

The BC Forest Safety Council



BC Forest Safety Council
Unsafe is Unacceptable

2006 BC Community Forest
Association Conference and AGM
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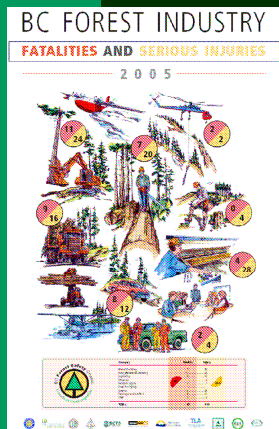
THE CHALLENGE

- ❖ The safety performance of the industry has been unacceptable for some time
- ❖ Historically high levels of fatalities and injuries
- ❖ Many efforts to improve, but trends continued
- ❖ This time, it must be different
- ❖ As the industry renews, safety must become a priority



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THE CHALLENGE -- 2005



Fatalities and Serious injuries in every sector and every region

Consistent with historic trends in the industry

Not the first time Safety has been made an issue

This time the response is different



SAFE COMPANIES

- ❖ **All companies, large and small, will endorse the Forest Safety Accord and have in place all of the necessary programs, personnel and procedures to promote the safety of their workers and those of their contractors**



Our Commitment to Safety

❖ BC Forestry Executives

- We consider the Qualified Companies initiative of the Forest Safety Council to be key. By ensuring that companies, large and small, have all the required safety programs in place and that these are verified and audited will significantly change how we view and deliver safety. Through this program we will ensure that only companies with certified safety programs will be working on our operations. The Forest Service and BC Timber Sales must do the same.



SAFE COMPANIES – The Program

→ Safety Accord Forestry Enterprise

- ❖ **SAFE Companies will be Industry Leaders in Changing the Safety Culture.**
- ❖ **Designed for all Employers...Large, Medium and Small...**
 - Safety programs and procedures to ensure Safe worksites and workers
 - Actively share safety information – Safety Alerts
 - Committed to Industry Recognized Practices (IRP's)
 - Practice shared responsibility in the sector's multi-layered structure



SAFE COMPANIES Large Employers

Large Employer...+20 employees

- ❖ **Audit Requirement...BASE Audit**
- ❖ **Auditor Requirement**
 - Certification Year - External Auditor
 - Year 1 - Internal Auditor*
 - Year 2 - Internal Auditor*
 - Recertification Year - External Auditor
- ❖ **Employers Training Requirement - TBD***
 - Internal Auditor Training
 - OH&S Program Development Training

*Current Draft WorkSafeBC Standards; Council working at revising



SAFE COMPANIES...Small Employers

Small Employer...<20 employees

- ❖ **Audit Requirement...SEBASE Audit**
- ❖ **Auditor Requirement**
 - Certification Year - Internal Auditor
 - Year 1 - Internal Auditor
 - Year 2 - Internal Auditor
 - Recertification Year - Internal Auditor
- ❖ **Employers Training Requirement – TBD**
 - Internal Auditor Training
 - OH&S Program Development Training



SAFE COMPANIES Audit

❖ BASE/SEBASE Audit Components include:

- Management Leadership
- Hazard and Risk Management
- Standards, Procedures and Work Instructions
- Training, Education, and Certification
- Health and Safety Communication Systems
- Incident Reporting and Investigation Systems
- Injury Management
- Contractor Systems...Shared Safety Responsibility
- Prime Contractor Selection and Management



A SAFE COMPANY Will...

❖ Licencee/Owner Safety Responsibility

- Determination of Prime Contractor...in writing
- Provide and maintain land and premises
- Ensure known existing hazards in the workplace are identified
- Ensure training, communication, incident investigations and safety committees
- Ensure emergency response procedures are in place and effective



A SAFE COMPANY Will...

