

Newsletter

of the Asbestos Contractors Group

Your Industry Newsletter

Volume 1, Issue 1. 28/08/09

Safety Representatives Annual Meeting

As part of Work Safe week, the Annual Meeting will be held 25th - 30th October. The Asbestos Contractors Group will have a stand at the event, promoting the Group and it's members. If your company wants to be represented, make sure you get your membership application in soon.

New Contact Details

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WATCH THIS SPACE

Welcome to the inuagural newsletter from the Asbestos Contractors Group.

We are pleased to announce that we are now "open for business" and hope that our activities will encourage you to join us.

Our new staff member, Lisa Cruickshank, will assist us to co-ordinate our work and fulfill our aims and objectives.

We hope to provide practical advice and assistance, as well as giving you the opportunity to raise any areas of concern you may have regarding the asbestos removal industry with the relevent government or other authorities. We are currently represented on the WorkSafe Asbestos Stakeholders Reference Group (SRG) by Pat Preston, which will soon be addressing the nationalisation of all state Occupational Health and Safety Legislation.

We are offering you the opportunity to have all your training needs assessed and delivered, according to your needs.

We are aiming to establish a Website which will provide you with easy links to all relevent industry documents and news.

See inside for more....

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Membership Objectives

The Asbestos Contractors Group will aim to provide a credible association with representation on State Government, Local Authorities and all those concerned with the management and handling of Asbestos Removal. As a group member you and your employees will be able to utilize a wealth of knowledge and experience within our industry, providing high standards, information and resources that cannot be found elsewhere. The group will also provide access to other areas in:

- Insurance
- Training
- Information
- Industry contacts and forums
- Specialist technical advice
- Industry liaison and lobbying
- Marketing and Publicity
- Recognition and Awareness
- Website and Members Directory
- Year book and Group Newsletter
- Legal Assistance
- ADSVIC

You will be able to utilize the Groups logo and have a real say in how and what you want from your industry, giving you direct access to authorities and organizations that cover specialist areas. The Group will also promote members through the website and other publications; we will send out a positive message to all client bodies throughout Victoria with an active raising of awareness.

So Far So Good

Training

Anne Duggan from the CFMEU Training Unit has offered Group members a specialized company training assessment and will recommend appropriate courses from the broad range offered by the Unit. Not only does relevant industry based training improve your health and safety, it can also provide you with the ability to offer more services to your clients.

Health Testing

Concerns have been raised about the safety of regular X-Rays to monitor the health of workers in the asbestos removal industry. A blood test has been developed that is just as effective, however it is not currently available in Victoria. The Asbestos Contractors Group is currently arranging to have these made available to workers in the industry. Please contact the association for more information.

WorkSafe SRG News

Guidelines have been developed for Real Estate Agents and Property Managers. New Guidelines for Asbestos Contaminated Sites are currently under development. The Nationalisation of Health and Safety Legislation and supporting Regulations is imminent and could have serious implications. We will be monitoring this closely and working to maintain, if not improve, current standards.

Current Affairs

You will have heard the recent news of Matt Peacock's book about James Hardy and the extent of asbestos contamination that has been hidden from the general public until now. In an interview on ABC News Radio, Matt suggested that it is because Hardy's are fearful of being held accountable for cleaning it up. We say the sooner it's all removed the better, and why should the average householder who can't afford safe removal risk paying with their lives?

See back page for membership application form.