

Long-Term Care Homes & Services Health & Safety Matters

December 15, 2011

LTCHS Joint Health & Safety Networking Committee

The division's Joint Health & Safety Committee (JHSC) Co-Chairs had a successful year in 2011 moving forward with standardization, knowledge transfer & exchange and sharing. Their last networking meeting took place on November 21, 2011. The group looks forward to 2012 and working to ensure the mandate of health & safety are at the forefront. Stay tuned to the next edition where membership and key highlights from 2011 will be shared in a special submission to start the new year.

A Reduction of 50.6%!

The Long-Term Care Homes & Services (LTCHS) Division is proud to announce a 50.6% reduction in Lost Time Accident Frequency rates in 2011 compared to 2010. This reduction will have a significant impact on the health & safety of staff and reduce the budget spent on workplace injuries. Where can we go from here? Rates continue to be highest in areas of Behaviour Related Causes and Materials or People Handling Related Causes. Surface wounds and Bruises and Pain are the most frequent types of injuries that do occur. The division will certainly continue to work further to keep this success going. Congratulations everyone! A significant drop which is a great way to end the year!

'MSDS' Changes to 'SDS' – What Happened to the 'M'?

With the impending implementation of the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals (GHS), many suppliers will be transitioning from an ANSI MSDS (Material Safety Data Sheet) format to the GHS SDS (Safety Data Sheet) format. This transition will not be as simple as dropping the "M".

CCOHS (Canadian Centre for Occupational Health & Safety) has evaluated the impacts of change.

In order to assist with the transition to GHS, CCOHS in partnership with Health Canada's National Office of WHIMIS is offering a free e-course. For more information and to register, please go to:

http://www.ccohs.ca/products/courses/whmis_ghs_intro/

Have a healthy, safe and happy holidays everyone.

Health & Safety Matters Editorial Team:
Elena Farales, Prabhjot Minhas, Erin Mulcahey-Abbott, Reg Paul