



## **WHAT'S HAPPENING?**

**August 2006**

Congratulations to Dean Abela who has passed competency assessment and is now a full Member.

Welcome to our new Associate Members:

 Rando Nicolosi  
MCE

Queensland

 Peter Stransky  
Stransky

Partners

West Australia

### **Reminder for the 2006 Annual Conference**

Are you coming? Have you registered?  
Have you thought about inviting customers?  
RSVP date is September 1.

### **Safety is No Accident**

WorkSafe Bulletin 06-03 (Fatality) - No warning with deadly lack of oxygen in air.

<http://tinyurl.com/mtwyh>

### **Mulgrave (NSW) Factory Fire – A Pictorial Record via NSW FB**

[http://www.fire.nsw.gov.au/education/gallery/incidents/2006/mulgrave/?picture=img\\_generator.php&pic=16](http://www.fire.nsw.gov.au/education/gallery/incidents/2006/mulgrave/?picture=img_generator.php&pic=16)

Please relay links that you would like to share via What's Happening to [jdbaker@ozemail.com.au](mailto:jdbaker@ozemail.com.au)

### **Dangerous Goods Emergency Plans**

The NSW Fire Brigades have posted a number of downloadable files on the requirements for dangerous goods emergency plans.

Included is a statement that "If you are unfamiliar with the process of assessing dangerous goods hazards and risks, or not sure that you will be able to develop a comprehensive document, the NSWFB recommends that you engage the services of a qualified dangerous goods consultant who will be able to assist you in the development of a comprehensive and functional Emergency Plan".

This site also includes a hyperlink to the AIDGC website home page.

<http://www.fire.nsw.gov.au/business/guidelines/dangerousgoods.php>

### **Draft Chemicals Standard and Code – Will Include Dangerous Goods**

The ASCC\* has agreed to release the draft *National Standard for the Control of Workplace Hazardous Chemicals* for public comment.

The draft standard will consolidate two existing standards for chemicals classification and labelling, the *National Model Regulations for the Control of Workplace Hazardous Substances* and the *National Standard for the Storage and Handling of Workplace Dangerous Goods*. Provisions for managing risk associated with chemicals in the workplace will now be

## AIDGC BOARD

At the AGM on August 3, the following Members were elected to the Board:

 Rick Hall  
President

 Ross  
Underwood  
Vice President

 Sean Page  
Vice President

 Tony Gardiner  
Secretary/  
Treasurer

 Terry Grainger

 Peter Hunt

 John Baker  
Committee  
Members

contained in a single national standard.

The new draft standard will ensure Australia remains in line with international best practice in workplace safety.

A draft *Code of Practice for the Control of Workplace Hazardous Chemicals*, accompanied by a draft Regulatory Impact Statement and Public Discussion Paper will also be circulated for comment.

These documents, and their supporting Discussion Papers and Regulation Impact Statements will be published on the ASCC website in September 2006.

\* The Australian Safety and Compensation Council (ASCC) is the successor to the National Occupational Health and Safety Commission (NOHSC) and their website is: <http://www.ascc.gov.au/>

### **National Safety Council of Australia**

Peter Hunt recently made a presentation on behalf of AIDGC to a Dangerous Goods Seminar conducted by NCSA. It was so successful that they have requested speakers for other dangerous goods Seminars they are running down the east coast of NSW. Sean Page has agreed to represent our interests at the next Seminar to be held at Newcastle on September 20.

If you are interested in checking out their website: [www.nasca.org.au](http://www.nasca.org.au)

### **Gas Fumes Kill Three in Quebec Cosmetics Factory**

Three people died on the weekend after breathing argon gas in a cosmetics factory at Lac Brome, about 100 kilometres east of Montreal in the Eastern Townships. A 30-year-old Montreal man died Saturday when he was overcome by the gas while welding inside a large metal tank at the factory. A man and a woman who tried to rescue the victim were also overcome by the gas, and died in hospital on Sunday. Argon gas by itself is not toxic, but in an enclosed area it can replace all the oxygen, smothering the victims. The Emballages Knowlton plant produces and packages products such as makeup and shampoo. Quebec's workplace safety board, the coroner and the provincial police are investigating. Safety board spokesman Antoine Tousignant said the welder was not properly equipped for working in a closed space. "It's certain that there was a shortage of safety equipment," Tousignant said. "No accident should occur if all the safety rules are followed." Provincial police Const. Marc Butz said the names of the victims would not be released until he was sure all of the families of the victims had been notified.

