

June 2015

UNSW and WorkCover are working toward an Alliance Agreement that will help create a closer partnership between the two organisations. The aim is for UNSW and WorkCover NSW to work together to advance the development of innovative and best practice approaches to work health and safety and injury management. The Alliance Agreement with WorkCover will soon be formalised and we are very excited about sharing the detail with you when it's ready.



Incident reporting system refresh

The myUNSW Hazard and Incident Reporting System is being upgraded and a consultation session is going to be held to give you a preview of how it will look and new features. This is your opportunity to provide feedback before it is released. If you are interested in attending [register here](#).

- When: Wednesday 17 June 2015
- Time: 1pm - 2pm
- Location: Central Lecture Block 4

This upgrade is part of the HR system (NSS) upgrade.

Global Corporate Challenge

Last week the Global Corporate Challenge started; there are 51 UNSW teams totaling 357 individuals participating in the challenge to achieve at least 10,000 steps per day and improve their health.

The team leading the way so far are "Infectious Smiles" (pictured) from School of Medical Sciences (Medicine), with an average step count of 16,533. Who can challenge this enthusiastic team? The UNSW daily step average is 12,220 and in total so far the GCC participants have burnt off the equivalent of 4,147 slices of cake!

Check out our [GCC webpage](#) with further details.

Health and wellbeing

June is Health and Wellbeing month and we have a range of wellbeing activities and events to celebrate. We have launched a new wellbeing.unsw.edu.au gateway to health and wellbeing services and activities across the university.

As well as the [Global Corporate Challenge](#) we're also entering a team in this years' City2Surf.



The growth and success of any organisation depends on its people. For UNSW that means supporting a work-life balance, and the ongoing promotion of the good health and wellbeing of students and staff. That's the key reason UNSW Health and Safety is getting behind [UNSW Wellbeing](#) with a range of activities. To help us get a clearer picture of the wellbeing issues important to you please complete our [UNSW Wellbeing Survey](#) to help us prioritize the activities and services in our Wellbeing Plan.



UNSW City2Surf team

This year there will be a UNSW Health and Wellbeing team in City2Surf. In addition, we are proud to announce we will be partnering with Children's Cancer Institute to make a difference and donate. The Children's Cancer Institute is a medical research charity that aims to put an end to childhood cancer. As an incentive we're offering a free UNSW T-shirt to the first 50 staff or students that enter the UNSW team. The shirts are made from high quality cotton.

How to enter:

1. Go to [City2Surf](#) webpage.
2. Click on "Race Centre" then click "Enter" in the drop-down tab.
3. Click "Enter Now" and fill in your email and create a password.
4. Enter your details. Under enter team details, tick yes.
5. Drop down list of teams "UNSW Wellbeing". Team password: "Wellbeing"

Go to the UNSW Health and Wellbeing City2Surf [Facebook event page](#) for more details.



Take a break

It is important to regularly take breaks from computer work to avoid sustained postures, relieve muscle fatigue, prevent eye strain and to restore concentration. Often we get too engrossed to remember to stretch and break, if you would like a friendly reminder you can download a program that pops-up reminders on your screen. See our [Workrave instructions](#) on how to download and set-up your preferences.

See our [Rest Breaks](#) page for further details.



Fieldwork procedure

If you carryout fieldwork please review the revised [Fieldwork Procedure](#) and [Fieldwork Safety Guideline](#) currently out for consultation on the [Governance](#) webpage.

Provide any feedback to Lance Islip; email l.islip@unsw.edu.au by 17 June.



Working at height

There are some new additions to the UNSW Health and Safety Management System to manage risks of falls. This includes the introduction of a working at height permit system as well as further updates:

- [HS820 Permit to Work Procedure](#): Currently under consultation, it has been updated to provide guidance on when a working at height permit is needed.
- [HS707 Working at Heights Guideline](#): This supports the permit to work procedure.

- [HS916 Working at Height Permit Template](#): This is a new document.

Comments and feedback on these should be provided to Rohan Singh-Panwar, email r.singhpanwar@unsw.edu.au by 17 June.



Smoke-free update

From 6 July 2015 smoking will be banned in any seated outdoor dining area of a restaurant, cafe or licenced venue in NSW, under the Smoke-free Environment Act 2000.

The ban on smoking within 4 metres of a pedestrian entrance or exit from a public building will also take effect for hospitality venues from 6 July 2015.

For more information, including how to report non-compliance, see the [NSW Health Smoke-Free](#) webpage.



Australian standards for safety

Standards Australia have released a useful list of the most common standards relating to health and safety in the workplace. These are broken down into topic areas such as ergonomics, office lighting, personal protective equipment, fire safety, air quality, pressure vessels, gas cylinders, electrical safety, mining, laboratories, confined spaces and many more.

If you are interested refer to [Guide to Standards - Workplace Health & Safety](#).



Product recall: respirator

Moldex-Metric disposable respirators have been recalled. The diaphragm inside of the exhalation valve may become rigid or brittle after 5 years of storage. Moldex is reducing expiration dates of affected models to 4 years maximum shelf life. Masks that contain an exhalation valve with a diaphragm that has become rigid or brittle may allow contaminant to enter the mask during inhalation. These products were on sale from 28 April 2008 to 8 April 2015.

For more information see [Product Safety Recalls Australia](#).



Lessons learnt

A Chinese supplier of chemicals recently shipped an explosive class 1.3 item to UNSW without identifying the hazard on accompanying documentation.

The supplier admitted the chemicals were transported in this manner to avoid shipping restrictions and transport certification/import/export requirements. The supplier has been removed as a UNSW vendor on NS Financials.

Please ensure that you identify any explosive items before purchasing, obtain an Australian Safety Data Sheet for the substance, check that overseas bought materials are correctly labelled upon arrival and check that correct shipping arrangements are in place and adhered to. Report all instances where suppliers fail to meet our requirements.

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Please provide any feedback to ohs@unsw.edu.au

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