



Newsletter Date

SAFETY SIREN

January 2012

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STATION UNIFORM

There has been a delay in the tender process for firefighters station uniform and ancillary clothing [hats, socks, t/shirts]

- The original tender to be submitted for the "Station Uniform" was complete in mid 2011 but there was general opinion, firefighters required something superior and this may be offered in the industry other than the current standard uniform.

UFUQ members conducted research in the clothing industry, addressed WHS and OHS in our industry [heat, fatigue management] and sought additional clothing in the tender submission. Included in the submission was the opportunity to re-establish a "Dress Uniform" for all firefighters at special occasions [funerals, commemorative services]

March 26, 2012 The Project Team Meeting to finalise Work Uniforms and auxiliary gear for Operational Staff

UFUQ position listed below, while addressing WHS / OHS considerations for UFUQ members [Fatigue, Heat Management]

1. Dress Uniform consisting of the color, "Paris Blue" and the following:

- ✓ Peak Cap
- ✓ Tunic
- ✓ Dress Trousers
- ✓ Dress Shirt [Long Sleeve]
- ✓ Tie [QFRS]
- ✓ Suit Bag [Storage]

2. Station Uniform consisting of the color, "Paris Blue and the following:

- ✓ Military shirt [Paris Blue]
- ✓ Cargo Trousers and/or trousers [Paris Blue]
- ✓ Cargo Shorts [Paris Blue]
- ✓ T'Shirts [QFRS] [Paris Blue]
- ✓ Cricketer's style hat [Replace the Fur Hat]

"HEALTH AND WELFARE"

LAST LINE OF DEFENCE

Your Structural Firefighting Ensemble, Helmet, Gloves, Flash Hood, Top Boots, if they're not FIT FOR DUTY

REPLACE THEM, NOW



ANKLE BOOTS

- ✓ [Replacement for the current elastic sided Red Back]
- ✓ Light weight but durable ankle boot [new style, comfort, similar to wearing a running shoe]

FIREFIGHTING HELMET

Similar to the tender process for Station Uniforms, there was a delay in the tender process for structural firefighting helmets and I am pleased to advise.

February 6, 2012 The Project Team Meeting to Finalise Firefighting & Rescue Helmets, Helmet Accessories and Flash Hoods

This meeting is to finalise the specification and evaluation plan for this project as it is projected to advertise this early March. After a suitable time period for manufacturers to submit their products, the evaluation Firefighting & Rescue Helmets Helmet Accessories and Flash Hoods

WILDFIRE & RTC ENSEMBLE

This is to determine the requirements & specification for QFRS, both urban and rural for wildfire & RTC ensembles.

March 20, 2012 Project Team Meeting - Wildfire & RTC Ensemble

The wildfire & RTC ensembles [single layer jacket and single layer over-trouser] are replacing the current bushfire jacket.
[Addressing OHS Fatigue and Heat Management]

DEPUTY [HSR] HEALTH SAFETY REPRESENTATIVES

January 1, 2012 this new WHS / OHS position [Deputy HSR] was a legislative entitlement under the Workplace Health and Safety Bill 2011 and the position of Deputy Health and Safety Representative has ALL OF THE POWERS of a Health and Safety Representative

- Consultation with Employers
- Workplace Safety Audits
- Ability to cease work IMMEDIATELY should an immediate safety risk be identified that will cause imminent injury and/or death to the worker/s
- Ability to issue [PINS] Provisional Improvement Notices

I will be coordinating nominations and seeking elections of [Deputy HSR] Deputy Health and Safety Representatives in their respective "workplaces" i.e. Fire & Rescue Stations

"HEALTH AND WELFARE"

LAST LINE OF DEFENCE

Your Structural
Firefighting
Ensemble, Helmet,
Gloves, Flash Hood,
and Top Boots,

**CONTAMINATED
AND/OR SOILED by
carcinogenic**
substances as a result
of everyday firefighting
activities

Your PPE / PPC
They're not

FIT FOR DUTY

**SEND THEM TO THE
LAUNDRY NOW**



[HSR] HEALTH SAFETY REPRESENTATIVES

Allow the formation of multiple work groups

- Workers can request formation of work groups
- Multiple work groups can be established based on the diversity of the work
- Activities, or geography or time allow for election of Health and Safety Representative/s (HSR) for each work group:
- Creates a broader representation of workers within a workplace
- Each work group can elect a HSR and a deputy HSR
- **HSR's & Deputy HSR's are entitled to 5 days training within 3 months of election and 1 days training annually**

Please advise UFUQ Health & Welfare Officer at:

- Email: chrisrobinson@ufuq.com.au
- **if you do not have a [HSR] Health and Safety Representative in your "workplace" [i.e. Fire & Rescue Station]**

WORKPLACE HEALTH & SAFETY ACT 2011

New terms that will impact on you through WHS ACT 2011

Due Diligence

- Due Diligence imposes a specific duty on officers of corporations and non-incorporated bodies such as clubs and associations to exercise diligence to ensure work health and safety obligations are met.
- This is different to the Workplace Health and Safety Act 1995 where corporate officers are deemed to be liable for health and safety offences committed by their corporation.
- This duty under the Workplace Health and Safety Bill applies whether or not an incident has occurred and irrespective of whether a corporation is prosecuted.
- Due Diligence can be demonstrated by showing reasonable steps have been taken to;
 - ✓ Acquire and update knowledge of health and safety matters,
 - ✓ Understanding hazards and risks in the workplace,

"HEALTH AND WELFARE"

LAST LINE OF DEFENCE

Always Hydrate
Before your shift
During your shift
After your shift

Have a drink of
WATER NOW

Contact us:

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- ✓ Obtains appropriate resources and processes to eliminate or minimise health and safety risks,
- ✓ Appropriate processes are in place to receive information regarding incidents, hazards and risks and ensuring compliance with duties or obligations under the WHS ACT.
- In further detail, one aspect of Due Diligence may be of interest to the United Firefighters Union QLD.
- For Due Diligence to be met, appropriate resources and processes must be used to eliminate or minimise risks to health and safety.
- One aspect is, "ensuring staffing levels are adequate for safety in operations."
- This may be of interest to the Union, as safe crewing levels of 1+3 are not always met during operations for the Queensland Fire and Rescue Service, and could possibly be considered as a breach of Due Diligence.

Extract from Claire Douglas

Workplace Health and Safety Changes

Each month, I will highlight areas of the new Workplace Health and Safety Act 2011, that will directly and/or indirectly impact in your "workplace" and offer advice and assistance to UFUQ members

In Solidarity

Robbo

"FIREFIGHTER HEALTH & SAFETY" NON NEGOTIABLE"

Authorised by John Oliver State Secretary United Firefighters Union of Australia Union of Employees Queensland