- ❖ **Role of Prime Contractor**
 - Have the capacity and willingness to make the Safety Management System work
 - Have authority over the contractors and sub-contractors working on the site (If a licensee engages a sub directly, there must be agreement as to the authority of the PC)
 - The ability to assess the site for hazards and risks
 - Co-ordination of the Worksite from a Safety perspective.
- ❖ **THIS IS NOT A PAPER DESIGNATION**

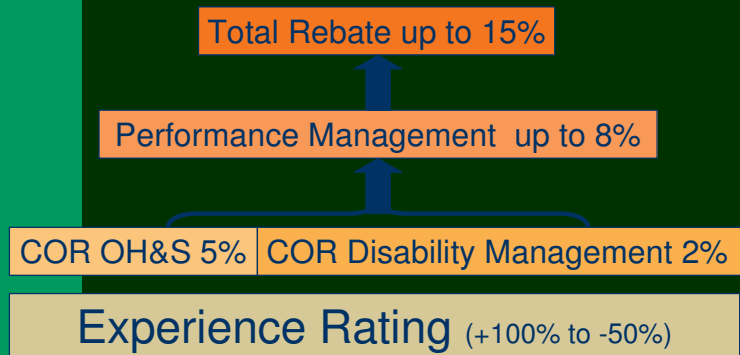


SAFE COMPANIES -- Initiatives

- ❖ **Standards and Audits for Large and Small Employers Almost Complete**
 - Industry Recognized Practices (IRP's) process in place
 - Pilot projects to start this summer and fall
 - Auditor training and standards in development
 - Training programs being developed to support program
- ❖ **Shared Responsibility Review**
 - To sort out safety accountability in the sector
- ❖ **Eligible for 5% Rebate on WSBC Premiums**



Partners Program Proposed Rebates



SAFE COMPANIES---Pilots

Company	Activity	Region
✦ Canadian Air Crane	Helicopter Logging	Coast
✦ Antler Creek Logging	Manual and Mechanized Falling	Coast
✦ Seneca Reforestation	Silviculture	Interior
✦ Zanzibar Holdings	Silviculture	Interior
✦ Balcaen Consolidated	Full Phase Contractor	Southern Interior
✦ RJ Schunter Contracting	Full Phase Contractor	Southern Interior
✦ Hytest Contracting	Full Phase Contractor	Central Interior
✦ Tahtsa Timber	Full Phase Contractor	Central Interior
✦ Elaho Logging	Full Phase Contractor	South Coast
✦ WD Moore Logging	Full Phase Contractor	North Island
✦ Canfor, Vanderhoof	Large Licencee	Central Interior
✦ Tembec, Creston	Small Licencee	South East Interior
✦ Island Timberlands	Private Land Owner	South Vancouver Island
✦ Copcan Contracting	Road Construction	Vancouver Island
✦ Pioneer Logging	BCTS Contractor	Central Interior
✦ Purdon Trucking	Trucking	Central Interior
✦ BCTS	BCTS Business Unit	Straight of Georgia)



SAFE Companies Tool Kit

- ❖ **Designed to Assist in Building your Safety Program...Week by Week Chapters**
 - Promoting Safety at Your Worksite
 - Creating Safety Policy/Procedure
 - Holding your Safety Meetings
 - Inspecting your Equipment/Site and Facilities
 - Preparing for Hazards
 - Catch-up Week
 - Safety Knowledge for Employees and Contractors
 - Incidents and Reporting
 - Maintaining a Safe Worksite
 - Next Steps- Audit Requirements and Benefits



AREAS OF FOCUS

- ❖ **A Safety Aware Legal Regime**
- ❖ **Confident and Competent Workers**
- ❖ **SAFE Companies**
- ❖ **Cultural Change**



SAFE LAWS

❖ A Safety Aware Legal Regime

- The legislation, regulations, and procedures will always take safety into account
- Future laws and regulations will be developed with a safety lens
- Standards and procedures will be applied where needed to ensure safe worksites



SAFE LAWS – Initiatives

❖ Reviews of Forestry Related Legislation, Regulations and Practices that have Safety Impacts

- Regulatory review of MOFR
- Practices review of MOFR
- New Resource Roads Act
- Review of WSBC legislation, regs and practices
- Practices under Forestry TruckSafe



CONFIDENT WORKERS

❖ Confident and Competent Workers

- Forestry occupations will be recognized as the skilled and qualified jobs they are
- All workers in the sector will be fully trained, qualified and, where appropriate, certified
- Supervisors will also be trained and certified



