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Challsafe Area Manager



Julie Sipple

Workplace Safety Co-Ordinator

*"Safety First is
Safety Always" -
Charles M. Hayes*

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SAFE

NEWS

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WELCOME ABOARD

Challsafe would like to take this opportunity to welcome Julie Sipple to her role as Co-Ordinator—Workplace Safety.

An introduction from Julie Sipple

"Hi everyone, my name is Julie and I am pleased to have recently joined the Challsafe team.

I am looking forward to meeting you all, hopefully in the near future, as I get to visit all the Challenge sites.

I'd firstly like to thank the team here at Carthage street for the terrific welcome I have received and I am very excited to be working in the Challsafe department with the famous 'Mr. Movember' Stephen Lasscock.

I've been a part of Challenge for three months now, working in the residential field as an Educator. My admiration goes out to the hard working staff in the Group Homes and I thank them sincerely for their help and passing on their knowledge during this time.

As to my previous career before Challenge, I can truly express that I know the meaning of 'hard work', having spent seven years in a processing plant.

My experience as a Quality Assurance Technician was extremely beneficial as a learning tool, giving skills and knowledge that I can now use in my Challsafe position.

I look forward to hearing from you all with any exciting and interesting new 'health and safety' ideas.

Let's network and share the prospect of improving our workplace environment.

Once again I look forward to meeting you all soon, so let's 'live, work and play' safely and always be vigilant of the people working around you and most importantly yourself.



New WHS Legislation

In January 2012, the NSW Government will be introducing new Work Health Safety (WHS) laws.

Challsafe has been very busy attending conferences regarding the new changes and also modifying policies and procedures so that we comply.

Some major modifications have been made to these policies and procedures.

There are some changes in the areas of consultation, due dili-

gence, notifying incidents and your responsibilities as a worker.

There have been a number of codes of practice released on the Safe Work Australia website that effect our industry.

How it effects you:

Basically the changes will not greatly effect the way you do your job.

Challsafe will release Safety Alerts regularly addressing and updating you on changes in the legislation.

The main area for consideration is

the worker must act within the policies and procedures set out by the organisation or they may be liable for any injury or property damage.

You will be well informed in the months to come of the legislative changes.

Challsafe would like to wish every one a Merry Christmas and a safe new year.

A lot of us take holidays at this time of year, it is a fantastic time to catch up with family and friends. The only problem is, we normally travel hundreds of kilometers and over indulge on food and alcohol.

Please keep the following in mind this Christmas:

If you are not used to travelling long distances, please plan your rest breaks. There is nothing to be gained and everything to be lost if you just "push through" for that extra 30 minutes of driving. Stop for 15 minutes or so, stretch the legs, have a coffee.

Staring out the windscreen can be very boring and shuts your brain down. A break can bring it back to life, and may save yours.

At the start of your holiday, there is no rush to get to your destination. If you plan your trip you will get there in plenty of time. If you are rushed or speed, the chances of having a collision increase. If you get booked it will only add to your frustration and the holiday won't start well.

When the holiday is over, you may feel rested and ready to head back to work... This is one of the most dangerous times to drive as you have been relaxing and over indulging and you will, in fact, be very tired.

Don't rush to get back home, plan your trip and take plenty of breaks. Also remember, everyone else on the road will be in the same state as you, so it pays to be vigilant.

Have a safe Christmas and New Year, we want to see each and every one of you return for the New Year.

P.S Don't get drunk and ride your son's new skateboard, it will only end in tears!!!!

"You are expected to do what you ought to know"



LOST TIME INJURIES

Lost time injuries are a major concern for any organisation. Challenge has received it's fair share over the years.

This is where Challsafe comes in to play, helping you to improve your work environment to reduce the possibility of an injury in the workplace.

In September of this year, Challsafe introduced the Three Steps to Safety (3S2S) program, which details a very basic set of rules to follow to manage risks and prevent injuries. The 3S2S program has already had a significant impact on our incident and injury rate.

We will always record a high number of incidents due to the ease of access to the new reporting system and transparent reporting procedures.

Our injury level though is something that we can control and this is shown in the results from the last couple of months.

From July to October 2010, 125 Incidents were reported with 53 injuries to staff and clients.

The same period in 2011, there were 122 reported incidents but only 34 injuries to staff and clients.

This is a significant improvement and I put it all down to the hardworking staff

and employees in our organisation.

In fact, the organisation has not suffered a time lost injury since mid September of this year.

Well done to everyone for their efforts in improving your own work safety and work practices. Everyone wants to go home in the same condition that they arrived to work, and we are all working towards that same goal.

Thank you and well done.

