



Work Health and Safety EXCELLENCE AWARDS **2023**

Awards Ceremony

Recognising outstanding solutions and innovations to specific workplace health and safety problems in Western Australia





welcome

Acknowledgement of Country

We respectfully acknowledge Aboriginal peoples as the Traditional Custodians of this land on which we deliver our services to the communities throughout Western Australia. We acknowledge their enduring connection to the lands, waterways and communities and pay our respects to Elders past, present and emerging leaders.

Photo: Wooleen Station, Murchison
Provided by Tourism Western Australia

me





Message from the Minister



Welcome to the 2023 Work Health and Safety Excellence Awards.

These prestigious Awards aim to recognise and celebrate outstanding innovations and solutions to specific workplace health and safety issues.

Today's workplaces present a number of challenges to both the physical and mental health of workers. Much positive action is being taken across our State to address these challenges, helping create stronger safety mindsets, behaviours and practices that support the prevention of harm. These Awards showcase some fine examples of what companies and individuals have contributed, and continue to contribute, to safer workplaces.

The health and safety of all Western Australian workers remains a high priority for the State Government, and I sincerely congratulate all of this year's finalists in the Work Health and Safety Excellence Awards. Your contributions are recognised and we all thank you for them.

Additional congratulations to the Award winners and thank you again for your hard work and commitment to workplace health and safety.

Hon Bill Johnston MLA

Minister for Mines and Petroleum; Industrial Relations



Message from the Acting WorkSafe Commissioner



Welcome to the 2023 Work Health and Safety Excellence Awards.

The theme for this year's Safe Work Month is 'Our way forward: Prioritising healthy and safe workplaces' – a timely reminder that the health and safety of everyone in the workplace needs to be the highest priority.

The health and safety of workers – both physical and psychological – is extremely important, and these Awards recognise and celebrate the companies and individuals making a positive difference to workplace health and safety in WA.

We received 65 nominations for this year's Awards – all were of very high quality and came from a diverse range of organisations and individual workers. The judging panel has selected a total of 25 finalists across the five Award categories. Three of the categories carry two Awards – one for workplaces with 199 employees or less and another for workplaces with 200 or more employees.

These Awards are a major highlight of Safe Work Month. The month has provided many opportunities to learn more about health and safety in workplaces, from videos and podcasts to the Safe Tea functions held across WA workplaces. The level of participation in Safe Work Month this year has been excellent, and I'm sure many have taken the knowledge they gained back to their workplaces to help improve everyone's health and safety.

I sincerely congratulate all the nominees and finalists in this year's Work Health and Safety Excellence Awards – you can all be very proud of your achievements. Special congratulations to the Award winners and thank you for your commitment to making workplaces safer for all Western Australian workers.

Sally North

Acting WorkSafe Commissioner



About the Awards



Work Health and Safety EXCELLENCE AWARDS 2023

The Work Health and Safety Excellence Awards recognise outstanding solutions and innovations to specific workplace health and safety problems in Western Australia.

Award categories



Work health and safety invention of the year



Best solution to a work health and safety risk



Best intervention to address a psychosocial hazard in the workplace



Leadership excellence award



Health and safety representative of the year

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Matagarup Bridge was lit up for Safe Work Month 2023, as well as Council House, Mount Street Bridge, Sky Ribbon, Joondalup Drive Bridge and Northbridge Tunnel.



Work health and safety invention of the year

Company: Carey Mining Pty Ltd

Project: Sunrise Dam Gold Mine

Carey Mining worked with its contract partner Nextgen Mining Maintenance to invent an engineering control for hazards associated with the change out of ground engaging tools (GET).

Carey Mining identified hand laceration risks associated with GET changeovers, and several controls were investigated.

A plow bolt clamp was fabricated from existing clamping devices to create a hand tool that holds plow bolts in position while nuts are loosened with a rattle gun. Workers can change GET without contact with the bolts, and have greater control of the rattle gun.

The plow bolt clamp is unique, and is undergoing patenting and large-scale fabrication.

This innovation has eliminated recurrent injuries and plow bolts can now be removed by a single worker in the field, ensuring:

- clamping of plow bolts using a lightweight device that is easily used and portable
- two-handed operation of rattle guns required for the task
- safer body positioning and ergonomics for workers completing the task.





Work health and safety invention of the year

Company: Data Station Pty Ltd

Project: Quick response codes

Data Station has invented a unique solution to ensure work health and safety information is available to everyone at the workplace.

