

# The Hydraulic Safety Press

WINTER,  
2013

**HSAC**  
Hydraulic Safety Authority  
of Canada Inc.™

YOUR SOURCE FOR HYDRAULIC SAFETY AWARENESS NEWS, TIPS & INFORMATION

## News & Events

» HSAC is pleased to announce that Levitt-Safety is now an authorized provider of HSAC Hydraulic Safety Training courses and Consulting services. Levitt-Safety has grown over the past 75 years to become the largest specialist supplier of safety equipment and services in Canada. Levitt-Safety has 14 locations nationwide to serve your safety needs. Levitt-Safety has maintained a customer focused approach and continues to meet the ever-changing safety needs of its customers by expanding their safety offering and recognizing the role they play as a safety partner. Contact [training@levitt-safety.com](mailto:training@levitt-safety.com) for Hydraulic Safety Training and Consulting.

» The Board of Canadian Registered Safety Professionals (BCRSP) has awarded the Hydraulic Safety Awareness Course, HSAC High Risk Maintenance Level, 1.0 CMP. The CMP approval number is 13024 for the 2013 calendar year. HSAC would like to congratulate all CRSPs who completed the High Risk Maintenance Course. This course is available online at [www.hsac.ca](http://www.hsac.ca). Contact [info@hsac.ca](mailto:info@hsac.ca) for the CRSP discount.

» **Heavy Construction Expo: Building Workforce Excellence**  
*Manitoba Heavy Construction Association.*

The MHCA's annual three day Heavy Construction EXPO will be held April 8-10, 2013, at the Victoria Inn Winnipeg. HSAC will be training Exposure Level and High Risk Maintenance Level over the 3 days. Contact (204) 947.1379 to register for one of these courses.



Next issue: How Hydro One is increasing hydraulic safety on their equipment

## Customized Hydraulic Safety Training

**Why tailored training?** Not only is each industry sector unique, so are the tasks, procedures, and interaction with hydraulic systems.

The outcome is; geared training for current and future personnel, integration of safety components, and development of procedures.

Tailored training provides the learner with visual media (photo/video) of what the learner would encounter day to day in their own work environment.

Site specific training can be delivered in house to personnel at any time with no additional expense. Owning your own training has great advantages over purchasing generic courses. Tailored training utilizes core content from HSAC's current courses which complements the general safety sections of the tailored training. Contact [info@hsac.ca](mailto:info@hsac.ca) for more information on tailored training courses. 🍁

## Online Safety Courses

HSAC is very pleased to offer many more online safety training courses. Visit [www.hsac.ca](http://www.hsac.ca)

- Aboriginal Awareness
- Alcohol and Drug Awareness
- Arc Flash Awareness
- Backing Safety Fundamentals
- Bear Awareness
- Chainsaw Safety – Ontario
- D.R.I.V.E
- Electric Safety Training
- Fall Protection Awareness
- Fall Protection Professional Series
- Firefighting Safety
- First Aid Awareness
- First Aid Interactive Refresher
- Four-wheel drive Fundamentals
- GHS Hazcom 2012
- Goal Setting
- Hazard Assessment
- Lithium Battery Safety
- Safety Moments
- Safe Slings and Rigging
- Sexual Harassment Part 1-Hostile Environment
- Sexual Harassment Part 2-Quid Pro Quo & Retaliation
- The Effects of Stress on Driving
- The Supervisor: OH&S and the Law
- Time Management
- Traffic Control Person for Construction
- Transportation of Dangerous Goods TDG
- Trip Inspection
- WHMIS
- Winter Driving Fundamentals
- Workplace Harassment-The Real Deal

## “Letter of the Law”

Safety consulting services has exploded over the past few years. Safety consultants are reducing risk for their clients in many industry sectors. Consultants will assist in compliance with acts and regulation of the local jurisdiction; however we are beginning to recognize that current acts and regulations are not advancing. Standards and best practices are not becoming but being utilized as the “spirit of the Law”.

