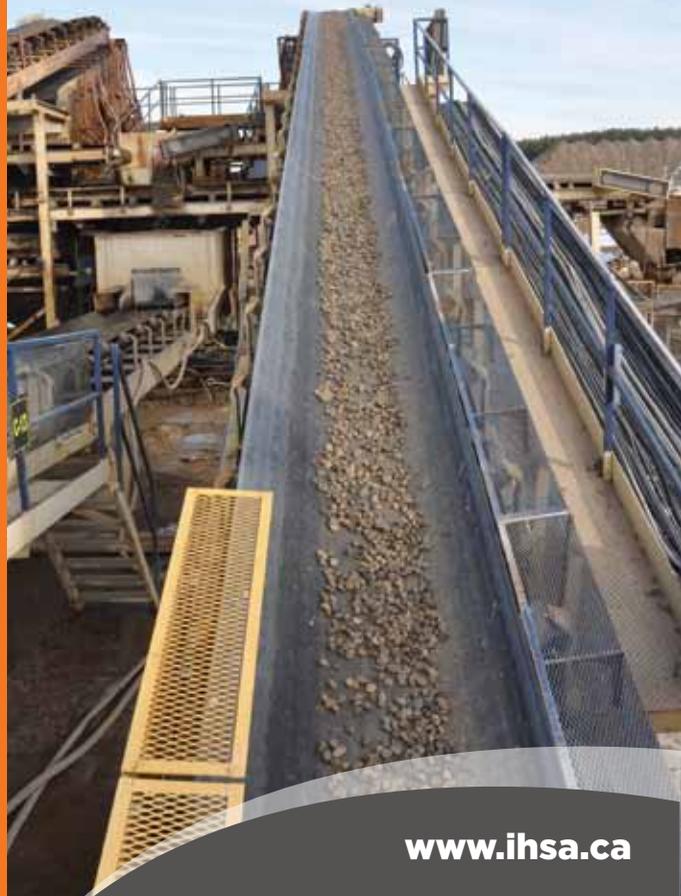




Health & Safety Aggregate Sector



Make safety work for you. IHSA is your first step.

When the Construction Safety Association of Ontario (CSAO), the Electrical & Utilities Safety Association (E&USA), and the Transportation Health & Safety Association of Ontario (THSAO) came together to form IHSA, all of our considerable experience and expertise came with us. By combining our resources, we are better able to serve our industries.

We engage with our member firms, workers, and other stakeholders to help them continuously improve their health and safety performance. We do this by providing effective and innovative sector-specific programs, products and services.

Find out what
we can do for you at
www.ihsa.ca



5110 Creekbank Road, Suite 400
Mississauga, Ontario
L4W 0A1 Canada
Tel: 1-800-263-5024
Fax: 905-625-8998

© Infrastructure Health and
Safety Association, 2012

www.ihsa.ca

Stay healthy and safe

Every year in our industry, workers are injured or killed on the job. Since 2004 our industry experienced:

- 793 lost-time injuries
- 39 critical injuries
- 8 fatalities

Health and safety is the responsibility of every person in the company, from the owner to the worker.

In Ontario, you have three workplaces rights:

1. The right to refuse unsafe work
2. The right to know about hazards
3. The right to participate in health and safety through your health and safety representative or Joint Health and Safety Committee.

Keep an eye out for hazards

Sometimes hazards are not easily apparent. As a result, you need to take time to inspect your work area and report anything that can cause harm to workers.

- The Joint Health and Safety Committee must inspect the workplace and record hazards.
- As a worker, you should always be inspecting your work area. If you identify a hazard, report it to your supervisor immediately.

Your role and responsibilities

In Ontario, workplaces must comply with specific health and safety legislation. Here are just some of the laws you need to know.

- *Occupational Health and Safety Act*
- Regulation 854, Mines and Mining Plants
- Regulation 213, Construction Projects
- Regulation 851, Industrial Establishments
- Regulation 1101, First Aid



Are you hiring students?

Young workers, including summer students, are often ambitious and want to make a good impression. They hesitate to ask questions and often do not know their rights. As a result, they are at a greater risk of injury.

What can you do?

- Provide extra supervision.
- Explain the hazards of the job.
- Lead by example.
- Welcome reporting of health and safety concerns.



Machinery

Some of the most serious injuries occur around machinery when workers become caught in moving parts such as belt drives, rollers, and jaws, or are struck by moving loads such as rocks.

What can you do?

- Never remove guards.
- Always follow lockout/tagout procedures if guards must be removed in certain circumstances, such as when performing maintenance.

Mobile equipment

Loaders, heavy haulers, and excavators can cause serious injuries to bystanders and operators. Some risk factors include

- aggressive driving and speeding
- backing up
- site conditions
- alcohol or drugs
- being inattentive
- mounting & dismounting of equipment – use 3-point contact, always facing in towards the equipment.

What can you do?

- Never assume an operator can see you. Always make eye contact and confirm your presence.
- Use high-visibility apparel.
- Never walk near mobile equipment.

Dusts and silica

Breathing in dusts over long periods can cause serious illness. Silica dust is known to cause a debilitating disease called “silicosis”. This causes scarring on the lungs and makes it very difficult to breathe.

What can you do?

- Keep the dust down by using water sprays.
- Wear respiratory protection when you are exposed to dusts.
- Keep doors closed in cabs, stations and offices.

Musculoskeletal Disorders (MSDs)

Thirty-four per cent of all injuries in the aggregates industry involve the muscles, tendons, nerves, joints, ligaments and spinal discs. Some of the risk factors include forceful exertion, repetitive motions, and awkward postures.

What can you do?

- Use handling equipment.
- Limit the use of ladders by using a correct work platform. This can better position the body. For example, a powered elevating work platform (PEWP) can be used to work at elevated positions.
- Get help lifting.
- Don't work above your shoulder height.
- Raise your work.
- Rest your back.
- Stretch often.

Lockout

Workers in the aggregates industry have been seriously injured and killed because of failure to lockout or follow procedures. Lockout must be performed before any machinery adjustment, inspection, lubrication, maintenance, or repair.



What can you do?

- Always follow lockout procedures every time you are working on equipment.
- Some systems may have stored or residual energy that must be bled, relieved, or blocked.
- Always verify that there is no stored energy after locking out equipment.

Stockpiles

Freeze/thaw cycles, changes in moisture, undercutting, and many other conditions can affect the stability of a stockpile. Working around stockpiles when these conditions are present makes them a hazard.

What can you do?

- Never enter an active loading area.
- Stay in your cab while loading is in progress.
- Be aware of signs of instability such as cracks, slumping or bulging.
- Never undercut the working face of a stockpile.

Noise

Excessive exposure to noise leads to hearing loss. Unfortunately, there is no cure but hearing loss is 100 per cent preventable.



What can you do?

- Close the door to your cab, station, or office to keep the noise out.
- Chances are that the noise in your work area is too loud if you must raise your voice for others standing one metre away to hear you. This means you should be wearing hearing protection.
- Follow the manufacturer's instructions for using hearing protection.

Chemicals

The Workplace Hazardous Materials Information System (WHMIS) is a hazard communication standard. It is mandatory in workplaces where hazardous materials are used. Under WHMIS, your workplace must ensure that:

1. Controlled products are labeled
2. Material Safety Data Sheets (MSDs) are made available to workers
3. Workers receive training to work safely with controlled products.

If you are uncertain about the hazards associated with a chemical, always ask your supervisor.