Workers, including contractors, can use their phones to scan QR code stickers that link to customised and relevant health and safety information. The stickers can be placed wherever workers need to access safety documentation.

This has made work health and safety information digitally accessible and passively secured without logging in, removing the need for paper-based documents.

When information is updated, the QR code automatically directs the worker to the new advice.

The system is primarily being used to provide access to more than 3,000 asbestos registers and management plans in workplaces throughout Western Australia.

The QR codes can also be used to link workers to induction information, inspection checklists and safety data sheets. Workers can also use the system to submit anonymous hazard reporting forms.



<p>Where did the incident happen? Site: 0001 - see Site 1</p> <p>When did the incident happen? Incident Date: 25 May 2022 Incident Time: 08:00 Reported Date: 25 May 2022 Reported Time: 10:00</p> <p>Who is reporting the incident? First Name: _____ Last Name: _____ Telephone: _____ or Email: _____</p> <p>Description of what happened.</p> <p><small>© Inc. DataStation Pty Ltd</small></p>	<p>Passenger Lift Service Reports</p> <p>Monthly Checklist (7/2/2019)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">2022-05-03 Emergency Lighting Check2021-12-10 Emergency Lighting Check2021-11-02 Emergency Lighting Check2020-11-12 Fire Extinguisher Inspector2020-03-02 Accident Investigation Report2020-03-02 Accident Investigation Report2020-03-02 Boiler Maintenance Report <p>ADMINISTRATION</p> <p><small>© Inc. DataStation Pty Ltd</small></p>
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Work health and safety invention of the year

Company: Hydratune Pty Ltd

Project: SafeAdjust

HydraTune has created a groundbreaking solution designed to transform industrial system maintenance.

Traditionally, technicians tuning hydraulic systems use hand tools on live equipment, exposing them to machinery, heat and pressure hazards.

HydraTune's SafeAdjust allows technicians to remotely adjust hydraulic and other industrial systems, eliminating interactions with running equipment, and reducing the risk of crush, entanglement, hydraulic fluid injection and thermal burn injuries.

SafeAdjust uses a tablet interface, universal remote actuators and feedback sensors to give technicians the information and updates required to diagnose and tune hydraulic systems remotely.

This innovation significantly reduces the risks associated with traditional maintenance methods and can improve efficiency by decreasing machine downtime and allowing multiple circuits to be tuned simultaneously.

SafeAdjust's adaptable design can be modified for specific industrial settings, making it a versatile solution. Its technology can be scaled to meet the unique demands of different industries, including agriculture, power generation and processing plants.





Work health and safety invention of the year

Company: Rigsafe Lifting Solutions

Project: Americold High Bay cold storage facility

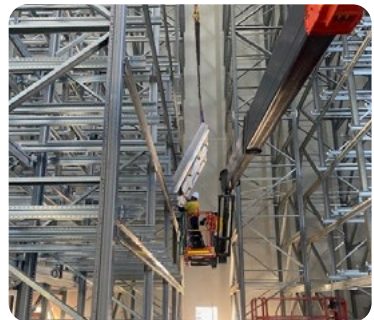
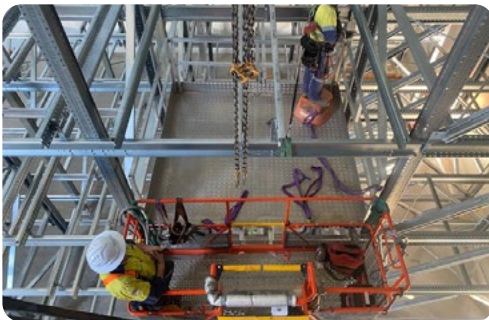
Rigsafe designed a deck that creates a movable safe work platform for working at heights on racking systems without the need for scaffolding and rigging.

The 'flipper deck' was invented during a project's planning phase after Rigsafe identified that a mobile elevating work platform would not be able to access spaces within the rack on a 42 metre high block.

Rigsafe designed the prototype in consultation with engineers to ensure it could be used safely with expected loads.

Once lifted into position, the flipper deck has a handrail system which lies flat on install, and can be positioned and locked off to create a safe space to work. When work is complete, a crane is used to move it to the next position.

The flipper deck allows workers to safely work at heights in a small working environment, and an efficient way of installing bolts with a comfortable posture.





