

Health and safety in brief

MOL inspectors looking for trade qualifications

When Ministry of Labour (MOL) inspectors show up at a workplace, they are not only looking for health and safety problems. They also check whether workers have the appropriate training and qualifications required under provincial legislation.

Inspectors check compliance with Ontario Regulation 572/99 on all field visits, whether part of a blitz or not.

Regulation 572/99—*Training Requirements for Certain Skill Sets and Trades*—sets out the requirements for specific trades. Workers with particular job roles must be able to provide proof they have the required skills and training to conduct this work.

As well, employers of these workers must ensure that the workers are authorized to carry out the work under both the *Apprenticeship and Certification Act* and the *Trades Qualification and Apprenticeship Act*, depending on the type of work.

Do your employees meet the requirements for their work? Find out before an MOL inspector visits your worksite.

Confined spaces: MOL consolidates regulatory requirements

The Ministry of Labour has approved amendments to consolidate all regulatory requirements respecting confined spaces under the *Occupational Health and Safety Act* into one regulation, *Confined Spaces* (Ontario Regulation 632/05).

The amendments revoke confined space provisions in:

- 851, Industrial Establishments
- 213, Construction Projects
- 67, Health Care and Residential Facilities
- 854, Mines and Mining Plants.

The consolidated regulation also requires that respirators be inspected by a person with adequate knowledge, training and experience. This requirement is a slight change from the previous requirements in the construction regulation.

The amendments came into force on July 1, 2011.

Using social media to encourage road safety

LIUNA Local 183 and the Ontario Road Builders' Association (ORBA) hope you "like" what they are working on this summer. The groups have teamed up to promote road safety with the Safety: A Two Way Street campaign.

Launched in April, the campaign urges people to use Facebook and Twitter to raise awareness about the importance of slowing down through road construction zones. The point is to prevent injuries to workers in these zones.

The organizers are hoping that workers, company owners, and the public will spread the word.

To support the online campaign, go to its Facebook page and click "like."

You can also go to the campaign's Twitter feed and click "follow".

MOL launches tower crane safety video

The Ministry of Labour (MOL) has launched a new tower crane safety video on its website. The video features a Ministry of Labour inspector explaining what to expect during an inspection and the legal requirements that concern tower crane safety.

There is also a transcript available for those who wish to read or print off the information.

To see the video or learn more visit the MOL website at www.labour.gov.on.ca