



Monday, 22 August 2011

For Australian Mining Review

Technology showcase to aid workplace safety

Spurning global economic concerns, Australia's mining industry continues to break earnings records. But can it maintain its enviable safety record?

Commendably, the industry is committed to a goal of zero fatalities and injuries.

But the temptation to cut corners in a growth market cannot be discounted, requiring extra vigilance by mine managers and operators on questions of safety.

Furthermore, miners must be prepared for the new OHS legislative environment, for the changes to processes and procedures, and for what and how information has to be recorded and reported.

Technology can help and each year ever-increasing numbers of new products and services come on stream.

It is important that managers and operators be acquainted with them. There's no better place to start looking than The Safety Show Sydney, to be held from 25-27 October at the Sydney Showground, Sydney Olympic Park.

The Safety Show Sydney offers visitors a unique opportunity to find the latest OHS products all under one roof along with hundreds of new and innovative ways to improve workplace performance.

They include risk management tools, security and communication equipment, health and safety consultants, insurance products, medical and rehabilitation services, first aid, ergonomics and office safety, vehicle safety, workplace wear, hygiene services and equipment, and legislation advisory organisations.

As a bonus, two other exhibitions to interest miners will be held concurrently at the same location: Bulkex and Sydney Materials Handling.

Following is a glimpse into what can be seen at The Safety Show Sydney, commencing with advanced services.

Contractor management

Work health safety (WHS) in contractor management is complex because many variables impact on organisation and contractor obligations. As a result organisations commonly don't feel they have adequate knowledge to evaluate contractors' WHS capabilities.

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At the Noel Arnold & Associates stand, visitors can learn about Cm3, an independent and robust web based WHS prequalification process that enables the selection of a broad range of WHS prequalified contractors, the review and verification of the currency of contractor insurances, trade licenses and other relevant documents, and classification of the WHS risk level of contracted work.

Organisations using Cm3 include Westfield, Colliers International, the GPT Group, Bakers Delight, Jones Lang Laselle, Australian Red Cross and Stockland.

Safety management

Visitors to the ComOps stand will learn how Salvus, a comprehensive safety, risk and claims management system can help by efficiently managing safety processes, mitigating risk, cutting costs and ensuring compliance with legislation, while proactively protecting and driving the business.

Imagine giving someone the title of OHS manager without training in environmental responsibilities? Absorb Environmental Solutions, a leading provider of environmental training, products and services will showcase spill response products from basic spill kits to silt control devices, along with advice to meet every need.

OHS compliance training

Everything you need to know about online OHS compliance training can be found at the Savve-E stand. An innovative compliance-training suite provides courses designed for both office and in-the-field working environments.

Managers can have highly effective OHS and other key compliance training out to employees within days, with courses tailored to the organisation's needs. Additional courses suited to the organisation can be created using the Savv-e Express award-winning tool and delivered using this flexible e-learning management system.

Posters for safety

Visitors to the Poster Faktory Australia stand will find a unique service, in which posters are supplied and maintained through a dynamic poster exchange system. The posters, catalogued in an extensive library, cover a broad range of issues relating to health, safety and the environment.

Special front-loading, anodized frames are positioned strategically across an organisation's site. Once the frames are installed the posters are changed every six weeks and charged for on an annual fee basis. A free design and print service prepares messages to theme specifications.

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Safe cleaning

CIPLs Simple Green® cleaning products are safe to use, both for equipment and employees. They are non-flammable, non-explosive, readily biogradable, non-toxic, non-reactive and have mild alkaline pH ranges, enabling them to replace most cleaning and degreasing chemicals and solvents used in industry today.

The Simple Green Crystal can be used in machinery, plant and equipment and in food processing. The Drainbo Drain Cleaner will penetrate and digest household waste such as grease, soap film, oil, proteins, fats, detergents and other common blockage material safely.

Hand hygiene

Deb Australia is to showcase a 'global range' of hand hygiene products for the workplace that builds on 70 years experience with industrial, commercial, automotive and food sectors.

Deb's ultimate aim in launching on a global scale is to motivate compliance with skin safety best practice by meeting specific skin safety application needs that respect end user preference across geographies.

Saliva drug detection

One mine site concern is the use of recreational drugs and abuse of prescription drugs. When such users are truck drivers, operators of cranes and forklifts, and operators of machinery, the risk of injury, perhaps fatal, to themselves or others is high.

Pathtech Pty Ltd will showcase its Securetec DrugWipe saliva drug detection devices that provide an efficient, reliable and rapid test with the added benefit of portability on-site and a visible result within 10 minutes. All State police jurisdictions use the system for roadside screening of illicit drug groups.

Life saving handshake

The Teldio stand will feature 'the handshake that saves lives' – an advanced communication link for employee safety that combines two way radio and phone systems for organisations of any size.

The system uses Motorola Digital 2-way Radios (MotoTRBO) and Teldio's RBX+ communication software, to interface the private radios with the Telstra telephone network and corporate phone systems. Also featured is the ZONITH range of alarm notification and positioning systems.

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The system is cost effective and ensures employees, even in remote circumstances, can keep in touch at all times and are assured of a quick response in case of emergencies.

Safe work wear is a must at mine sites. Here are samples, commencing with eyewear...