Work health and safety invention of the year

Company: Wallis Drilling Pty Ltd

Project: Aircore automated rod handling system

Wallis Drilling developed an innovative, compact and cost-effective automated rod handling system specifically designed for aircore drill rigs.

Aircore drilling workers manually handle heavy drill rods up to 200 times per shift. Wallis Drilling identified muscular stress and repetitive movement hazards faced by its drillers.

While larger drill rigs use automated rod loading systems, size and cost restraints have previously prevented their use in aircore drilling operations.

Wallis Drilling's aircore automated rod handling system is the result of collaboration and consultation with workers. Brainstorming sessions with workers were followed by extensive research and analysis, discussions with engineers and designers, and workshop and field tests.

Following successful testing, four new aircore drill rigs incorporating the system were built. By implementing the automated system, Wallis Drilling has eliminated the manual handling of drill rods. The system is reliable, robust and has increased productivity.





Best solution to a work health and safety risk 199 employees or less

Company: Co Connect App

Project: Camp Connect workforce app

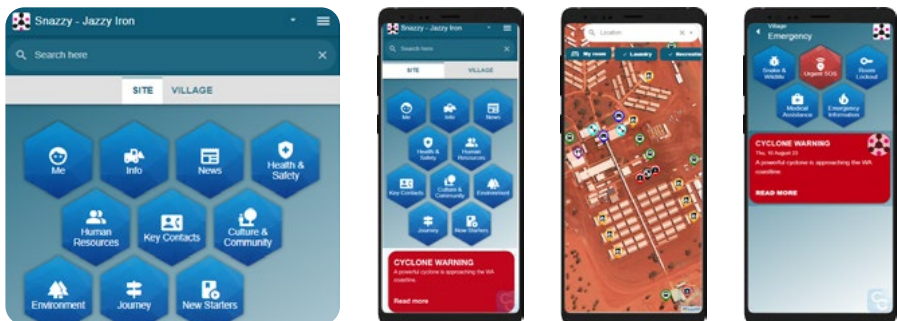
The Co Connect app (formerly Camp Connect), is a workforce communication, engagement and emergency app.

The app aims to solve challenges related to communication and engagement on site, including high worker turnover and psychosocial hazards.

Co Connect's founder identified issues affecting FIFO workers, primarily that FIFO workers have limited access to communications, information, engagement, human connection and emergency measures.

Co Connect works in remote, rural and offline environments, improving access to site-specific health and safety, environment and human resources information and reporting. Workers can use the app to discover site information, such as emergency procedures and village maps. The app also hosts details of social events and mental health and wellbeing contacts.

The app connects to existing systems used on site and feedback has shown improved health and safety communication in remote work. Workers are more likely to access health and safety information, understand emergency processes, and report hazards.





Best solution to a work health and safety risk 199 employees or less

Company: Epigroup

Project: Alter Ergo

Epigroup designed Alter Ergo, a service that aims to prevent work-related musculoskeletal disorders. Alter Ergo uses 3D modelling and motion sensors to capture tasks in detail, including joint angles, movements, postures and sustained loads.

This information is analysed using a tailored data management system, developed in collaboration with Principia Technology. Biomechanical data and individual worker factors such as sleep quality and stress, are analysed to provide a holistic view of physical demands and potential risks. The focus on identifying risks associated with movement during tasks has led to the implementation of targeted controls, such as redesigning tasks.

Workplaces can develop ‘job dictionaries’ that outline the physical demands, injury risks and safe work methods for tasks, leading to improved safety measures.

Alter Ergo was successfully trialled in collaboration with an underground mining operation. The system has since been implemented in mining and manufacturing workplaces, and can be adopted in other industries, including aged care.





Best solution to a work health and safety risk 199 employees or less

Company: Monford Group

Project: Solar farm project

Monford Group automated its construction site check-in procedure, improving safety and increasing productivity.

The work health and safety (WHS) team previously checked in all workers to prevent unauthorised access and check workers' blood alcohol content (BAC). This led to queues at the start of shifts, and reduced the WHS team's productivity.

When planning the solar farm project, Monford consulted workers and collaborated with Nirovision to integrate the Doorkeeper artificial intelligence (AI) checkpoint software into its check-in system. Monford planned and built a shipping container that integrates AI software with rotating gates and digital locks.

The infrastructure's facial recognition scanner means there is always an accurate log of workers on site, improving emergency evacuations. The system also checks workers' BAC, alerting the WHS team if a positive BAC is identified.