<http://www.cbc.ca/canada/montreal/story/2006/07/31/fatal-gas.html>

Source: CBC News. Canada, Montreal. August 4, 2006

### **Board Sub-Committees – Future Projects**

At the last Meeting on August 28 the AIDGC Board considered and discussed suggestions for future projects to be tackled by the various Sub Boards.

Do you have any interests or suggestions that YOU would like considered? Have you any ideas for future direction for the AIDGC?

If so you can contact any of the Sub-Board Members direct, or email

## DIARY DATE

\* September 15

Annual Conference

Crowne Plaza Darling  
Harbour

November

Date to be advised

Visit to new CSIRO  
fire test laboratory at  
North Ryde followed  
by a talk by CSIRO  
technical personnel  
on various subjects.

[robyn@f1.net.au](mailto:robyn@f1.net.au) with your ideas. The Sub-Boards are already investigating suggestions from Member Dean Hawthorn on competency assessment for Transport operators and Member Scott Young, who suggests forming an alliance with IATA.

The following Members have volunteered to assist the AIDGC Board with their specialized expertise in various fields:

### Finance Sub-Committee

Russell McKenzie is to continue in this role.

### Technical Sub-Committee

Peter Hunt, Barry Bone, Frank Bollard, Wal. Southwell, Scott Young

### Examination Sub-Committee

Ross Underwood, Terry Grainger, Peta Lywood, (Brisbane), Sean Page.

### Marketing Sub-Committee

John Baker, Steve Sylvester, Carol Britton, Dean Hawthorn.

### Queensland Sub-Committee

Peta Lywood, Terry Grainger, Sean Page

### Conference Sub-Committee

Sean Page, Chris. Flannery, Barry Eadie, Vladimir Diakiw

Steve Turner volunteered to be on stand-by.

## **Continuing Professional Development**

The Board approved the final CPD proposal presented to Members, for comment, by Ross Underwood at the Annual General Meeting. Ross and Terry Grainger have been instrumental in developing this CPD code that will be an important facet of AIDGC membership.

Ross said that he had modeled the system of that currently in operation with the Institute of Engineers, with some variation:

- ❖ 120 weighted hours of CPD during a 3 year period
- ❖ Members should keep records and make records available
- ❖ Be aware that these records are auditable, so you should keep a diary or spreadsheet.
- ❖ It will be an honour system.

Each of the six allowable activities will have a different weighting factor.

Multiply actual hours spent on a particular activity by the relevant weighting factor.

Target is 120 weighted hours per 3 year period.

People outside Sydney with particular difficulties in attending technical seminars etc. will be able to take advantage of presenting papers, researching topics, that they are agreeable in allowing to be distributed to other members.

You will be able to keep in touch with this change by logging into the 'Members' Only' page on the AIDGC website.

## **WorkCover News**

Keep your eye out for the next issue of WorkCover News in September. AIDGC has a 'new' advertisement – our ads. always result in increased activity on our website and we would be interested in your comments.

## **Using the AIDGC Logo**

Registration of our logo has been completed. The scope of registration covers:

- Printed matter and publications including books, booklets, pamphlets, brochures, handbooks, printed forms and posters, instructional and teaching materials.
- Services to promote the interchange of ideas and information, discuss developments in the industry and present members before authorities, professional bodies and the general public.
- Provision of information about the storage and handling of dangerous goods; services in this class rendered by an association of dangerous goods storage and handling specialists to its members.
- Education and training in relation to dangerous goods, and safe storage and handling of dangerous goods; electronic publication of information about dangerous goods including online internet publication.

Registration is for 10 years, after which we can renew it provided we have been and still are using the trade mark.

Our By-Laws detail how full Members can use the logo.

## **Keeping in Touch**

If you have any suggestions or queries please do not hesitate to contact the AIDGC Executive Officer [robyn@f1.net.au](mailto:robyn@f1.net.au) or leave a message with the AIDGC paging service 02 9430 6739 and I will return your call.