

Media release 11th January, 2015

Safety Institute of Australia and IChemE to jointly develop guide for OHS Generalists on Process Safety

The Safety Institute of Australia and the Australian OHS Education Accreditation Board, together with the Institution of Chemical Engineers (IChemE) Safety Centre, have announced a joint project to develop a chapter on process safety for the *OHS Body of Knowledge for Generalist OHS Professionals*.

Trish Kerin, director of the IChemE Safety Centre said that the collaboration is “an opportunity to improve the approach to Process Safety generally”, as the content of the chapter will be built around the process safety competences for generalist OHS professions - developed as part of larger process safety competency framework.

The scope and content of the chapter will be produced by a technical panel, comprising process safety engineers and generalist OHS professionals.

Pam Pryor, Registrar of the Australian OHS Education Accreditation Board, custodian of the OHS Body of Knowledge, said that this development is exciting as it “recognises the role of the Generalist in supporting process safety and will provide a conceptual knowledge base for the generalist, including effective liaison with engineers.”

CEO of the Safety Institute of Australia Mr David Clarke welcomed the joint work on the new chapter. “Some generalist OHS professionals have an engineering background. However, analysis of recent process engineering disasters has shown that all generalists operating in high-risk environments should have this foundation knowledge. The ability to identify issues, contribute a unique perspective, and engage with process safety specialists is essential to for managing safety in such environments” he said.

Work will commence in February, with a workshop for the technical panel. The publication is planned for late 2016.

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Notes to media

Access OHS Body of Knowledge at www.ohsbok.org.au.

For updates on development of new chapters follow *LinkedIn OHSBoK*
<https://www.linkedin.com/groups/7026742>

Access IChemE Process Safety competencies at <http://www.ichemesafetycentre.org/managing-safety/knowledge-and-competence.aspx>

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About the OHS Body of Knowledge

The OHS Body of Knowledge for Generalist OHS Professionals was developed in response to an identified need to define the collective knowledge that should be shared by Australian Generalist OHS Professionals as a basis for understanding the aetiology and control of work-related fatality, injury, disease and ill-health.

This Body of Knowledge is required as a basis for professional certification and for accreditation of education programs giving entry to a profession as well as to provide a benchmark for continuing professional development.

WorkSafe Victoria funded the development of the first edition of the OHS Body of Knowledge for Generalist OHS Professionals published in 2012 assigning the copyright to the Safety Institute of Australia with the Australian OHS Education Accreditation Board being the custodian responsible for managing updating processes to ensure currency.

The OHS Body of Knowledge is freely available to individuals for their personal professional use. See www.ohsbok.org.au. Organisations and training bodies are encouraged to obtain a license for use. Resources are also being developed for specific chapters.

The OHS Body of Knowledge is not intended to be a definitive statement, fixed in time. Rather it is subject to continual reinterpretation and evolution as people engage with it, apply it, and extend it by research. New chapters are being developed on a number of topics.

Information on the OHS Body of Knowledge of available on the web site and details of new chapters with opportunity for input is posted on <https://www.linkedin.com/groups/7026742>

For further information contact: info@ohsbok.org.au