



Celebrating 20 Years!

Labourco

NEWS

July 2006

Welcome to the latest edition of **Labourco NEWS!**

It would appear that the new financial year is bringing with it challenges for both employers and employees alike.

It has been announced that BlueScope Steel, Australia's largest steel maker has again lowered its profit forecast due to the effects of higher iron ore prices. Closing its unviable Port Kembla tin mill will put 250 workers out of a job. In addition another 250 jobs in different areas of the company will also be lost.

Through the media we continue to be informed of unscrupulous employers who are taking advantage of the recent Industrial Relations changes. Keep in mind that these unscrupulous companies do not represent all employers. Labourco for one is an industry leader in supporting fair pay and conditions for casual workers and we've been doing it for over 20 years!

On a positive note Smorgan Steel, based in Newcastle, has reportedly won a major contract to supply 26,000 rail wheels to South Africa with supply over an 18 month period. Already 700 wheels have been produced for the contract which will continue until June 2007.

In the Upper Hunter yet another major announcement has the area "on its toes" but this time it's good news for the mining sector with a merger between local independent mining company Excel Coal and US based Peabody Energy appearing imminent. Peabody Coal is reportedly the world's largest energy company and it is thought that such a merger will bring substantial investment in jobs and infrastructure in the Hunter



Introducing Janet Lee,
Labourco's Safety and Rehab Manager

Janet has had a total of 10 years experience in rehab and occupational health and safety, having held the position of Safety and Rehab Manager with the Labourco group of companies for the past 3½ years.

Holding a Bachelor of Applied Science in Occupational Therapy and a Graduate Diploma in Occupational Health and Safety Janet finds great satisfaction in promoting occupational health and safety and injury prevention.

It is a well known fact that Labourco continually seeks to work with client companies in a bid to improve safety and reduce injuries. Janet recalls that one of the most satisfying projects she has undertaken was working with a client in implementing their new safety system following an injury related WorkCover investigation. So successful was this implementation that following a safety audit the client received a 15% discount of their Workers Compensation premium!

Singleton Office has moved!

The Labourco Upper Hunter branch is now located in the same office as Joblink Plus located at:

173 John Street
Singleton NSW 2330
P 65 714533
F 65 713533

WAY TO GO LABOURCO!



Cost Effective
Staff Selection

Labourco NEWS

ACCIDENT / INJURY / HAZARD REPORTING

No matter how serious or trivial an accident may seem the correct procedure must be adhered to. It is as follows:

Report immediately to the relevant supervisor or first aid officer, if requiring attention and immediately notify your Labourco Branch.

Ensure that the supervisor and your Labourco Branch is given full details of the accident and an Accident/Incident/Hazard form has been completed and forwarded to your Labourco Branch.

Remember an investigation should be carried out as soon as possible to enable the accurate gathering of details. The results are far better when fresh in the minds of the people concerned. A form is available to aid in this procedure and ensure a systematic approach.

Dangerous occurrences may require a report to be sent to WorkCover. This action is additional to completion of the usual Incident/Accident form and your supervisor or Labourco will do this.

Remember if you notice any condition, practice or method of working which appears dangerous, report it to your supervisor immediately and complete a Hazard n Accident/Incident form. Unsafe conditions or actions cause accidents that result in injury or property damage.

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REVISED 30TH AUGUST 2006 DEADLINE!

WorkCover National Certificates of Competency

Changes to the OH&S Regulation mean that all pre 1st April 1996 licences, including:

Scaffolding, Dogging, Rigging: SB, SI, SA, DG, RB, RI, RA

Load Shifting: LF, LO, LL, LB, LS, LE, LD

Pressure Equipment: BB, BI, BA, TO, ES

Crane & Hoist: CT, CP, CV, CD, CB, CN, CS, C2, C6, C1, C0, HP, PB, HM, WP

have until 30th September 2006 to be converted to the new National Certificate of Competency.

All pre 1st April 1996 licences that are not converted will not be recognised after 1st September 2007.

REVISED 1ST SEPTEMBER 2006 DEADLINE!

WorkCover Construction Induction Certificate (Green Card)

Changes to the OH&S Regulation mean that all pre 29th March 2004 training certificates and "green cards" will not be recognised after 2nd September 2006.

For more information:

Call WorkCover on 13 10 50 or visit the WorkCover website: www.workcover.nsw.gov.au