSH Institute website* for updates on WSH-related matters, information and events.

Vision: A leading Institute for WSH knowledge and innovations.
Mission: Enhancing WSH through knowledge, innovations and solutions.

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An Initiative of

The Observatory for WSH Landscape (OWL) is a function of Workplace Safety and Health Institute. OWL aims to observe, analyse and communicate changes in the workforce, workplace and working life to researchers, policy makers and industries in Singapore and Asia.