

Safety Inspections - They Really Work

Those who work in the trucking industry are used to safety inspections. Drivers do their pre-trip and post-trip inspection and trucking companies have their vehicles inspected regularly as part of their preventative maintenance programs. Trucks and drivers also get inspected at the roadside, and repair facilities are subject to compliance inspections under the National Safety Code.

All of these inspections are having the desired results. CVSA, for example, says that since its inception in 1988, roadside inspections conducted during their annual Roadcheck campaigns have numbered over 1 million, resulting in more than 220 lives saved and 4,045 injuries avoided. In British Columbia, crashes as a result of heavy vehicle mechanical condition are under 5% of all crashes recorded. The effect of a rigorous inspection requirement for commercial vehicles has been improved road safety and fewer deaths and injuries, which in turn has meant reduced costs.



This experience shows that effective safety inspections are one of the most important incident/accident prevention tools that a company can have in its safety management program. The benefit that regular safety inspections have brought to road safety can also be obtained by applying the same thinking to other areas of the company's operations. Regular inspections of all facilities and equipment including warehouses, cross-docks, yards, offices and administration areas using a designated inspection check list will help identify potential hazards and provide for the removal of those hazards before an incident happens. Applying proper inspection techniques in a planned inspection program have shown that incidents and property damage are reduced and worker communication and worker morale are improved which, over time, will save money.

A good inspection program takes planning, preparation and training. Like any good safety program, once the inspection program is in place, procedures should be applied to provide a means of monitoring it to see if trends arise that may be contributing to the company's accident or injury problems.

Rob Weston
Executive Director

**This month's
safety topic:**

Inspections

Inside this issue.....

- Best Practices for InspectionsPage 2
- OHS Achievement AwardsPage 3
- Two More COR CompaniesPage 3
- AGM and Safety Conference SuccessPage 4

- 2011 Board of DirectorsPage 5
- Eliminate Hazards via InspectionsPage 6
- National Day of MourningPage 7
- WorkSafeBC Industry Incident Reports.....Page 8

Best Practices for Workplace Inspections

By Tal Sperling

Workplace inspections are legally required to make sure the workplace is safe, identify any hazards and ensure that such hazards are corrected. When carried out effectively, inspections allow you to identify and fix any problems before they get worse or result in a potentially serious workplace incident. Inspections can be used to regularly and systematically check that the working environment and procedures are meeting the required standards for your workplace.

Inspections can be formal or informal, planned or unplanned. Formal and planned inspections should be performed on a regular basis with the aid of a checklist tailored to your individual work environment, while informal inspections can be as simple as a worker checking their tools and work area prior to beginning their job for the day. A planned inspection is done on a regular schedule regardless of frequency, while an unplanned inspection only happens when a problem is identified.



While planned inspections provide a great way to identify hazards and prevent incidents, it is equally important to instill the idea that workplace inspections and corrective actions are everyone's responsibility. All workers should be continuously inspecting their work areas and correcting any problems or reporting them immediately to their supervisor, health and safety representative or joint health and safety committee. Encourage the use of all kinds of inspections in your workplace following the best practices outlined below and they will soon become a part of your safety culture.

Best Practices

- To help determine the aim or purpose, ask questions such as: What needs to be inspected? How often does it need to be inspected? Who should carry out the inspection? What specific items or areas need inspecting and what standard needs to be met?
- Specific work areas could be inspected, such as the office space, dock area, yard area, cab interior or mechanical shop. A general worksite inspection could be done to identify all unsafe conditions or acts, or specific unsafe acts, such as not wearing PPE, slip/trip hazards, faulty equipment and expired fire extinguishers.
- Checklists are useful as a reminder of what needs to be inspected. They can also be used as a record of the inspection, but be careful not to limit the inspector to what is on the checklist. In order to make sure that the inspector doesn't start checking things off the list without really thinking about them, it is useful for him or her to take someone new along with them for every inspection so that a fresh set of eyes can point out things that become overlooked with time.
- The frequency of performing inspections will depend on the level of risk. If there are many hazards that could cause serious injuries or fatalities, then inspections should be carried out more often. If you currently carry out monthly or weekly inspections and never encounter a problem, then you may be able to change to two to three month cycles. If every inspection indicates a problem, inspections should be conducted more frequently.
- Read through previous inspection reports to find out if problems identified in the past still exist or have been fixed. Make sure that all inspectors and their helpers are aware of what safe condition is expected. For example, someone inspecting forklift equipment should be aware of the legal requirements for a forklift truck, while all workers can be expected to inspect their own work areas for housekeeping standards and other problems.
- Once the details of the planned inspection have been decided, it is important to know the processes by which any issues/problems are reported and corrected. Make sure this process is clearly laid out for the inspectors and that everyone responsible for taking action based on the inspection findings are aware of their responsibilities. This may include evaluating the results of the inspection with a risk assessment in order to prioritize actions.

