

26 March 2008

OHS and WORKCOVER – VICTORIA – UPDATE MARCH 2008

REVIEW OF VICTORIAN ACCIDENT COMPENSATION ACT

Members have previously been advised of the review of the Victorian *Accident Compensation Act 1985*.

Peter Hanks QC has now released a discussion paper for public comment. Submissions responding to the discussion document will be accepted until **2 May 2008**. The discussion paper and information on how to make a submission are available at www.compensationreview.vic.gov.au.

Ai Group will be making a submission in response to the discussion paper, on behalf of our members. We also encourage members to make submissions outlining issues of particular concern to them. Submissions do not have to be lengthy or detailed.

Ai Group's initial submission in response to the Terms of Reference can be found at www.aigroup.asn.au.

If you wish to be added to our "special interest group" to participate in member forums and receive detailed updates, please send your details to gsmith@aiigroup.asn.au.

For further information contact Tracey Browne, Manager National OHS Policy and Membership Services – 0438 207 799; tbrowne@aiigroup.asn.au.

COMPLIANCE CODES – PUBLIC COMMENT COMMENCED 28 MARCH 2008

When the Occupational Health and Safety Act 2004 came into effect on 1 July 2005, Codes of Practice ceased to have a legal status. Since that time they have continued to be seen as guidance to assist employers and employees to understand what is expected to achieve compliance.

The Act established a new instrument to replace the Codes of Practice. These instruments are called "**Compliance Codes**". If an employer complies with the Code, they will be deemed to comply with the part of the Regulations or Act to which they relate.

The first round of Compliance Codes were released for public comment on Friday 28 March 2008, with comment accepted until **24 April 2008**.

Summary

- REVIEW OF VICTORIAN ACCIDENT COMPENSATION ACT
- COMPLIANCE CODES – PUBLIC COMMENT

Assistance

Ai Group's BIZassist Infoline

1300 78 38 44

REMEMBER TO HAVE YOUR MEMBER NUMBER HANDY

Training

Safety

- 5 Day Course for HSRs, Managers and Supervisors
- Red Card Training (construction induction)
- HSR Refresher Course
- OHS in the Workplace

Workers Compensation

- Compliance and Claims Management
- Role of a RTW Coordinator
- Return to Work for Managers and Supervisors
- Navigating the Premium Maze

Advice No. VIC 003/08

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The draft Compliance Codes, together with information about how to make comment, are available at www.worksafe.vic.gov.au. The following Codes are included in the package:

Workplace Amenities	First Aid
Asbestos Removal	Asbestos Management
Falls in Construction	Foundries
Confined Spaces	Lead
Communicating across Languages	

If you have any specific issues you would like reflected in Ai Group's submissions, contact Tracey Browne, Manager National OHS Policy and Membership Services on 0438 207 799, or tbrowne@aigroup.asn.au.

Members are also encouraged to make their own submissions to WorkSafe.

Ai GROUP TRAINING FOR APRIL AND MAY

For more information on the following courses/seminars, go to www.aigroup.asn.au or contact Sarah McCormick on (03) 9867 0224.

Workers Compensation

Workers Compensation – RTW for Supervisors and Managers	3 April or 6 May
Workers Compensation – Compliance and Claims Management	16 April or 13 May
Role of the Return to Work Coordinator (2 day course)	24 April & 1 May
Return to Work Conversion Course NSW	15 April (am)
Return to Work Conversion Course QLD	15 April (pm)

Occupational Health and Safety

Construction Induction (Red Card)	18 April or 15 May
Initial Level for HSR's, Supervisors & Managers (VWA 5 day approved program)	1, 8, 15, 22, 29 May
Dangerous Goods & Hazardous Substances	10 April
Safeguarding Machinery	22 April

Seminars

Managing Ill and Injured Workers	18 April
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TRACEY BROWNE
Manager, National OHS Policy and Membership Services