# Breakfast Talk for CEOs of SMEs in Singapore

With our Guest Speaker

Mr. Winston Yew

Director, Industry Development

Workplace Safety & Health Council

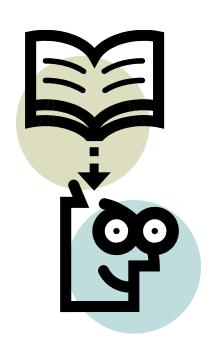




Director, National Safety Council of Singapore 5<sup>th</sup> July 2019



# **Workplace Safety & Health Legislations**



### **Workplace Safety & Health Act**

• <a href="https://www.mom.gov.sg/legislation/workplace-safety-and-health">https://www.mom.gov.sg/legislation/workplace-safety-and-health</a>

### **Work Injury Compensation Act**

### **Subsidiary Legislations**

• <a href="https://sso.agc.gov.sg/Act/WSHA2006">https://sso.agc.gov.sg/Act/WSHA2006</a>



# **General Duties of Persons At Workplaces**

| Sections | Provisions (WSHA)Specific Duties  |  |  |
|----------|---|--|--|
| 10       | According to different capacities   |  |  |
| 11       | Occupiers   |  |  |
| 12       | Employers   |  |  |
| 13       | Self-employed Persons   |  |  |
| 14 & 14A | Principals  |  |  |
| 15       | Persons At Work   |  |  |
| 16       | Manufacturers, Suppliers of Machinery, Hazardous Substances used at work  |  |  |
| 17       | Persons who erects, install, modify machinery or equipment, and persons in control of use of machinery at work. |  |  |
| 18       | Other related duties of Principals and Employers  |  |  |
| 19       | Occupiers of occupiers of common areas  |  |  |

Source: https://sso.agc.gov.sg/Act/WSHA2006#pr20-



# **Key Concepts in Legal Duties of Employers**



# Risk Assessment & Management

becomes a key legal requirement...

- Workplace Safety & Health (Risk Management) Regulations.
  - Risk Management Code
     Of Practice 2.0 2015
  - SGSecure Elements
  - Approved Codes Of Practices (ACOP 2018)

Source: Sections 11 - 15 of the WSH Act. <a href="https://sso.agc.gov.sg/Act/WSHA2006#pr20-">https://sso.agc.gov.sg/Act/WSHA2006#pr20-</a>



# Are there Resources Available for Employers?

1. bizSAFE Scheme targeted primarily at SMEs in SG.

To date some <u>33,000 companies</u> have benefitted from this Scheme.

2. Gallery and Publications

Safety Videos, Guidelines, Self-Help Checklists, Banners, Posters, etc.

3. WSH Information for subscribers

WSH Bulletins, Shine Newsletters, iWSH Newsletters, etc.

- **4. e-Tools** for Organisational <u>Self-Assessment</u> in terms of WSH Compliance level, etc.
- **5. Annual Report & Statistics** by Industry, type of Incidents, etc.
- **6. Latest Resources** How to build Safety & Health in your organisation, and many other useful information to <u>start</u> with.

### **Resources Link:**

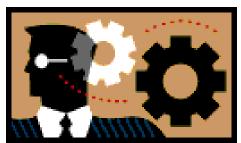
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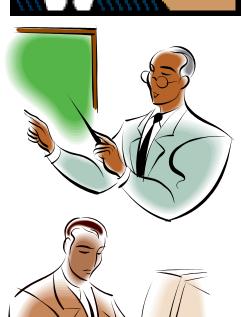
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# **Duties of employers Section 12**

- (1) It shall be the duty of every employer to take, so far as is reasonably practicable, such measures as are necessary to ensure the safety and health of his employees at work.
- (2) It shall be the duty of every employer to take, so far as is reasonably practicable, such measures as are necessary to ensure the safety and health of persons (not being his employees) who may be affected by any undertaking carried on by him in the workplace.
- (3) For the purposes of subsection (1), the measures necessary to ensure the safety and health of persons at work include (a) providing and maintaining for those persons a work environment which is safe, without risk to health, and adequate as regards facilities and arrangements for their welfare at work;