Congrats!

The TSCBC would like to congratulate our most recent COR certified companies:



and



These two companies have developed and implemented sustainable occupational health and safety programs that meet or exceed the applicable health and safety legal requirements.

By earning their COR, these companies have made a strong statement about how

much their organization values its workers and how genuinely committed they are to following the best industry practices in workplace health and safety.

Tenold Transportation has earned their Health & Safety COR and a 10% rebate on their WorkSafeBC premiums.

Canadian Freightways has earned their Health & Safety COR as well as the addi-

tional Return to Work COR, which means a 15% rebate on their WorkSafeBC premiums.

Don't miss out on saving money, see page seven of this newsletter to find out how your company can earn a COR.



BC CSSE ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS

Recognizing Excellence, Professionalism and Expertise in Occupational Health and Safety

BC CSSE Awards – as easy as 1, 2, 3...

DEADLINE: JUNE 24, 2011

1. Choose the Award Category you wish to enter.
2. Nominate yourself, a colleague or company/organization.
3. Send in a completed Nomination Form by the deadline date.

AWARD CATEGORIES

TruckSafe Excellence Award

Recognizes an individual who, by his/her commitment to truck/workplace safety and leadership has made an outstanding contribution to the promotion of workplace safety in the trucking industry.

TruckSafe Organizational Excellence Award

Recognizes a company, industry or labour organization/association, which by its commitment to truck/workplace safety, vision and leadership has made an outstanding contribution to the promotion of workplace safety in the trucking industry.

Robert Wright Lifetime Achievement

Recognizes the lifetime achievements of a CSSE member with 20 years or more experience, based on their participation in CSSE and their overall contribution to the field of safety through participation, contribution and/or mentoring.

Young and New Workers - Special Project

Recognizes an organization, union, team, etc. for their innovative project(s) in relation to young and new worker injury prevention.

Young and New Workers — Best Training/Orientation Program

Recognized an organization for their outstanding program tailored to meet the specific needs of young workers (ages 15-24) — sponsored by WorkSafeBC. There are two categories of awards for organizations with:

- 1–19 employees (small business)**
- 20 or more employees**

Outstanding Achievement by a Safety Professional

Recognizes an outstanding achievement in the area of development of a safety tool, device or equipment, writing of a safety text, program or training course, or production of a safety video, computer program or similar audio-visual element.

Individual Awards

Nominations are accepted for individuals who have demonstrated exceptional leadership in the profession which resulted in a significant contribution to the workplace. You may nominate yourself or someone else in one of three categories:

- Senior Safety Professional** — CSSE member with more than 5 years safety experience
- Novice Safety Professional** — CSSE member with less than 5 years safety experience
- Non-CSSE Safety Professional** — safety professional who is not a CSSE member

The awards will be presented at the BC CSSE Achievement Recognition Awards and Safety & Health Week Forum and Awards Luncheon held on October 20th, 2011. For further information, e-mail leasa@safetydriven.ca. Nomination forms and further information on the awards is available at the CSSE website: www.csse-lmc.org.

To Do
Nominate
Rick for
that safety
award.

AGM 2011

MANAGING FOR SAFETY

First annual **AGM** and **Safety Conference** visits the theme of management and safety.

Last month the TSCBC held its Annual General Meeting and Safety Conference in Coquitlam with a great turnout from company representatives within the trucking industry, as well as representatives from governmental and non-governmental organizations.

Donna Wilson, Vice-President, Industry Services and Sustainability at WorkSafeBC, opened the AGM speaking to the importance of trucking safety in the province and the successes the TSCBC has seen thus far.

Following the chairman's remarks and Rob Weston's Executive Director's report, Paul Landry, President and CEO of the BCTA, presented the financial report. The 2011 Board of Directors was elected with Rick Viventi, Director of Safety at Arrow Transportation Systems, becoming the new Chairman of the Board.



Conference attendees Mark Ordeman (WorkSafeBC), Kevin Bennett (WorkSafeBC), Dietmar Krause (TMS Transportation) and Rob Weston (TSCBC) listen as Donna Wilson (WorkSafeBC) speaks during the AGM.

In keeping with the theme "Managing for Safety", the conference featured guest speakers who lectured on topics relevant to managing health and safety programs and policies in the workplace.