When the project is complete, the shipping container can be transported to another site, and the system can be applied to a range of projects and industries.





Best solution to a work health and safety risk 200 employees or more

Company: City of Canning

Project: LBin™ tail lift platform at the Resource and Recovery Waste Transfer Station

City of Canning developed a bespoke engineering solution, the LBin Tail Lift Platform, in collaboration with workers and Contained Waste Solutions, to mitigate several hazards associated with delivery vehicles fitted with tail lifts that present at the Resource and Recovery Waste Transfer Station (RRWTS).

The platform was designed to provide a safe work area between trucks' tail lift platforms and the waste disposal edge. By ensuring a flat, slip resistant work platform, installed with handrails, steps and edge protection, this solution has mitigated the risks of:

- falls from height (up to 2 metres) from vehicle tail lifts
- working in proximity to heavy machinery
- musculoskeletal injury from climbing on and off the tail lift and moving bulky items over a barrier for disposal.

Additional administrative controls are in place to support its installation, including an instructional video and signage, and a dedicated RRWTS worker is available to offer direction.





Best solution to a work health and safety risk 200 employees or more

Company: Edith Cowan University

Project: Immersive violence and aggression de-escalation experience (IVADE)

Edith Cowan University (ECU) has developed IVADE, a training program that harnesses virtual reality to teach healthcare professionals effective methods for managing aggression and violence, blending best practice guidelines with interactive scenarios.

IVADE is the result of ECU's consultation and collaboration with numerous health providers in Western Australia. The program offers a user-controlled story approach with branching narratives. Through 34 decision points, participants navigate scenarios involving aggressive patients, making choices to de-escalate situations. The program has six potential outcomes for de-escalation, including seeking security assistance.

The program features adaptable delivery for educators, evidence-based content aligned with best practices, the ability to replay scenarios, and teamwork opportunities. It can be experienced via virtual reality or standard computer screens, increasing accessibility to training.

The initiative addresses the growing issue of violence in healthcare settings, empowering professionals to respond effectively. ECU's collaboration with experts and users highlights the broader potential of immersive training technology beyond healthcare.





Best solution to a work health and safety risk 200 employees or more

Company: Mineral Resources

Project: Health clinic

Mineral Resources (MinRes) has transformed work health and safety management with the MinRes Health Centre, an innovative solution for the mining industry that promotes wellbeing, while creating a healthier and safer work environment.

Unlike standard third-party pre-employment medical checks, the MinRes Health Centre offers comprehensive in-house assessments, enhancing agility in candidate placement. The centre's location at the MinRes head office ensures accessibility for both on-site and remote workers.

The MinRes Health Centre's multidisciplinary team offers various services, including the proactive identification and prevention of work-related health issues.

The centre's proactive approach promotes healthier habits, and aids recruitment and retention by successfully mitigating risk through streamlined health services.

This has reduced absenteeism, improved productivity, and established a data-driven safety approach, emphasising the importance of tailored, accessible health services for industry specific risks, with potential for transferability to other sectors.





Best intervention to address a psychosocial hazard in the workplace

Company: East Metropolitan Health Service, WA Health, Royal Perth Bentley Group, Royal Perth Hospital Emergency Department

Project: MAKESpace

The Royal Perth Hospital Emergency Department faces the challenge of providing quality care in a high-pressure environment, characterised by a heavy, demanding workload. Healthcare workers can be affected by secondary and vicarious trauma – psychosocial risks that result from the exposure to other people’s traumatic incidents.

In response, a Royal Perth Hospital project team developed MAKESpace, a peer-supported approach for immediate post-event debriefing. During a short session, the facilitator:

- listens to and validates the worker’s experience
- identifies whether they may need additional support after the traumatic event
- encourages them to seek more support as required.

This approach promotes psychological safety, calmness, and peer-to-peer connection while empowering individuals to use their coping strategies and access support systems as needed.

The process ensures prompt help for those who require it and has the ability to prevent psychological injury stemming from acute and cumulative trauma exposure. Its adaptable format can be applied in any high-pressure healthcare department or facility.





Best intervention to address a psychosocial hazard in the workplace

Company: FIFO Focus

Project: Psychosocial risk management: Capability enhancement program

FIFO Focus has been dedicated to fostering mentally healthy workplaces in the mining sector since 2016, primarily offering training and advisory services. In 2022, recognising the importance of effectively managing psychosocial hazards, its focus evolved.

