

Date 18 November 2008

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Department of Labour Moving Forward on Occupational Health

*"Healthy people in Safe and
Productive Workplaces"*



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Workplace Health and Safety Strategy

Strategy vision:

*“Healthy people in safe
and productive
workplaces”*



WORKPLACE HEALTH AND SAFETY STRATEGY FOR NEW ZEALAND TO 2015

Rautaki mō te Haumaru me te Hauora o te
Wahi Mahi mō Aotearoa ki te 2015

Hon Ruth Dyson, Associate Minister of Labour

June 2005



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Workplace Health and Safety Strategy

Three outcomes:

- Government leadership
- Preventative workplace cultures
- Industry and community leadership



“Healthy people in safe and productive workplaces”

- Context:
 - Government
 - Department of Labour
 - Workplace services



“Working Together to
Make New Zealand
Workplaces Work Better”.



“Working Together to make New Zealand Workplaces Work Better”.

- NOHSAC occupational disease “burden” report
- Defining the “need”
- Capacity, capability
- Planning, targeting, prioritising
- Intervention Logic



Workplace Services Role

The Health and Safety in Employment Act 1992

- Enforcement
- Modern Regulation
- Information and Guidance
- Advice?
- Prevention
- Surveillance



Surveillance v Activity (outputs)

- Serious Harm Reporting
- NODS reporting
- All of Government response?



NODS Panels

- Asbestos and Respiratory
- Chemical and Solvents
- Musculoskeletal/Ergonomic
- Infectious diseases
- Dermatitis
- Physical Hazards
- Psychosocial





Asbestos and Other Occupational Lung Diseases in New Zealand

1992-2007



www.nzdoe.govt.nz

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What of the Health Challenge in H&S?

Fiscal limitations

Investigation

Assessment

Enforcement

Historic exposures

Specialists



Modern Regulator

- Transparency
- Accountability
- Consistency
- Proportionate
- Targeted





Workplace Health and Safety Strategy

National Priorities

- Airborne substances
- Manual Handling
- Psychosocial work Factors
- Vulnerable workers
- Small business
- High-risk industries
- Workplace Vehicles
- Slips, trips and falls



Four activity streams:

- Information (including research)
- Legislation
- Improving workplace performance
- Improving services to workplaces





Health and safety in hairdressing

► AN EVALUATION OF HEALTH AND SAFETY MANAGEMENT PRACTICES IN THE HAIRDRESSING INDUSTRY



Leptospirosis

► REDUCING THE IMPACT ON NEW ZEALAND WORKPLACES



Occupational Health Strategy

Additional emphasis on Health intervention

Redefining the “need”

Prioritisation of resources

Surveillance

NODS and NODS Panels

Specialist / technical staff



Working Together to Make New Zealand Workplaces Work Better

- Working towards the same goal
- Reducing current exposures and preventable harm
- Sticking to your knitting
- Collaboration

- Dame Carol Black's Review of the health of Britain's working age population
- *'Working for a healthier tomorrow'*



Thank you