Graham Milne, Director of Quality, Safety and Health and Environment at Canadian Utility Construction Corp., described his company's successful policy of Mission Zero, using an aggressive safety management system to achieve zero lost time injuries for the company.

Occupational Health and Safety attorney Shane Hopkins-Utter presented on behalf of K. Alan Blair who was unable to attend. Hopkins-Utter spoke about the importance of due diligence for management, highlighting the employer's legal obligations in the realm of workplace health and safety.

Keynote speaker Reynold Hert captivated the audience with his presentation on the importance of safety leadership in the workplace and how management can lead by example.

Conference guests were enthusiastic about what they learned from the speakers. One conference participant noted, "All topics reinforced the need to communicate often with employees on matters of safety and prevention."

Rob Weston, TSCBC Executive Director, was pleased with the response received to the organization's first-ever Safety Conference and AGM.

"I think those who participated found the program and the speakers were very informative," he said.

"I am looking forward to building on the success of this first meeting and seeing our members recognize this event as an important date in their safety calendar."

Talk to us and win a prize!

Post on our website forum or join in the conversation about this month's topic. Every person who posts will be entered to win an expandable laptop bag, padfolio and a reusable lunch bag.

Register on our forums today at www.safetydriven.ca/forum and visit often to take part in monthly safety topics and other virtual round table discussions.



SUBSCRIBE TO THIS NEWSLETTER

To subscribe to this newsletter visit www.safetydriven.ca/get_newsletter or simply send an email with "subscribe" in the subject line to info@safetydriven.ca.

Let us know if you'd prefer your newsletter faxed or mailed.

Introducing our 2011 Board of Directors

We would like to extend our sincere thanks to our 2010 Board of Directors for donating their time to our organization. We now welcome our new Board for 2011, both the returning and the newly elected Members. We count on your continued support of the Trucking Safety Council and look forward to a successful year ahead.

Rick Viventi

Arrow Transportation Systems Inc.
Kamloops, BC

Jack Bandstra

Bandstra Transportation Systems
Richmond, BC

Rod Blackburn

Teamsters Local Union 31
Delta, BC

Ken Davey

Accord Transportation Ltd.
Surrey, BC

Lynn Kearney

Tenold Transportation
Surrey, BC

Vic Martin

Excel Transportation Inc.
Prince George, BC

Non-Voting Members:

Paul Landry

BC Trucking Association (BCTA)
Langley, BC

Stephen Haywood

Commercial Vehicle Safety and Enforcement
(CVSE)
Victoria, BC

Gary McLeod

Northern BC Truckers Association
Dawson Creek, BC

Kevin Martyn

Williams Moving & Storage BC Ltd.
Coquitlam, BC

Greg Rogge

Clark Freightways
Coquitlam, BC

Suki Singh

BST Management
Richmond, BC

Elton Smith

Northwest Tank Lines Inc.
Langley, BC

Colleen Tieman

Purolator Courier
Richmond, BC

Tony vanHengel

CLAC
Langley, BC

Sean Kelly

Delta Police
Delta, BC

Fiona Temple

ICBC
North Vancouver, BC

Allan Roberts

RCMP
Langley, BC



Have you visited our website yet?

To learn more about the
Council and our programs,
visit our website:

www.safetydriven.ca

Look to our website for safety
information, latest news and
resources, such as:

- Industry event listings
- COR training calendar
- Newsletters
- Safety tip sheets
- Alerts and bulletins
- Forum
- Health & safety information

You can also follow us on Twitter (SafetyDrivenBC)
for up-to-the-minute trucking industry news and
safety bulletins.

SafetyDrivenBC 
FOLLOW US ON TWITTER



www.safetydriven.ca

A Stitch in Time Saves Nine

Modifying your inspection objectives now can eliminate hazards and improve workplace efficiency in the future.

By Andrew Chan

Often the inspection program within a company becomes a routine of identifying the hazards and correcting the immediate deficiencies, such as cleaning up the oil spill on the shop floor or replenishing the first aid supply. But this routine of inspecting and correcting deficiencies perpetuates since the causes of the deficiencies have not been addressed.

Checklists are commonly used to guide inspectors on what to inspect with respect to tools, materials, equipment, facilities, environment and work activities associated with the operation of a company. Using these checklists, inspectors evaluate hazards and non-compliance to regulatory requirements, company safe work practices and manufacturer operating standards. However, the intent of a safety inspection should be to go beyond correcting the identified hazards.

