



Issue: 12

Site: All

Date: December 2009

Address from the Managing Director

Welcome to the 4th and final issue of the Safety Newsletter for 2009. Again I would like to thank you all for your efforts over the last twelve months that have seen no lost time injuries and for your input into your site's safety meetings.

Issue Resolution Forms

In the December 2008 issue of this newsletter I included a table comparing issue resolution forms raised and resolved over the 2007 and 2008 years, here I have also included the 2009 year for comparison:

	Site	2007	2008	2009
Forms raised	SQ	54	72	47
	NQ	185	181	117
	WM	58	74	48
Forms resolved	SQ	70	56	64
	NQ	159	171	109
	WM	54	73	51
Avg. days taken for resolution	SQ	193	98	156
	NQ	48	81	200
	WM	38	37	21
Rating	SQ	-0.28	-0.48	-0.61
	NQ	0.26	0.44	-0.53
	WM	-0.13	0.45	-0.35

The performance rating has been calculated using the number of forms raised and resolved for the period and takes into account the number of employees at the site. A rating of 0 is the minimum standard expected and equates to one form raised and resolved per employee per month.

The comparison between 2008/2009 shows that more effort is required over the next 12 months to ensure *Issue Resolution Forms* are being used to report issues as well as to offer suggestions for safety, quality or maintenance improvements.

Reports on employees

We welcome the following employees who have recently commenced employment with Conundrum:

• **Northern Quarries:**

Briony Rowley – Trainee Weighbridge Officer

Daniel Wilson – Trainee Quarry Face Dump Truck Operator

I would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a happy Christmas and a safe, enjoyable break over the festive season.

Ron Kerr, Managing Director

Employees Safety Noticeboard

Guarding Workshop

On 8th October Ron and Charles Kerr, Matt Beaumont and I attended a Guarding workshop coordinated by the CMPA. The aim of the session was to discuss issues around plant guarding within our industry in order to raise the knowledge of participants and to develop industry agreed best practice. The workshop included a presentation by Mick Cayless from WorkSafe who provided an overview of the legal requirements around guarding and gave some illustrative examples of compliant and non-compliant plant guarding.

The following points arose out of the workshop:

- Mesh guards should limit access to nip points and be securely attached.
- Size of mesh should be suitable for the distance of the guard from the nip point, e.g. if the guard is within finger distance of the mesh point, the mesh should be fine enough to limit finger access to the nip point.
- Isolation of machinery prior to access of guarded areas can be achieved by a variety of methods including lanyards through guards or more sophisticated, commercially available lockout solutions or electrical gate switches or safety locks.
- Careful thought on the design of the plant should be conducted to eliminate issues.
- Operation of the plant should be conducted to limit spillage so that the need to access to danger areas for maintenance or cleaning is reduced. This limits issues associated with removing and replacing guards and accessing guarded areas.
- Appropriate safety signage at site to ensure operator safety.
- Preventative maintenance program should be enforced.
- Operator training/induction to be conducted to ensure operators are aware of risks, control measures and proper operating procedure.
- Regular competency assessment of operators.
- Supervision & auditing of procedures to be regularly conducted.
- For conveyors, lanyards should be accessible to the operator where ever they may be exposed to a nip point.

Tom Kerr, OHS Manager



Upcoming Dates of Importance

Safety Meetings

Upcoming *Site Safety Meetings* include:

- 1 – Workplace Attitudes and Behaviour & Site Communication
19th January 2010
- 2 – Personal Protective Equipment
2nd February 2010
- 3 – Take 5
16th February 2010
- 4 – Equipment Isolation and Lockout and Plant Guarding
16th March 2010

Safety Newsletter

The next *Safety Newsletter* [CH 4.xv.0860] will be published in March 2010