The result of this shift is the four-day Psychosocial risk management: Capability enhancement program, which has already demonstrated significant positive impacts on the sector.

This program seeks to empower a diverse cross-section of mining sector professionals with the skills to systematically and sustainably identify, assess, and mitigate psychosocial hazards. By equipping workers with an understanding of legislation, regulatory compliance, and practical skills for harm reduction, it drives improved performance and heightened productivity within mining operations.

The approach challenges participants and encourages hands-on learning, elevating their understanding from awareness to full competency in managing psychosocial hazards. Moreover, the program fosters industry collaboration to develop best practices, building capabilities across the entire sector.





Best intervention to address a psychosocial hazard in the workplace

Company: Town of Port Hedland

Project: Reducing the impact of antisocial behaviours and psychosocial-related hazards to staff and the public

The Town of Port Hedland faced a significant challenge with rising antisocial behaviour (ASB), particularly in the South Hedland area. This growing issue posed a risk to worker safety, wellbeing, and morale at four of the Town's worksites.

To address these concerns, the Town engaged external consultants to conduct a comprehensive analysis of its ASB risk management practices and make recommendations for reducing harm. It conducted physical observations, operational process reviews, and policy examinations.

After the Town implemented various recommendations, including additional security measures, there was a significant reduction in ASB incidents reported. The Town also invested in Mental Health First Aid training, an employee assistance program and actively addressed community issues including unsafe syringe disposal and volatile substance use, contributing to a safer environment.

The Town's success in transforming its workplace health and safety culture highlights the transferability of its approach to other industries grappling with similar challenges.





Best intervention to address a psychosocial hazard in the workplace

Company: Water Corporation

Project: Mental health champions

The Water Corporation's Mental health champions (MHC) program addresses the critical issue of workplace mental health. Recognising the profound impact of mental health on worker wellbeing and productivity, the program trains Mental health champions at all levels of the organisation to provide essential support to their colleagues.

This approach goes beyond traditional mental health initiatives as, unlike top-down approaches, the MHC program involves workers at all levels, fostering a culture of support and reducing mental health stigma. Champions receive extensive training, including Mental Health First Aid, empathy, compassion, boundary setting, listening skills, and self-care.

The program includes ongoing professional development, mentoring, coaching, and access to resources. Survey data has demonstrated a significant reduction in psychosocial risks and improved overall wellbeing. There has also been an increase in the use of the employee assistance program.

The program can be scaled and transferred to various organisations, offering a model for addressing workplace mental health.





Leadership excellence award 199 employees or less

Company: Macco Feeds

Project: Implementing work health and safety

Macco Feeds has achieved significant improvements in workplace safety in its agriculture-based business including the successful implementation and communication of safety concepts and initiatives, and the redesign and application of a comprehensive work health and safety management system.

A culture of consultation and communication has been fostered, ensuring workers understand their safety expectations and responsibilities. This approach has led to a more engaged workforce, a reduction in injuries and increased hazard reporting.

Macco Feeds has demonstrated its commitment to safety by consulting with workers and partnering with a work health and safety specialist. Worker training and education are more effective, with a range of communication formats to cater to different learning needs.

These initiatives offer valuable lessons in practical health and safety management for agriculture workplaces and can be adapted for broader use. Additionally, extending work health and safety support to rural communities can empower businesses, improve safety, and potentially enhance the overall health of rural populations.





Leadership excellence award 199 employees or less



Company: pirx Australia

Project: pirx meaningful support in the workplace

pirx Australia has made wellbeing programs accessible support to all workers, regardless of company size.

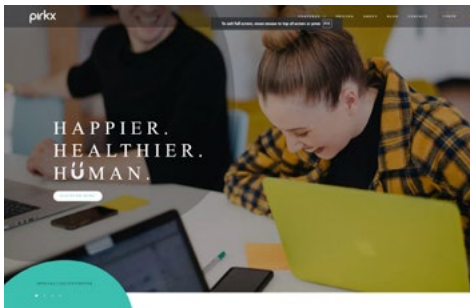
Wellbeing programs are often used in medium to large workplaces. However, pirx recognised the need for wellbeing benefits that are accessible and affordable to all and nurture a positive team culture.

Its customisable digital platform supports workers with psychological and physical health, financial, education, recognition, and social programs and resources in combination with 24/7 phone counselling for psychological, physical, legal, and financial issues.