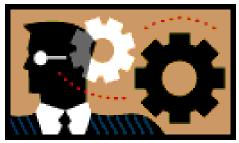


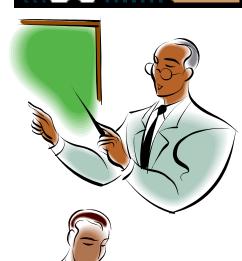




# **Duties of employers Section 12**

- (b) ensuring that <u>adequate safety measures</u> are taken in respect of any <u>machinery</u>, <u>equipment</u>, <u>plant</u>, <u>article or process</u> used by those persons;
- (c) ensuring that those <u>persons are not exposed to hazards arising out of the arrangement, disposal, manipulation, organisation, processing, storage, transport, working or use of things (i) in their workplace; or (ii) near their workplace and under the control of the employer;</u>
- (d) <u>developing and implementing procedures</u> for dealing with <u>emergencies</u> that may arise while those persons are at work; and
- (e) ensuring that those persons at work have adequate instruction, information, training and supervision as is necessary for them to perform their work.



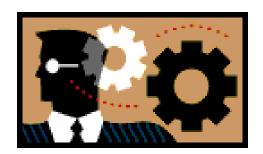






# **Duties of employers Section 12**

(4) Every employer shall, where required by the regulations, give to persons (not being his employees) the prescribed information about such aspects of the way in which he conducts his undertaking as might affect their safety or health while those persons are at his workplace.







# So, what if we happen to fail to comply...?



**Penalties & Liabilities:** 

https://www.mom.gov.sg/workplace-safety-andhealth/workplace-safety-and-health-act/liabilities-and-penalties



# **List Of Some of the Prosecutions**

| Fine increased after Appeal (Fatal Accident – struck and pinned by fallen steel gate). | <b>S\$ 330,000/-</b> (from S\$ 280,000/-)  | https://www.mom.gov.sg/newsro<br>om/press-releases/2018/0417-<br>contractors-fine-increased-on-<br>appeal-for-failing-to-ensure-safe-<br>installation-of-a-gate-resulting-in-<br>fatal-accident |
|--|--|---|
| Slip & fall Fatality – A Culinary company fined  | S\$90,000/-  | https://www.mom.gov.sg/newsro<br>om/press-releases/2017/0517-<br>commonwealth-culinary-<br>creations-fined-under-the-<br>workplace-safety-and-health-act  |
| (<br>F   | Fatal Accident — struck and pinned by fallen steel gate).  Slip & fall Fatality — A Culinary | Fatal Accident – struck and (from S\$ 280,000/-)  Slip & fall Fatality – A Culinary S\$90,000/-   |

## **Enforcement Listings & Statistics**

**Source:** <a href="https://www.mom.gov.sg/workplace-safety-and-health/wsh-reports-and-statistics">https://www.mom.gov.sg/workplace-safety-and-health/wsh-reports-and-statistics</a>

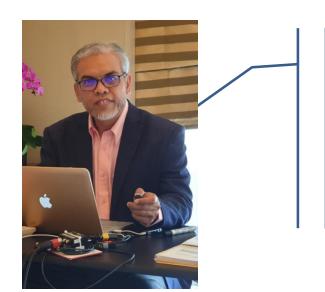


# Ask to Clarify Matters of Concern

- 1. What are <u>interns</u> regarded as in workplaces?
- 2. Are Contractors working within our workplace our responsibility?
- 3. Are Suppliers of MEWPs used in our workplace our responsibility as well?
- 4. What if workers (our employees) refused to don their personal protective equipment, and perform work without observing closely on the safe work procedures (or safe work practices)?



# In Summary....



So, as CEOs, Top Management Personnel and Leaders of Organisations, let us **Ensure** that **ALL** Work Activities, Tasks, Processes and Operations are SAFELY carried out without RISK to the SAFETY & HEALTH of everyone involved.

**DuPont:** "Safety is Good for Business"

Asdin Associates: "Do it Right the First Time, All The Time. Work Safely, Stay Healthy and happy"