One example; no current Occupational Health and Safety Standard, Act or Regulation states “do not check for hydraulic leaks with your Hands”. The risk of a fluid injection injury is high which can lead to amputation. Not all personnel are aware of such hazards nor do the standards and acts point out these details.

This leads to the qualifications of the consultants performing assessments and audits. Is it possible a single person has all the knowledge to eliminate risk and recognize at risk behavior?

If your company utilizes safety consulting services, consider using consultants that have experience in specific hazard disciplines. Radiological protection and ergonomics are examples of two hazard disciplines on opposite sides of the spectrum. You would agree that a single source will not provide the most effective solution to eliminating 100% of your risks. It’s not the case of “buyer beware” it’s a case of determining the consultants knowledge, ability and available resources.

Hydraulic safety also lies on the perimeter of the spectrum and is based more on recognized best practices rather than the “letter of the Law”.



# Site Access

Does your contract require personnel to have hydraulic safety awareness as part of the contract or as part of the prequalification to bid? Contracts, Tenders, and Requests for Proposal are now becoming more complex with the addition of safety requirements. In many cases you are required to be pre-qualified prior to receiving any bid document. Safety has taken a front seat on page one and will likely be there for many years to come. Having your eggs in a row can be very difficult if personnel are an influx for your specific contract. The question is; who has had what safety training?, and can we rely on the documentation a worker may provide?

Phony wallet cards for other safety courses have been floating around which has given non trained personnel site access. When this occurs everyone on that site is in danger. HSAC considered these issues in our early developments and decided to stay one step ahead by providing a certificate and wallet card that is serial numbered. With permission of the card holder HSAC can confirm in minutes if the card and card holder are a match. Personnel having Hydraulic Safety Training will perhaps be a requirement in your next contract.



## Trained In Hydraulic Safety

Congratulations to those who recently completed Hydraulic Safety Awareness Training.

Hydraulic Safety is not only gaining recognition in Canada but also gaining recognition internationally.

HSAC recently trained personnel at the Caribbean Utilities Company in Grand Cayman.

The Caribbean Electric Utility Services Corporation (CARILEC) in St. Lucia has scheduled training for mid-February. CARILEC strives to enhance communication among its members and to serve as the focal point for general and technical information. The Secretariat takes the lead in advocating for change in the electric utility industry in the Caribbean and in this regard produces a number of information products and provides a range of services to members.





## FAQ

We encourage our viewing audience to send us questions which we can share to assist others. HSAC received this question from a mine worker.

**Q:** I work in a mine running a piece of equipment with many hydraulic hoses in a 'track' system. The concern I have is that the hoses in the 'track' and elsewhere have damage to the outer covers and the braided reinforcement wire is exposed, and in many cases badly corroded. Could you please help me maintain safety in my workplace by providing your input into this situation?

**A:** When the outer shell of a hydraulic hose has been damaged or has begun to breakdown exposing the wire reinforcement, the steel wire immediately begins to corrode.

The inner layer of rubber has no strength without sound wire reinforcement. Any hoses that are damaged should be replaced.

There is no Act or Standard that states you must, however legal repercussions can result in the event of a failure causing injury or death, including property and environmental damage. Liability may fall on the persons, supervisor and company responsible for using components that are visibly damaged where the manufacturer and industry best practices states that it is not safe. A "fraying" hose is not safe and can fail at any time. The overall costs are much higher when failure occurs.

## Poster Campaign A Success

HSAC is pleased to hear many organizations are making awareness of hydraulic hazards through the use of HSAC safety posters. To view the free safety posters please visit us at [www.hsac.ca/survey.html](http://www.hsac.ca/survey.html)

All safety posters are available for printing from the HSAC website. Please forward this link to colleagues, supervisors and field personnel for posting on bulletin boards and for use in safety meetings. HSAC will be posting a new poster every two weeks. Next month, posters will be available in French.

## Next Issue

- Why accumulators are deadly
- Hydraulic leaks to the environment, prevention through training
- More of what to inspect for
- TST Sweden is testing a glove to prevent fluid injection injuries