The platform can also be customised to include workplace-specific health and safety information, giving workers the opportunity to familiarise themselves with safety policies and processes.

pirx creates an accessible space and community which can have positive effects on team culture. The platform can be used to survey workers to gauge culture and attitudes around changes, initiatives and procedures.

Notably, pirx is dedicated to removing the stigma around mental health, offering globally accredited benefits with complete anonymity.





Leadership excellence award 200 employees or more

Company: Curtin University

Project: Leadership health and wellbeing project

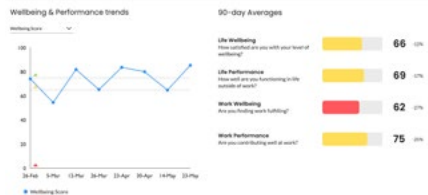
Curtin University's Leadership health and wellbeing project, initiated by the Vice Chancellor, has gained enthusiastic support from senior leaders. The initiative addresses burnout risks, focusing on personalised strategies for stress management, mindfulness, and overall wellbeing.

Through data analysis and profiling, Curtin tailors interventions for individuals, fostering a culture of holistic wellbeing. The results show improvements in focus, stress management, physical activity and self-care among participants, demonstrating the program's effectiveness.

Curtin's commitment to health and safety extends beyond compliance, exemplified by its substantial financial investment. The project facilitates open communication about mental health, aiming to reduce stigma and foster a supportive workplace.

The project not only benefits leaders but also creates a ripple effect, promoting wellbeing throughout the organisation. The adaptable program design and data-driven personalisation make it transferable to various industries, addressing burnout challenges universally.

Curtin's initiative is an example of promoting leader wellbeing and safety, emphasising its potential to enhance productivity, innovation, and organisational culture.





Leadership excellence award 200 employees or more

Company: East Metropolitan Health Service, WA Health,
Armadale Kalamunda Group

Project: EMHS Wellbeing support program, Armadale Health Service
Emergency Department

The Armadale Health Service leadership team of Carmen Callaghan, Neil Cowan and Jane Husein identified ongoing psychosocial hazards in the Emergency Department, exposing workers to a risk of burnout.

They collaborated with the Eastern Metropolitan Health Service (EMHS) workplace health and safety team to implement the EMHS Wellbeing support program, tailoring it to the Emergency Department's needs over 15 weeks. This effort resulted in a wellbeing management plan, including wellbeing check in, leave planning, and de-escalation training initiatives.

Workers were engaged through focus groups, and health and safety representatives made vital contributions to the program. Open communication and consultation resulted in targeted strategies for identified issues including fatigue and patient aggression.

The program created a blueprint for wellbeing-centred workplaces that offer controls for psychosocial hazards. The EMHS wellbeing framework is now implemented across EMHS, with adaptable principles applicable to all workplaces, emphasising holistic wellbeing over superficial initiatives.





Leadership excellence award 200 employees or more

Company: EDL Energy

Project: Safety Leadership Working Group as a force for real change at Maitland LNG

The Clean Energy business unit of EDL, which includes the Maitland LNG plant, created the Safety Leadership Working Group (SLWG) to improve the safety culture. The working group assessed the culture, then aimed improve the capability and function of its leadership, through proactive safety conversations, coaching, education and mentoring.

The working group, which began at Maitland, developed a self sustaining momentum, and participation by global safety leaders organically grew, championing key initiatives across the business while increasing the sharing of safety information across sites.

Over the last four years, the SLWG has become a forum for collaboration, accountability, and a powerful safety tool for leaders across the EDL business. The environment is considered a 'safe space' to identify gaps and deficiencies, generate friendly competitiveness and instil consistency in positive leadership.

The project has resulted in a significant increase in hazard reporting, and consistent use of the site's risk management tool.





Leadership excellence award 200 employees or more

Company: Good Sammy Enterprises

Project: Safety management

Good Sammy Enterprises has made significant strides in enhancing workplace health and safety through its Safety in the workplace initiative.

Key achievements include the development of a comprehensive learning and development system, redesign of the induction process to identify workplace adjustments early and include psychological safety, and implementation of physical improvements like railings and signage in warehouses.

Investment in modern safety platforms has streamlined incident reporting and training management, and the introduction of a Safety and Wellbeing Advisor has further supported safety initiatives.

Consultation is now key, with committees, daily pre-start talks, and culture surveys involving workers in decision-making processes. The results of these initiatives have led to increased worker engagement, improved safety reporting, and tangible changes in the workplace.

