



# Safety Bulletin

Catholic Safety Health & Welfare SA

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## Circulation

Distribute at WHS Committee, consultative meetings, staff meetings.

- Priest, Principal, Manager
- WHS Coordinator
- WHS Committee members
- WHS representatives
- Staffroom notice board
- Other

Responsible entity:

Catholic Church Endowment Society Inc.

[www.cshwsa.org.au](http://www.cshwsa.org.au)

## A WORD FROM THE CHAIR

The Catholic Safety Health & Welfare SA Unit has undergone major changes over the past two months with the resignations of Dave Barrett and Freddie Wright both moving onto SafeWorkSA. We wish them well in their new endeavour and thank them for their work and enthusiasm while working for the CSH&W SA Unit.

I would like to welcome to the CSH&W SA Unit, Dave Parsons and Lucas Parfitt. Lucas will commence on 3<sup>rd</sup> August and Dave will commence on 10<sup>th</sup> August.

Designation of sites are being reallocated across all the WHS Consultants and will be emailed out to the sites in the next couple of weeks.

Stay safe.

As always, if you have any safety issues you wish to raise I can be contacted at: [dpwest@centacare.org.au](mailto:dpwest@centacare.org.au)

Dale P West  
Chairperson SIGC

## Introducing Lucas Parfitt

Lucas started his career as a carpenter, and moved into the safety arena with Flinders Ports Pty Ltd in 2011. During his career Lucas has worked with Transpacific Industries, West Daly Regional Council NT, and Holco Fine Meat Supplies.

Lucas is currently working with St Vincent de Paul Society SA filling in while the WHS Coordinator is on Maternity Leave.

Lucas is looking forward to his role as a WHS Consultant in the Catholic Safety Health & Welfare Unit and commences with us on 3<sup>rd</sup> August 2020.

## Introducing Dave Parsons

Dave started his career in safety as a Systems Manager with Scholle Asia Pacific. During his career Dave has worked with Royal District Nursing Services, Work-Cover Corporation, SafeWork SA, Macweld Industries and ReturnToWorkSA.

Dave was the Catholic Church Endowment Societies Inc. (CCES) Account Manager / Performance Evaluator at ReturnToWorkSA and comes to us with a wealth of knowledge around self-insurance and CCES.

Dave is looking forward to his role as a WHS Consultant in the Catholic Safety Health & Welfare Unit and commences with us on 10<sup>th</sup> August 2020.

## Racking in Stores

Following an incident where racking collapsed, SafeWork SA is reminding business owners to assess where existing and additional stock may be safely stored or displayed, without posing a risk to workers. SafeWork SA are investigating an incident where large length of 3 metre high racking used to display goods for sale collapsed.

Ensure racking is installed and maintained according to the manufacturer's instructions.

Please ensure that for any racking you:

1. Choose a shelving system that is suited to the goods that you need to store or display.
2. Ensure the placement of racking does not prevent easy access to fire exits, firefighting provisions or doorways.
3. Ensure the floor being used is capable of supporting a fully loaded shelving system.
4. Ensure racking is adequately anchored to eliminate movement.
5. Display safety signs at the end of every rack to show the safe working load (SWL) or maximum shelf capacity.
6. Use racking protection posts where appropriate to guard against accidental collisions that may weaken the racking structure.
7. Evenly distribute the goods across the racking, loading lower shelves first.
8. Keep a large enough aisle width to allow easy access with handling equipment such as fork-lift trucks, pallet trucks and customer trolleys
9. Do not let boxes or items overhang the shelves - this reduces the risk of falling goods.
10. Ensure that all posts, beams and supports are installed correctly and locked in place (as per the assembly instructions) before use.
11. Have shelving and racking systems inspected by a competent person on a regular basis to ensure they are maintained in a safe condition.

Further information is available on our [racking page](#) or refer to AS 4084 *steel storage racking*.

Ref: SafeWork SA

## Dreamworld Tragedy

### Lessons for Boards and Executives

The coroner's findings reveal a number of issues with regards to Dreamworld and WHS compliance – including an apparent lack of design overview, specialist input or risk assessments for the design and any of the modifications to the Thunder River Rapids ride.

Furthermore, the relevant previous incidents involving the ride were not well-recorded or known in key parts of the business (some of the incidents were years old), and the failures of the relevant plant involved in the incident (which occurred earlier in the day and in the week leading up) did not appear to be subject to hazard identification or risk assessment prior to being reset, so the opportunity to identify systemic issues was potentially missed.

One of the lessons from the Inquest findings is that reliance on the absence of incidents alone is a poor safety metric – even more so where incident data is not well captured.

Other lessons are that organisations should consider how they use incident data, how they analyse plant and system failures to identify where systemic issues are involved and how they capture “learning from previous incidents.”

There are a number of important implications of WHS leaders in this, that a common “oversight” measure used by senior managers and communicated to the executive / board level include audit findings or results. While external consultants were used for audits, in some cases the focus and scope of those audits was limited and in other cases, the competency of the persons undertaking the “audits” was questioned.

One of the messages for the executives and boards is to consider whether and how the audit results before them are reliable.

## Hazard Quiz

Have a spare few minutes waiting for coffee or during a lunch break? Preparing for an upcoming staff meeting and want to engage other workers in health and safety? This quiz will test your knowledge on what hazards are and eliminating or reducing the likelihood of a hazard resulting in an incident or injury.