Take, for example, a workplace fatality investigation for an accident involving the collapse of a mobile crane. A worker was trying to run away when the tip of the falling crane hit the worker in the back. The result of engineering analysis indicated that the turret bolts were broken, primarily due to the excessive stress of on-going improper operation. Although the crane was relatively new and had a capacity of 24 tons, the strength of the turret bolts was severely reduced. At the time of collapse it was lifting a load far below its capacity.

This tragic accident could have been avoided if the worksite inspection program was able to:

- identify the on-going unsafe operation,
- implement corrective actions to stop the unsafe operation, such as communicating the observation results to the operator and all relevant parties,
- implement preventive measures to eliminate the unsafe operating practices such as modifying work procedures, and;
- provide necessary worker training and assess work practices and worker competency.

This incident shows that by focusing your inspection program on elimination of deficiencies and implementing preventive measures instead of stopping at corrective actions, you will save yourself from the need to deal with similar deficiencies and potential incidents in the future. This will help you to improve work efficiency and cost of operation.

Once you modify your inspection objectives to concentrate on eliminating hazards and improving workplace efficiency, your approach to conducting inspections and structuring the follow up actions will change. Inspectors will be focusing on why the hazards exist and finding solutions to eliminate the hazards. Your new objectives will make the inspection program more successful.



SPOTLIGHT

Rick Viventi - TSCBC's new Chairman of the Board

The TSCBC would like to extend a warm welcome to our new Chairman of the Board, Rick Viventi.

Viventi is currently the Director of Safety at Arrow Transportation Systems Inc. He started at Arrow in November 1984 in operations and safety. After a short stint at Trimac and Lomak in Prince George between 1988 and 1989, Viventi returned to Arrow.

At Arrow, Viventi is responsible for occupational health and safety, over-the-road compliance and driver and management coaching on safety and prevention matters. He has developed

and implemented company health and safety systems, WorkSafeBC claims management and appeals and is directly responsible for the company's alcohol and drug policy and protocols and the company-wide employee and family assistance program.

Viventi, a 22-year member of the Canadian Association of Safety Engineering (CSSE), is an important addition to our Board, bringing with him a lengthy education in Occupational Health and Safety and Human Resources.

Viventi is also a tireless volunteer, giving up much of his own time to assist with safety-related

events and organizations. His long list of past and present volunteer activities include the BCTA collision review committee, BC Safety Council Board of Directors, Canadian Trucking Human Resources Council committee member, Kamloops Traffic Advisory Committee, BC Professional Truck Driving Championships judge, BC Justice Institute Emergency Response Planning volunteer and a company volunteer for the annual "Roadcheck".

We look forward to a new year with Rick and the rest of our 2011 Board of Directors. Please see page five for a list of our Board members.



Rick Viventi, Director of Safety at Arrow Transportation Systems Inc.

Save Money, Get COR!



COR is an initiative that recognizes and rewards employers who develop and apply sustainable occupational health and safety programs that meet or exceed the applicable legal requirements and health and safety regulations.

Following verification by a TSCBC audit, companies will receive up to a **15% rebate** on their WorkSafeBC premiums in each year they qualify.

Visit our website for more information

www.safetyminded.ca/cor



UPCOMING LARGE EMPLOYER COR COURSES

Nanaimo

Senior Management/Owner	May 24
H & S Management	May 25 & 26
Return to Work	May 27

Prince George

Senior Management/Owner	July 26
H & S Management	July 27 & 28
Return to Work	July 29

Langley

Senior Management/Owner	Sept. 27
H & S Management	Sept. 28 & 29
Return to Work	Sept. 30

How do I get my COR?

TSCBC currently offers COR to large employers (20+ employees).

- Employers can register for COR by completing an application form and registering for courses.
- After completion of the required courses, large employers hire a TSCBC-trained and approved external auditor to conduct a company audit.
- The audit results are submitted to the TSCBC for quality assurance and approval.

Day of Mourning

By Leasa Hachey

Last year, 143 workers in B.C. never made it home at the end of the day. They died of illness and injury resulting from their jobs. The second highest industry for workplace fatalities was transportation-related services, in which **26 workers lost their lives**.

Still more workers each year survive workplace incidents but are left seriously injured. In B.C. alone, 95,600 workers were injured last year.

Thursday, April 28, marked the National Day of Mourning, a day to commemorate workers who were killed, injured or suffered an illness because of their job.



Jim Sinclair, President of the B.C. Federation of Labour, speaks to the Day of Mourning crowd from behind memorial wreaths, laid by organizations and individuals who support the reduction of workplace injuries, illness and fatalities.

