

# Update on Working at Heights Training in Ontario – Feb 2015

# Topics Covered

- Update on the Status of Working at Heights (WAH) Training
- Update on the Status of WAH Standards
- Clarification on Employer Training Obligations
- Tips on Selecting a Training Provider
- How IHSA Can Help

# Update on the Status of WAH Training

- Training must be conducted when workers are exposed to a fall hazard as defined by Section 26.2 of [O. Reg. 213/91](#).
- As of April 1, 2015, workers who require training in working at heights and who meet the requirements of section 6 of [O. Reg. 297/13](#) will need to complete a working at heights training program **that has been approved by the Chief Prevention Officer.**

# Update on the Status of WAH Training

- The training program must meet the Working at Heights [Training Program Standard](#) and the training provider must meet the [Training Provider Standard](#).
- The training will be valid for three years from the date of completion.

# Update on the Status of WAH Training

- Workers who have already received training that meets section 26.2 of the Construction Regulation (213/91) will have two years (until April 1, 2017) to complete an approved working at heights training program.

# Employer Training Obligations

Section 26.2 of O.Reg. 213/91 mandates the training of workers:

“an employer shall ensure that a worker who may use a fall protection system is adequately trained in its use....”

**\*\* This obligation to train has NOT changed \*\***

If workers need to be trained in working at heights, they must be trained. **Waiting for this new legislation to come into effect on April 1, 2015 is not an option if training is required before then.**

# The Standards

- **Training Program Standard** – developed with input of industry stakeholders and released by Chief Prevention Officer on December 19, 2013
- **Training Provider Standard** – developed by System Partners and draft released by Chief Prevention Officer on January 8, 2014
- The requirement for working at heights training to meet these standards was mandated into legislation by the **Occupational Health and Safety Awareness and Training Regulation** (O. Reg. 297/13).
- **This requirement will come into effect on April 1, 2015.**

# What does the WAH Training Program Standard include?

- The Program Standard requires that a working at heights course include two modules: basic theory and practical.
  - Basic Theory Module must be at least 3 hours in duration.
  - Practical Module must be at least 3.5 hours in duration.
- Written test – 75% passing grade
- Hands-on test – a satisfactory demonstration
- Training will be valid for a period of 3 years.
- After completing both modules, the employer must supplement the training program with additional information, instruction, and training on workplace-specific policies, procedures, hazards, and equipment related to working at heights.

# Tips for selecting a WAH Program

- Check the Ministry of Labour website to obtain a listing of approved Training Providers for Working at Heights.

**Note: as of Jan. 26, 2015, there are no approved Training Providers.**

- Select a training program that meets the purpose of the Training Program Standard.

# Tips for selecting a WAH Program

- Use the *Training Program Standard* as a tool to judge programs. Things to consider:
  - ✓ Are learning outcomes aligned with the standard?
  - ✓ Does the duration meet the standard?
  - ✓ Is there both a written and a hands-on performance evaluation?
  - ✓ Is the instructor a subject-matter expert in WAH and adult learning principles?

# IHSA's WAH Training Program

- IHSA has submitted the application to be an approved training provider and will apply to have our *Working at Heights—Fundamentals of Fall Prevention* training course approved. Once IHSA's applications are approved, IHSA will alert its membership through the media, its website, and internal channels such as the Labour-Management Network.
- If you take IHSA's *Working at Heights—Fundamentals of Fall Prevention* before it is approved by the CPO (or before April 1, 2015, whichever comes first), you will have two years (until April 1, 2017) to take an approved working at heights course.

# IHSA's WAH Training Program

- 1-day program, maximum 12 participants per class
- Combination of classroom and hands-on activities
- Uses evaluation methodologies to gauge learning
- Program is delivered across province
- Delivered in public sessions or on request
- Delivered by staff experienced in working at heights.

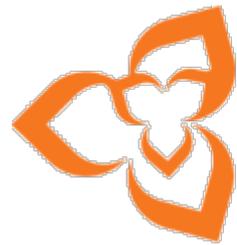
# How IHSA Can Help

- **Learn more about IHSA's Working at Heights training program.**

[Click here](#) to view our full calendar of training dates and locations

- **Become an IHSA registered Training Provider to deliver our Working at Heights program.**

Currently we have *over 150 IHSA-Registered Training Providers*. Learn how by visiting our [Training Provider Page](#).



**IHSA.ca**

*Work Safe for **Life***

**CONTACT US**

**Tel: 1-800-263-5024**

**E-mail: [info@ihsa.ca](mailto:info@ihsa.ca)**