**Q1. Hazards are situations or things that may be dangerous to workers' health or safety. Hazards can cause injury or illness. Which of these is a hazard?**

- A. A worn extension cord
- B. Loud music or noises
- C. Stress
- D. All of the above

**Q2. Hazards are often grouped into four categories: physical, chemical, biological and psychological. Which category would sewage fall under?**

- A. Physical
- B. Biological
- C. Chemical
- D. Psychological

**Q3. Hazard assessments are mandated under the Work Health and Safety Act. However, hazard assessments lead to a decrease in productivity**

True or False

**Q4. There are a number of ways to identify hazards in the workplace. One way to identify hazards is to watch everyone work.**

True or False

**Q5. The 3 major sources of hazards come from people, equipment, environment and materials. How can people be a source of hazards?**

- A. they may be more focused on spend rather than safety
- B. They may not be properly trained
- C. They may be distracted by talking with others
- D. All of the above

**Q6. You have listed all the types of work in your workplace, found the hazards linked with those activities and made a checklist to see which of those hazards are present in the workplace. Now you:**

- A. Go have a coffee
- B. Eliminate the hazards
- C. Prioritise the hazards
- D. Make a list of hazards and present it to work health and safety group

**Q7. Once a hazard assessment is completed, when should the employer re-assess the workplace?**

- A. Never, once I enough
- B. Monthly
- C. Yearly
- D. As often as possible

**Q8. Once hazards are identified; they must be eliminated if possible. What is an example of hazard elimination?**

- A. Putting up warning signs
- B. Replacing a frayed electrical cord
- C. Throwing out yesterdays' coffee
- D. All of the above

**Q9. When it is impossible to eliminate a hazard, the employer is required to control the hazard as much as possible. An example of controlling a hazard is:**

- A. Setting up work procedures and providing workers training
- B. Using hearing protection
- C. Putting noisy machinery in a separate room
- D. All of the above

**Q10. Once hazards have been identified and controlled, the hazard assessment process is finished.**

True or False

## BeUpstanding

Over the years, we have seen our jobs get more and more sedentary, even our lifestyles seems to favour the 'couch' to watch our favourite shows on Netflix, Stan etc.

Safe Work Australia is proud to support [BeUpstanding](#) – a free evidence-based program designed to address the WHS risks associated with prolonged sitting.

Employers and businesses can [sign up](#) to the BeUpstanding trial to gain access to resources and guidance on how to encourage workers to stand up, sit less and move more.

This year has seen an increase in desk-based workplaces transitioning to, or expanding the working from home arrangements to minimise the risk of exposure to COVID-19 in the workplace. Workplaces across the country have had to adapt their policies and procedures and consult with workers to ensure WHS requirements are met even if workers are at home.

The BeUpstanding toolkit includes fact sheets, videos and email templates which are tailored to desk-based workers working from home due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Go to the [BeUpstanding website](#) for more information.

BeUpstanding strategies are designed to address organisational structures and the work environment (i.e. places), and support individuals (i.e. people) to create and sustain a dynamic workspace where sitting less and moving more is the norm.

Three key areas that BeUpstanding explores are:

### Organisational

Establish supportive organisational policies and practice (e.g. regular standing breaks; standing meetings; wear your sneakers to work day)

### Environmental

Make environmental changes to the workspace to encourage less sitting and more movement (e.g. fewer chairs in meeting rooms; move bins / printers to a central location)

### Individual

Provide education on the benefits of sitting less and incidental activity; facilitate self-monitoring of prolonged sitting

## Hazard Quiz—Answers

| Question | Answer |  |
|----------|--------|--|
| 1        | D      | Remember, a hazard is anything that could potentially harm workers. A worn extension cord can cause an electrical fire or shock. Loud music or noises can cause hearing loss, and stress can affect both physical and mental health.   |
| 2        | B      | Sewage and wastewater may contain bacteria, fungi, parasites and viruses that can cause intestinal, lung and other infections. Bacteria, fungi, parasites, viruses, plants and insects are potential biological hazards.   |
| 3        | False  | The benefits of performing a hazard assessment may include; reducing the number and severity of workplace injuries, reducing production losses as well as increasing work participation and ownership of workplace health and safety. These can lead to an increase in worker productivity.  |
| 4        | True   | Yes! Watching everyone work is called task analysis. The employer breaks down the workers actions into individual tasks, and identifies the hazards involved with each. The commonly used methods of identifying hazards include physical inspections, process analysis, and incident investigation findings.  |
| 5        | D      | Lack of training, an emphasis on speed over safety, being distracted can all result in at-risk behaviours; therefore people can be a source of hazards.  |
| 6        | C      | Your next step is to prioritise. No matter how severe or minor, all hazards should be controlled. By assessing the level of risk, you can identify the most hazardous jobs, tasks or work areas and prioritise work activities for control.  |
| 7        | D      | In general workplace hazards should be assessed as often as possible. Regular assessments or inspections reinforce worker awareness of the importance of health and safety. Reassessment should also be conducted when there are changes to work process, regulatory requirements or workplace environment.  |
| 8        | B      | Elimination of hazards such as replacing a frayed electrical cord means that the hazard no longer exists. Warning signs do not eliminate a hazard, they just let you know that it is there. And as for yesterday's coffee, well today's coffee will be yesterday's coffee tomorrow!  |
| 9        | D      | They are all examples of how to control a hazard. When controlling hazards, priority must be given to using engineering controls (e.g. putting noisy machinery in a separate room); then administrative controls (e.g. work procedures and training); personal protective equipment (e.g. hearing protection) should be the last in line of control. |
| 10       | False  | Once hazards have been identified and control procedures are established, the employers must give the information to all workers involved. They need to tell workers what the hazards are, how they are being controlled and the workers responsibilities regarding the hazards.   |