OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH AND SAFETY REGULATIONS

# **Frequently Asked Questions**



# 1. How will the OHS Regulations affect my business?

The Regulations will impact you and your business on various evels.

With fewer approvals required from the Chief Safety Officer, the Regulations strongly support an Internal Responsibility System (IRS).

### 2. How different are the OHS Regulations from the General Safety Regulations?

There are many changes throughout the Regulations.

The document is easier to use with an indexed search feature to help you find the information you need.

Refer to the *Table of Contents* in the Draft document and review relevant sections to know what, if any, changes you must make.

#### New requirements in the Regulations address:

- Hazard Assessment
- Supervisor Education
- Robotics
- Radiation
- Explosives
- Forestry and Mill Operations
- Additional protection for electrical workers, healthcare workers, and firefighters

#### Other changes address:

- OHS Committees
- First Aid Requirements

- Personal Protective Equipment
- Noise Control
- Hearing Conservation
- Machine Safety
- Scaffolds
- Hoists and Cranes
- Rigging
- · Entrance, Exits, and Ladders
- Excavation
- Confined Spaces Entry
- · Compressed Air
- Diving
- Chemical and Biological Exposure
- Fire and Explosion Hazards
- Demolition Work

## 3. What is the easiest way to find out how to be compliant?

The Table of Contents is the best place to start. It clearly outlines information for you to easily find what you need.

The Table of Contents is available for download at OHSregs.ca.

When in doubt, call the WSCC at 1-800-661-0792 in the Northwest Territories or 1-877-404-4407 in Nunavut and ask to speak to a Safety Officer.



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# 4. How much will it cost me to comply with the OHS Regulations?

#### It depends.

Complying with the OHS Regulations is a progressive step in your safety program. Costs you may incur to become compliant include training

and education, and potential equipment updates, such as fall protection.

You will have to make time for safety committees, supervisor

training, proper worker training, and developing printed safety procedures for your workers.

### 5. Is there a grace period? How much time do I have to become compliant with the OHS Regulations?

There is no grace period once the Regulations become law.

Anticipate and prepare now, so when they become law, you will be compliant.

## 6. If we follow the Codes of Practice, are we compliant?

#### Not necessarily.

The Codes of Practice are based on the Regulations, but not all regulations have Codes. The WSCC will update Codes to reflect the

Regulations, but it is important that you are familiar with, and ready to comply with, the Regulations.

# 7. As a worker, do my responsibilities change under the OHS Regulations?

#### Not really.

Every worker has a responsibility to work safely. These responsibilities are currently part of the Safety Acts. They will now be part of the Regulations as well.

All workers must use safeguards, safety equipment, and personal protective equipment required by the Regulations. They must also follow safe work practices and procedures developed under these Regulations.



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### Don't see your question here?

#### Ask Us.

It is important that you understand and implement the changes required for your business to comply with the *Regulations* when they become law.

WSCC Safety Officers can consult with you, or the WSCC can schedule OHS Regulations orientation sessions to familiarize you and your organization with the changes, so you know what you need to do.