

INSTRUCTOR *Notes*

Spring 2003

Keeping Current

Workers Centre develops new training and information resources

The Program Development Group continues to invite valued input from Workers Centre-qualified instructors along with training participants and worker representatives regarding existing programs and ideas for new education materials. This input is reviewed along with emerging scientific and workplace/worker-based literature, legislative changes and other information. Priorities are then established for the development of new educational materials and updating of existing resources.

New Training Program

Workers in the clothing industry are exposed to many of the risk factors linked with the development of musculoskeletal injuries (MSIs). In fact, they develop these disorders more than any other type of injury. Responding to the specific training needs of these workers, the Workers Centre has developed *Ergonomic Solutions for the Clothing Industry*. This four-hour program focuses on the risk factors and industry-specific ergonomic design/redesign solutions aimed at the prevention of MSIs.

New Educational Videos

Multiple Chemical Sensitivity adds a human face to this often poorly understood medical condition. This video will help those enrolled in the similarly named program to better understand this “real” disorder including both the physical and psychosocial effects. Workers afflicted with this disease explain how their work and home lives have been affected including their frustrations with employers and others who question their suffering.

The Hazards of Behaviour-Based Safety looks to debunk a traditional employer theory that behaviour, including worker carelessness, causes workplace injuries and illness. These systems and the overall philosophy fail to address the root causes of occupational injury, illness and death including working conditions and lack of training. This video reviews a range of negative outcomes including a lack of injury reporting when these so-called injury-fighting systems are

implemented. This video has been included in all Level I Workers Centre programs.

Return to Work introduces the viewer to the legal requirements in Ontario for the “re-employment” of injured workers. The importance of an effective return to work program is reviewed including the involvement

of worker members of joint committees in its development, implementation and ongoing review to ensure functionality. Of equal importance it addresses the need for effective and ongoing communication with injured workers upon their return.

New Resource Lines

The Workers Centre continues to develop bulletins focusing on individual health, safety and/or environmental hazards. These informative one-page documents, known as *Resource Lines*, provide basic hazard information including relevant regulations and guidelines along with various controls aimed at



..... cont'd from page 1

the prevention of occupational and environmental injuries, disease and fatalities. Enclosed in this mailer are two new *Resource Lines*:

- ▲ *Musculoskeletal Injuries of the Upper Body: Pervasive But Preventable*
- ▲ *Manual Material Lifting: A Pain in the Back*

To obtain additional copies of these or other *Resource Lines* please contact a training service representative in your region or visit: http://www.whsc.on.ca/Publications/hazardbulletins/publications_hazbul.html

Training Program Updates

Recent program updates have included Hazards of Conveyor Systems, How to Prepare and Present Appeals (Federal), Confined Spaces and Transportation of Dangerous Goods (TDG). Modifications were made to both the three-hour TDG hazard specific module and the six-hour program designed for more in-depth learning and skill development as required by federal and provincial statutes.

Editors Note: “*Instructor Report Forms*” are important tools for reporting questions, concerns or comments about Workers Centre training. These forms are included with all programs booked through the Workers Centre. As instructors, the Workers Centre encourages you to complete and return these forms to the WHSC Program Development Group following all programs. A sample form has been included in this mailer.