



Fisheries Safety Association

OF NOVA SCOTIA

June 2011

The Fisheries Safety Association of Nova Scotia is pleased to announce the appointment of Stewart Franck to the position of Executive Director. Stewart has been active in promoting injury prevention strategies and improving workplace safety culture for over 25 years in various industries. He brings considerable talent, experience, and insight to this very crucial role. Stewart firmly believes that workplace injuries are preventable, and will focus his efforts on increased awareness of strategies to reduce employee injuries and costs within the industry, leading ultimately to a reduction in employers' WCB assessment rates.



Working together in the interest of safety will produce positive results over time. But first, it is essential to be aware that injuries and fatalities are unacceptable and avoidable, and that such events negatively affect our ability to be successful in other aspects and functions of the business. While the fisheries industry may be commended on the steps they have taken thus far to tackle this important issue - creating a safety association - plenty of work lies ahead in order to get to where we need to be for the sustainability of the Nova Scotia fishing industry.

To find out what you can do to improve workplace safety and reduce the costs of injury, visit www.fisheriessafety.ca, or contact Stewart at 902-742-7521.

Get the *Latest!*

The Nova Scotia Department of Labour and Advanced Education has a new feature on their website called **Knowledge Base**. They say it "will become the main site for information regarding Occupational Health and Safety matters and legislation" with information "articles" and answers to frequently asked questions. See <http://www.gov.ns.ca/lae/kb/>.

While at the Department of Labour Occupational Health and Safety Division website, be sure to subscribe to OHS News: Health and Safety information at,

<http://www.gov.ns.ca/lae/healthandsafety/ohsnews.asp>

And, check out the specific hazard alerts related to the fishing industry at,

<http://www.gov.ns.ca/lae/kb/categories/Hazard+Alerts/Fishing/>

What concerns YOU?

One of the main functions of the Association is Advocacy & Research. We seek to identify matters affecting health and safety and injury/WCB costs within the industry, and look to influence positive change in these areas. To this end, we ask, "**What issue do you have that you feel the FSANS should take up as a "cause" to investigate or explore?**" Perhaps it is regarding workers' compensation claims management; return to work provisions; the role of the doctor in treating injured workers; complex safety regulation; dealing with the WCB NS, Dept. of Labour, Transport Canada, or other agency...whatever it is, please let us know.

Prevention and Education



TRAINING - Have you taken advantage of the special rates for FSANS members on first aid training and Transport Canada required courses at NSCC? See our February 2011 newsletter or call us at (902) 742-7521 for further information.



SAFETY EQUIPMENT - We continue to negotiate preferred pricing when you show your FSANS membership card to convenient suppliers of safety equipment and services such as insurance and safety inspections. Look for further information and links on www.fisherinessafety.ca and in upcoming newsletters.

What are your Safety Responsibilities?

According to the Occupational Health and Safety Act:

Employers must maintain a safe work environment;

- Ensure equipment, materials and the workplace are safe
- Establish safe work policies and procedures for hazardous work
- Advise workers about safety information and clearly state expectations regarding injury prevention and safety performance
- Provide training on the proper use of equipment, safe work procedures, and specific hazards
- Be open to, listen and consult with employees on health and safety issues
- Make *everyone* accountable for safety performance

Employees also share the responsibility for safety, and must;

- Comply with safety rules, procedures and practices
- Wear personal protective safety equipment as required, including PFDs
- Use machinery, equipment, and materials, only as directed and authorised
- Follow safe work procedures
- Report all hazards and unsafe conditions, acts or behaviours
- Report all injuries, incidents and close calls

Exercise your **Rights** responsibly:

- Know – Obtain information on issues that affect health and safety
- Refuse - Employees have the right to refuse work that may be unsafe or unhealthy
- Participate – Get involved to improve safety conditions for everyone, report unsafe conditions, voice concerns or opinions on issues affecting health and safety

NOTE: A Joint OH&S Committee is required if there are 20 or more workers, or a safety representative where there are 5 or more workers.

Need HELP?



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| • Health and Safety Policies | • Effective safety committee/representative |
| • Hazard recognition assessment and control | • H&S legislation/regulations |
| • Program development | • Ergonomic assessments |
| • Work procedures | • Injury reporting |
| • Training | • Accident investigations |
| • Managers and Supervisors H&S "toolkit" sessions | • Root cause analysis |
| • H&S program auditing | • WCB costs and claims management |
| • Workplace inspections | • Dept. of Labour Orders |

Contact Us

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