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Dear OHS Educators and Researchers

The OHS Body of Knowledge is important to OHS educators not only because it is linked to program accreditation but it is an important resource and 'first-port-of-call' for students. It is important to researchers as it provides a conduit for the dissemination of research to inform OHS practice. For those who would like to view previous updates they are posted at <https://www.ohsbok.org.au/educators-introduction-and-update/>.

The latter half of 2021 has been busy for the OHS Body of Knowledge. Two new chapters have been completed and a number of open access resources posted. These resources offer significant opportunity for OHS educators to incorporate them into their programs.

### **12.2 OHS management systems**

This new chapter, written by Nektarios Karanikas of Queensland University of Technology, proposes a definition of OHSMS, briefly considers the historical and legislative contexts, and presents a hierarchal and inter-related structure for OHSMS elements. It also reviews the literature to comment on the effectiveness OHSMSs. The chapter includes guidance on the practical application of OHSMS which is informed by a discussion forum with OHS professionals. Read the chapter at <https://www.ohsbok.org.au/chapter-12-2-ohs-management-systems/>

Nektarios will be conducting a webinar on then 15<sup>th</sup> February to launch the chapter. Registration is complementary and can be made at <https://www.aihs.org.au/events/bok-webinar-look-new-ohs-bok-chapter-ohs-management-systems>

### **16 Work-related Musculoskeletal Disorders**

The other new chapter is that on Work-related Musculoskeletal Disorders. Written by David Trembearth and Joanne Crawford and more than 12 months in development, the chapter aims to enable generalist OHS professionals to take a holistic, participative and evidenced-based approach to WMSD prevention. The chapter presents information about the nature, causation and management of WMSDs; it includes a multifactorial systems model to assist in the assessment of physical and psychosocial WMSD risks and design of risk controls, and a hierarchy of control for WMSD interventions. Read the chapter at [https://www.ohsbok.org.au/chapter-16-workrelated-musculoskeletal\\_disorders/](https://www.ohsbok.org.au/chapter-16-workrelated-musculoskeletal_disorders/)

Resources available for the chapter include the recorded webinar which launched the chapter and two case studies developed by Coles which has a video on the stakeholder engagement and consultation as well as slide decks outlining the design issues and process. See [https://www.ohsbok.org.au/chapter-16-workrelated-musculoskeletal\\_disorders/#1639545275409-5be910bf-4c6b](https://www.ohsbok.org.au/chapter-16-workrelated-musculoskeletal_disorders/#1639545275409-5be910bf-4c6b)

The AIHS is also in discussions to build on the chapter content by developing online and face-to-face training on WMSDs.

## 6 Global Concept: Health

The new chapter published in June 2021 explains how the concept of health has expanded to include psychological health as well as physical health. This chapter has been brought to life through a lively discussion between Genevieve Hawkins and the chapter author David Beaumont. See

<https://www.ohsbok.org.au/chapter-6-1-global-concept-health/#1548328259689-3c2b32ba-ee04> .

This one-on-one interview will be complemented by a panel discussion with Genevieve, David and three OHS professionals. The recording will be available late March.

There is a table on the website that lists the new and updated chapters and nature of the changes. This table will assist educators in tracking the changes to identify any updates to teaching material or references. <https://www.ohsbok.org.au/bok-chapters/>.

There are other new chapters in progress including *Investigations* and *Design of Work*. Chapters first published in 2012 that are in the process of being replaced by new chapters include

*12.1 Systems and systems thinking* and *29 Mobile plant*. The 2012 chapter on *Chemical Hazards* has been scheduled for review for some time. This chapter is being replaced with two chapters, *17.1 Managing chemical hazards* and *17.2 Health impacts of chemical hazards* which will include toxicology. These two new chapters on chemical hazards will be complemented by a new chapter *17.3 Fibres Dusts and Fumes* which is being authored by the occupational hygiene team from University of Wollongong. The fourth chapter in the suite of chapters on chemical hazards is the 2019 chapter *17.4 Process Hazards (Chemical)* which addresses highly reactive chemicals.

Looking back, since July 2019 – 23 chapters have had routine reviews, five have had major reviews/rewrites, six have been replaced by new chapters and eight chapters on new topics have been added. 33 chapters have been archived. There are currently 10 active projects.

I am always keen to talk with educators and researchers on how they use the OHS BoK, their suggestions for how we might develop further and, from researchers, about your work and how we may incorporate it into the OHS BoK.

Educators, you may wish to pass on information to your students on student membership of the AIHS which is free. See <https://www.aihs.org.au/membership/student-membership-benefits>. Among other things, students get a copy of the biannual OHS Professional magazine.

Best wishes to all in these challenging times.

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Australian Institute of Health and Safety