Safe eyewear

Ugly Fish is a leading Australian sports and safety eyewear brand that will feature wraparound sunglasses designed to protect the eyes at work or play.

The Flare model, for example, with indoor/outdoor lens, is perfect for working in and out of tunnels, on a highway or railway. The lens automatically responds to light conditions, becoming lighter when working inside and darker in the outdoors.

All the lenses in the Ugly Fish Safety Eyewear range comply with AS NZS standards, are optically correct with no distortion and have anti-fog and anti-scratch coatings. They are suitable for use with hard hats and earmuffs and the temples (arms) are generally shorter, slimmer and very flexible. Coverage is maximised to reduce risk of eye injury from dust and other particles and polarised products are available for those exposed to UV.

Protective frames

From the New Eye Company comes the IC safety system of eyewear that enables users to simply release the scripted lenses from their frames and re-insert them into new protective frames should the need arise.

The system comprises a wrap around frame with fixed lenses and an 'Astralon optical foil' – a flexible plastic inner frame that can be fitted with a person's prescription lenses. The Astralon foil slips into place beneath the outer frames, which take the brunt of any wear and tear or impact.

Gloves on

The new Mechanix Wear Safety Range of gloves will be officially launched at the Hot Chilli Source stand. Mechanix Wear is a range of technically advanced work gloves that have been carefully designed to minimize the chance of injury and maximize the user's ability to get the job done.

It's a long standing brand used by NASA, Boeing, the Holden Racing Team, Ford Performance Racing, Casey Stoner's Ducati Team and is the official gloves of NASCAR racing.

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Boots and clothes

Who needs heavy work boots? Lifestyles Industries Group will present new CarbonMax technology in its Wolverine Guardian Work Boot line. The CarbonMax safety toe is resistant to extreme cold and heat and is 50% lighter than a steel toe, but still offers all the protection needed in harsh work environments, while leaving the wearer less fatigued.

Custom Made Clothing will demonstrate how to combine brand image promotion and compliance with safety standards in one easy online purchase of unique, cutting edge 'hi vis' work wear. Mantra Uniforms and Promotions' innovative new website www.custom-made-clothing.com.au allows users to customise a range of safety clothing. Minimum orders start at only 10 garments and new uniforms can be delivered to the door within four weeks.

Reuseable barrier tape

Zonesafe Systems will present an environmentally friendly alternative to non-reusable safety barrier tape for the protection of small and large hazardous areas.

Retracta-Safe, for example, aims to greatly reduce the amount of non-biodegradable plastic ending up in landfill, and provides a tidy mechanism for barrier creation, as the tape retracts into its housing unit, when the site has been deemed safe, and can be used again and again. It comes in 10m lengths, and units can be joined to create 20m spans.

Applications are as diverse as they are many, and include mining and construction sites, with messages ranging from 'Caution' to 'danger demolition in progress'.

Safety padlocks

Mayo Hardware will present the entire range of its Master Lock Lockout/Tagout Solutions, including newly launched safety padlocks, hasps and lockout cables for smaller diameter lockout points.

The S31 safety padlock has a durable non-conductive Xenoy™ lock body and a 4.76mm marine grade 316 stainless steel shackle. Available in nine colours, S31 safety padlocks are extremely light in weight, perform in extreme conditions and can withstand harsh chemicals and corrosion.

A lockout hasp is vital when work is undertaken by more than one employee. The S430 and S431 hasps fit smaller lockout points. The S430 has a plastic body, closes like a book and accepts two lockout hasps. The S431 is constructed from 316 stainless steel, for highly corrosive environments.

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First aid kits

No office, home or traveller should be without a first aid kit, and one of the best examples will be shown at the Survival Emergency Solutions stand.

Survival Emergency Solutions, which has sold two million copies of the *Emergency First Aid Handbook*, will be exhibiting its new 'Handy' First Aid Kit, a new 'Extras Pack' for the Traveller Kit and a new 'Workplace' First Aid Kit.

Visitors should also ask about the free First Aid iPhone application.

Pallet racking protector

VisiPro will showcase the VisiPro™ high visibility pallet racking upright protector, designed to reduce the damage resulting from impacts caused during loading and unloading of racking.

With superior rack protection properties at 30% of the cost of existing market players, the VisiPro uses a simple clipping system to ensure fast installation, and has a narrow width so as to provide protection without reducing the clear entry of the pallet into the racking bay.

Safe manual handling

Manual handling operations can be performed faster, more accurately, and with a greater degree of safety by using industrial manipulators.

Manipulators use pneumatics to counterbalance weight, often in situations that require awkward or heavy objects. Common uses are palletising and de-palletising, and lifting and positioning bags or cartons.

At the Dalmec stand, will be demonstrated the Posivel wire rope model and the Partner models that features double articulated arms and a variety of toolings for applications up to 900kg.

To register or for more information, go to thesafetyshow.com.au or call 03 9654 7773.

The Safety Show Sydney, Sydney Materials Handling & Bulkex

Tuesday 25 October 2011 10am - 5pm

Wednesday 26 October 2011 9am - 5pm

Thursday 27 October 2011 9am - 4pm

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Venue
Sydney Showground, Sydney Olympic Park
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