

News update 22 May 2013

PISAFE has been working hard in getting the safety message out to all the Farmers of the Northern Territory. We have been regular attendance of the various meetings held by NT Farmers and Mango growers. This has given PISAFE great exposure into explaining what assistance we can provide everyone within the Farming industry in the Northern Territory.

The key for those in the Industry is in overcoming the initial trepidation caused by the sanctions within the WHS Act / Regulations. Most PCBU's I have spoken with are very WHS conscious and welcome the opportunity to have a non-regulator advisor to consult.

The requirement of PCBU's to maintain mandatory Safety Management Systems or Plans (SMS) is causing the most headaches for all three industries, be it a remote cattle station, a mango farm, fishing trawler, food processor or packing sheds. The SMS is to demonstrate current safety procedures are in place and being used. For example, the induction of new and existing employees in workplaces must be documented and systems of recording hazards, identification and the control measures taken. These should be done by regular checklists or audits, signed and dated by the relevant parties.

PISAFE are looking to be in contact with many more PCBU's from the Farming industry and encourage all too contact PISAFE in regards to assisting with their Safety Management Systems.

The most common question I receive is in regard to workers who ignore safety procedures. This can be for a number of reasons, a trend observable on social media where engaging in and recording of dangerous/questionable behaviour is regarded as 'cool' perhaps? There are countless hours of recorded, predictable and painful stupidity frequently involving skateboards or attempting to emulate superman, however when such behaviour is work related it is unacceptable, the WHS Act refers to persons having responsibility for their personal safety and of those around them.

Further information is available on www.pitac.org.au refer to the PISAFE for assistance and services offered, this is a free of charge service. Or contact me directly at:

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