CONFIDENT WORKERS -- Initiatives

❖ Faller Certification (July 31st, 2006)

- First fully certified occupation
- Mandatory certification almost complete
- New faller training in place
- Quality assurance and review process in place

❖ Forestry Supervisors

- Pilot training course completed

❖ Others



BC SAFE Silviculture

- ❖ Deals with the specific requirements of tree planting, brushing, firefighting etc.
- ❖ A full suite of training and qualification programs
- ❖ Tightly linked to SAFE Companies and Forestry TruckSafe
- ❖ Deals with issues of Employment Standards as well



Forestry TruckSafe

- ❖ Truck related incidents are now the largest single area of concern
- ❖ The focus of two Summits that developed an Action Plan
- ❖ Strong connections to general Trucking and the Oil and Gas sector
- ❖ Road use committees have been established
- ❖ Standards, practices and regulatory and legislative changes are being worked on with MOFR, Solicitor General and the RCMP



EMERGING PROGRAMS

- ❖ **Substance Use and Abuse**
 - A new program being developed in concert with other sectors
- ❖ **Workforce Development Planning**
 - Working to develop a forest sector plan for workforce development
 - Being done in concert with of the agencies like HRDC and the ITA
 - Deals with issues related to aging workforce



CULTURAL CHANGE

- ❖ **The safety of all workers and worksites in the sector will become an over-riding priority within the sector**
- ❖ **The province will be more aware of safety and the improvements being made**
- ❖ **Fatalities will be noted with respect**



CULTURAL CHANGE -- Initiatives

- ❖ **Getting the word out**
- ❖ **Better, more timely information**
- ❖ **Forest Safety Ombudsman**
- ❖ **Safety Advocates**



CULTURAL CHANGE -- Getting the word out

- ❖ **Showing respect for families and workers**
 - Taking note when a forestry worker is killed or seriously injured
- ❖ **Newsletters, Conferences, Talks**
 - Take every opportunity to stress and underline safety and its importance
- ❖ **Celebrating successes**
 - We have positive stories, experiences and messages



CULTURAL CHANGE -- Better Information

- ❖ **We are Not Sharing Safety Information**
 - Information inside companies and Regional
- ❖ **Fatalities & Serious injury database**
 - Immediate notification
 - Database improving/Privacy concerns
- ❖ **Safety Alerts**
 - A good start, Common format, requirement of SC
- ❖ **Improved Investigations**
 - More timely, better on Company side



CULTURAL CHANGE -- Safety Ombudsman

- ❖ **New, innovative and important (Roger Harris)**
- ❖ **An impartial safety voice for the sector**
- ❖ **Will ensure**
 - Facilitate fair, equitable and timely solutions
 - Provide confidentiality and protection for individuals and companies
 - Deal with safety issues that may arise between contractors and licensees
 - Provide a forum for discussion and review
 - Foster communications about safety



CULTURAL CHANGE -- Safety Advocates

- ❖ **New, Innovative and Important**
 - We need an extra “push” to get us thinking safety
- ❖ **They will Assist With:**
 - Assessment of current safety programs, practices and identify gaps
 - Development of training and qualification plans for companies employees and workers
 - Assistance in understanding and meeting the steps leading up to becoming a SAFE Company
 - Conducting safety seminars and meetings
 - Generally, assistance in any way that will facilitate the early adoption of programs and procedures that promote safety



HOW ARE WE DOING?

- ❖ **A Good Start**
 - The full sector, including government and the public is engaged
 - Safety is now an important issue
 - A plan of action is in place
- ❖ **Critical Success factors**
 - Better understanding of our safety issues
 - Industry leadership
 - Government engagement
 - Building a forest sector safety infrastructure
- ❖ **BUT, Success Must Equal Improved Safety**
 - Need to get the foundation in place to deal with the structural issues affecting safety



ONE LAST COMMENT

- ❖ **This could be thought of as a voluntary program...however;**
 - You may HAVE to do it...Licencees, BCTS, MoFR
 - You may want to do it...to save money

---CONSIDER INSTEAD---

- ❖ **Doing it for the right reasons...ensuring your employees and you return home safely to your loved ones each and every day.**

