

# NZ Construction Clients Group Meeting

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# Site Safe NZ Inc

## *WHY ARE WE HERE*

- Site Safe's Mission is "to promote and advance a culture of safety in the construction industry"
- Site Safe is a not for profit incorporated society and acts as a co-operative for health and safety services and products across the construction industry. This includes those who are principals, clients, contractors, sub-contractors and individuals.
- Site Safe is a membership organisation with a growing and diverse range of members across the construction and related industries.



# *PROGRESS SO FAR*

- Since 1999 major businesses in the commercial sector have worked together through Site Safe to improve the industry's safety culture and performance.
- As 'principals' under the HSE Act these businesses have jointly taken a leadership role by promoting and requiring a range of health and safety initiatives for contractors, sub-contractors and others who work on their sites.
- Today, the commercial and civil sectors of the industry have achieved high levels of safety awareness and ability to control hazards.



## *PROGRESS SO FAR cont...*

- Injury data (ACC injury claims) provided by Statistics NZ show that the commercial sector has achieved injury reductions over the past 3 years. Other sectors have increased.
- Independent research reports (2008) by Research NZ and NZ Institute of Economic Research are evidence of significant improvements in site practices, and economic benefits (ACC costs) from reduced accidents and injuries in the non-residential sector.



# *CURRENT DEVELOPMENTS*

- Site Safe's training and other services are regularly reviewed eg work is underway on 6th update of the Building & Construction Passport training material – greater use of real situations and animation.
- Focus of Site Safe's services are on behaviour change linked to building the necessary skills and knowledge to remain safe.
- Growth of interest by principals, main contractors and other contractors to use industry specific auditing systems to monitor site practices.
- The Construction Safety Accreditation Charter launched in 2008 now includes 9 of the leading construction businesses. This reinforces the leadership role in safety.
- Increased interest in building the capacity and ability of sub-contractors to proactively manage health and safety – linked to the Accredited Charter approach.



## *CURRENT DEVELOPMENTS cont ...*

- Recent interest across the main sectors of the construction industry to achieve a more cohesive approach to health and safety.
- At a forum in December 2009, six industry organisations found there were significant common health and safety issues across the industry. The formation of an industry wide 'Health and Safety Council' was seen as a way to progress these issues.



# Industry Organisations – Health & Safety Interests

- Certified Builders NZ
- NZ Contractors Federation
- Registered Master Builders Federation
- Roothing NZ
- Site Safe
- Specialist Trades Contractors Federation



# *FUTURE DEVELOPMENTS*

- Possible formation of an Industry Council will provide a useful forum to clarify common issues, co-ordinate responses.
- Working at a strategic level a 'Council' will enable a more co-ordinated and planned approach to improving the industry's safety and injury performance.
- The Council will enable the industry to reach a more unified position and be able to work with Government on substantive issues eg procurement standards, forthcoming accident insurance changes and safety legislation.



## ***FUTURE DEVELOPMENTS cont...***

Industry organisations have identified operational items that could be promoted by an Industry Council:

- A common Passport with endorsements for hazards for all sections of the Industry
- Standardised safety information that is consistent and accepted by the Industry and Government
- An accreditation system that will meet the needs of sub-contractors and be recognised by ACC and Government agencies