A ceremony was held in Vancouver at Jack Poole Plaza and included presentations by representatives from WorkSafeBC, the B.C. Federation of Labour and the Business Council of B.C., as well as those affected by workplace fatalities and injuries.

"We need to stop making this an invisible problem, left for remembrance on just one day a year." - Jim Sinclair

To mark the solemn occasion the Olympic Cauldron was lit. Wreaths were placed by various organizations and single long-stemmed red roses were laid by attendees along WorkSafeBC's Line of Work, symbols of remembrance for those lost or injured on the job.

Three years ago, Jessica Kruger, 18, was one of those workers. She had a job painting houses and was on a ladder without a safety harness when she fell six metres to the ground, suffering a serious spinal cord injury. Today, she faces life in a wheelchair.

Jessica Kruger spoke of the purpose

behind the Day of Mourning and what it means to injured and killed workers and their families.

"We need to bring meaning to our loss by encouraging everyone to be more aware of these fatalities and injuries so that they will remember to be safer on the job."

B.C. Labour Minister Stephanie Cadieux attended, noting that every year many families in British Columbia are severely impacted by a death or injury in the workplace.

"We will continue to promote a safe job culture in every workplace, while developing and implementing programs and regulations to keep workers safe," she said.

Jim Sinclair, President of the B.C. Federation of Labour, spoke of several workers who lost their lives in preventable workplace accidents and how that loss affected their families.

"We need to stop making this an invisible problem, left for remembrance on just one day a year," he said.

Sinclair also referred to new laws regarding due diligence and the fact that companies can now be held accountable for worker fatalities and injuries.



On the Line of Work, roses are left beside glass plaques that commemorate workers who lost their lives to their jobs.

Recent work-related incidents reported to WorkSafeBC

Information that may help you to prevent similar accidents in your workplace.

Injury Type : Temporary loss of consciousness, multiple facial fractures

Core Activity : Garbage disposal

Location : Vancouver Island
ID Number : 2010159110366

Date of Incident : 2010-Oct

The driver of a roll-off compactor container truck was opening the rear door of a new design of container to dump a load of garbage. The pressure of the load against the door loaded the release handle, and when the driver released the safety latch on the handle, it sprang out, striking him in the face.

Injury Type : Respiratory issues due to toxic fume (2 workers); smoke inhalation (2 workers)
Core Activity : Construction material recycling

Location : Vancouver Island
ID Number : 2010117640590
Date of Incident : 2010-Oct

Four workers, including two young workers, were exposed to smoke and toxic fumes that developed when a piece of treated wood piling jammed in the wood grinder.

Injury Type : Fractured foot
Core Activity : Cold storage plant

Location : Lower Mainland
ID Number : 2010113830220
Date of Incident : 2010-Sep

A young worker was training on a stand-up forklift. When it veered towards racking, he jumped off the forklift and caught his foot between the forklift and the racking.

Injury Type : Bruising
Core Activity : Warehouse operation

Location : Lower Mainland
ID Number : 2010156680109
Date of Incident : 2010-Sep

A worker was struck from behind and pinned against a workstation by a walkie-rider pallet jack.

Injury Type : Close call
Core Activity : Feed trucking/delivery

Location : Lower Mainland
ID Number : 2010161480379
Date of Incident : 2010-Sep

After making a delivery, a feed delivery truck drove off the property. The truck's stinger delivery arm contacted a neutral wire and a residential power line hanging across the road. The utility pole was pulled down and the power lines landed across the truck. The driver was not injured.

Injury Type : Broken leg, hip pain, soft-tissue injuries
Core Activity : Coal transportation

Location : Northern BC
ID Number : 2010158820216
Date of Incident : 2010-Nov

A highway maintenance snow plow was clearing snow on a public highway when it side-swiped a coal truck that had spun out and was parked on a hill. The plow hit the side of the coal truck as its driver was entering the cab.

Next month's safety
Incident
Investigation
topic...

Visit our e-Library for more information on this issue's topic:

www.safetydriven.ca/elibrary

Trucking Safety Council of BC
210 - 20111 93A Avenue
Langley, BC V1M 4A9

Tel: 604-888-2242
Toll Free: 1-877-414-8001
Fax: 604-888-2243
info@safetydriven.ca

STAFF / CONTRIBUTORS

Rob Weston, Executive Director
rob@safetydriven.ca

Leasa Hachey, Communications & Content
leasa@safetydriven.ca

Tal Sperleng, OHS Program Manager
tal@safetydriven.ca

Andrew Chan, COR Program Manager
andrew@safetydriven.ca