These initiatives demonstrate a universal approach to workplace safety, emphasising worker engagement, clear roles and responsibilities, safe systems of work, continuous improvement, and compliance.





Health and safety representative of the year

Name: Ceinwyn Kent and Scott Turner

Company: Armadale Health Service Emergency Department



Ceinwyn Kent and Scott Turner, clinical nurses at Armadale Health Service Emergency Department, have been instrumental in driving positive change in the healthcare profession through their outstanding contributions to the EMHS Wellbeing support program.

Their achievements extend beyond their clinical roles with Ceinwyn and Scott leading the support program launch in 2022, championing the emotional and psychological wellbeing of their colleagues.

The pair actively participated in planning, logistics, and risk management sessions. They empowered their colleagues to recognise and address psychosocial hazards, resulting in a comprehensive wellbeing management plan developed by the emergency department workers.

Their most impactful improvement has been the introduction of pre- and post-shift huddles, which prioritise worker psychological safety, communication, and wellbeing. These huddles address the risks of violence, trauma and exhaustion, fostering a safer and more cohesive work environment.

Ceinwyn and Scott's dedication to nursing and their compassionate leadership have created positive change in their department.



Health and safety representative of the year

Name: Robert Nankivell

Company: BHP Newman West Operations



Robert Nankivell, a health and safety representative (HSR) at BHP's Newman West Operations, has made significant contributions to ensure workplace safety.

Robert completed a thorough audit of defibrillators on site, established a regular servicing and inspection schedule, and trained other HSRs in inspection procedures. He organised a training exercise with other teams to assess and address potential delays in emergencies due to mismatched cam lock fittings on pumper trucks and watercarts.

Robert is dedicated to his role, actively listens to crew concerns, and liaises with leadership. He has a strong grasp of legislation and company policies and is pursuing his Certificate IV in Work Health and Safety.

Robert effectively represents his team and advocates for colleagues who may hesitate to speak up. His leadership skills have inspired other team members to consider HSR roles.

Robert's involvement in an injury investigation led to safe work instructions that controlled risks and prevented future incidents. His efforts make him an exceptional HSR.



Health and safety representative of the year

Name: Jen Byrne, Sharon Ruakere, Dana Steddy and Tina Tuira-Waldon

Company: Department of Justice, Banksia Hill Detention Centre



A team of four health and safety representatives (HSRs) at Banksia Hill Detention Centre in Canning Vale have demonstrated unwavering commitment, teamwork and exceptional representation of their work group.

Jen Byrne, Sharon Ruakere, Dana Steddy and Tina Tuira-Waldon have significantly improved worker and visitor safety through their engagement with workers and WorkSafe inspectors, and regular communication with middle and senior management.

Their accomplishments in the past year include the procurement of essential PPE, training, new safety procedures, door security enhancements, and expanded CCTV coverage.

Additionally, they've initiated improvements through hazard and incident reporting, WHS committee meetings, and face-to-face interactions, addressing concerns such as pest control, cleaning services, night shift lighting, and staffing shortages.

The (HSRs), all Youth Custodial Officers, have consistently shown dedication and resilience in a challenging work environment. Their efforts have improved worker safety and boosted morale.



Health and safety representative of the year

Name: Rob Curtis

Company: St John Western Australia



Rob Curtis, a devoted paramedic at St John Western Australia, has been a strong advocate for the health and safety of his fellow workers.

In his role as a health and safety representative (HSR), Rob has raised and championed numerous safety initiatives across St John, including manual handling techniques, driver safety training, and violence prevention strategies – all with a singular focus on safeguarding his colleagues.

Rob temporarily joined the College of Pre-Hospital Care to train paramedics in safety procedures while fulfilling his HSR duties. He actively participates in safety meetings, initiatives, and public awareness campaigns, enhancing communication within the organisation.

In the past year, he has led critical projects, ensuring worker and patient safety were key considerations in the development of the Complex Patient Ambulance, revising emergency driving procedures and fostering collaborations with ambulance services nationwide.

Rob's dedication has resulted in a healthy and safe workplace, with improved procedures and equipment, through consultation and collaboration.

Congra





Congratulations

to all the winners and finalists



For information about award categories, key dates and how to nominate for the Work Health and Safety Excellence Awards, visit the Department's website at www.dmirs.wa.gov.au/SafetyAwards



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