



# HWSA CAMPAIGN CONCEPT

## Construction – Scaffolding - 2009

Version:	Final
Print Date:	31/07/2009 2:31 PM
Release Date:	
Release State:	
Approval State:	Draft
Approved by:	
Prepared by:	Kathy Maltby
Reviewed by:	
Path Name:	
File Name:	S:\OHSD NEW\IRG\Construction\Health Safety Management\Compliance\Intervention\2009 Projects\HWSA Construction Falls Scaffolding\Project concept
Circulation List:	
Confidentiality Category:	Confidential

**DOCUMENT CHANGE CONTROL**

Version	Date	Authors	Summary of Changes
1	27 April 2009	Kathy Maltby	
2	6 May 2009	Kathy Maltby	
3	15 May 2009	Kathy Maltby	

**DOCUMENT SIGN-OFF****Author (Campaign Proposer)**

Name (Position, jurisdiction)	Signature	Date
Kathy Maltby Assistant State Inspector Construction & Utilities Team WorkCover NSW		

**Lead jurisdiction sign-off (Campaign Sponsor)**

Name (Position)	Signature	Date
Peter Robinson Construction Team Manager WorkCover NSW	Supported / Not Supported (circle)	

**HWSA approval**

Name (Position)	Signature	Date
	Approved / Not Approved (circle)	

# CONTENTS

1	INTRODUCTION .....	4
2	ISSUE .....	4
3	PURPOSE OF CAMPAIGN.....	5
4	CAMPAIGN APPROACH.....	5
5	CAMPAIGN OUTCOMES.....	7
6	CONSULTATION .....	7
7	STAKEHOLDER RELATIONSHIP MANAGEMENT.....	7
8	LINKAGES WITH OTHER CAMPAIGNS / BUSINESS INITIATIVES.....	8
9	RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS.....	8
10	CAMPAIGN ORGANISATION .....	9
11	NEXT STEP .....	9
12	COMMUNICATION OF RESULTS.....	10

# 1 INTRODUCTION

The Heads of Workplace Safety Authorities (HWSA) is a group comprising the General Managers (or their representatives) of the peak bodies responsible for the regulation and administration of occupational health and safety in Australia and New Zealand.

HWSA mounts trans-Tasman and national compliance Campaigns, and other initiatives targeted at specific industries across all jurisdictions. These campaigns or initiatives support the *National OHS Strategy 2002 – 2012*, and facilitate the development of consistent approaches to agreed Australian and New Zealand priorities.

The *National OHS Strategy 2002-2012* represents a significant attempt by all governments and the peak bodies representing both employers and workers to focus on OHS outcomes and to improve coordination and cooperation between jurisdictions. Within existing regulatory structures, the *National OHS Strategy 2002-2012* provides the framework for coordinated and collaborative programs between OHS regulators, particularly with regard to five National Priorities.

The five priorities identified by the National Strategy to achieve short and long term OHS improvement and to nurture longer-term cultural change are to:

1. Reduce the impact of risks at work
2. Improve the capacity of business operators and workers to manage OHS effectively
3. Prevent occupational disease more effectively
4. Eliminate hazards at the design stage, and
5. Strengthen the capacity of government to influence OHS outcomes.

HWSA's Campaigns and initiatives are established with the aim of minimising health and safety risks and, where possible, identifying causal factors for non-compliance by industry. Campaigns should be run with an intention to educate industry through a balance of information, assistance and enforcement activity.

# 2 ISSUE

A number of scaffolding incidents recently in NSW, QLD and Victoria have resulted in fatalities and serious injuries including:

- The double fatality caused by the malfunction and consequent fall of a swing stage scaffold in Queensland late 2008
- A second fatality similarly caused by a swinging stage failure in NSW march 2009.
- The collapse of prefabricated scaffold in Victoria in early 2009, and
- The near collapse of scaffolding in the middle of Sydney CBD in February 2009

Further to the fatalities there has been other significant consequences:

- Serious injuries
- “Near misses” for members of the public
- Closure of roads and disruption to adjacent businesses
- Disruption to public transport and vehicle traffic
- Inconvenience to the public
- Cessation of building works for a considerable amount of time

### 3 PURPOSE OF CAMPAIGN

The purpose of this Campaign is:

- To increase the level of scaffold compliance within the construction industry through a coordinated national compliance campaign focusing on compliance with AS 1576 – Scaffolding (including data collection and analysis)
- Provide a baseline on the current level to which scaffolding is being erected and maintained in compliance with AS 1576, and if not, why not.

### 4 CAMPAIGN APPROACH

WorkCover NSW has committed to coordinating the 2009 HWSA Campaign – Construction – Scaffolding. This Campaign was approved by HWSA at the 25 November 2008 meeting.

The Campaign will be an inspector-delivered operational compliance Campaign. It is anticipated that at least 800 site inspections will be undertaken in total and data recorded on a site visit checklist sheet.

The first phase of the campaign will commence in August and September and will focus on compliance. Inspectors will try and identify the reasons for non-compliance.

The second phase will commence in April 2010 to determine the level of continued compliance with AS 1576.

A Campaign coordination committee will be established comprising a representative from each jurisdiction to coordinate the Campaign delivery in their state. This committee will be involved in the finalising of the Campaign concept and brief, checklists, additional information sheets for Inspectors, timelines, the allocation of field visits and overall monitoring of the Campaign.

This Campaign aligns with 3 of the 5 national priorities:

- Reduce the impacts of risks at work
- Improve the capacity of business operators and workers to manage OHS effectively
- Strengthen the capacity of government to influence OHS outcomes

**Campaign scope:**

<b>In Scope</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All types of scaffolding: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Prefabricated</li> <li>• Aluminium</li> <li>• Trestle</li> <li>• Swinging stages</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<b>Out of Scope</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Scaffolding less than 2 metres in height (from working platforms)</li> <li>• Workplaces that are not construction sites.</li> </ul>

**Campaign timetable:**

<b>Schedule</b>	<b>End date</b>	<b>Comment</b>
Draft Campaign documentation circulated to Campaign co-ordination committee members	<i>24 April</i>	Prior to HSWA final approval to allow time for adequate consultation
Initial Campaign co-ordination committee meeting	<i>29 April</i>	Representatives from all participating Authorities to meet to consult on Campaign concept and brief.
Campaign approved by HWSA	<i>28 May</i>	Campaign proposal to be submitted to HWSA for approval so the Campaign can move ahead
Generic media release to be developed by NSW	<i>31 May</i>	
Media release by all states	<i>July</i>	Internal and external stakeholders to be included
Compliance visits commence	<i>1 August</i>	Field component commencement
Compliance visits completed	<i>30 Sept</i>	Filed component completed
Visit sheets returned to NSW	<i>30 Oct</i>	NSW to commence compiling & evaluating data assisted by Safe Work Australia
Interim report prepared by NSW	<i>01 Dec</i>	To consider directions for second phase
Identify direction of second phase	<i>Feb 10</i>	
Phase 2 Inspections commence	<i>01 April</i>	Identification of long term compliance issues

Visit sheets returned to NSW	<i>01 June</i>	NSW to commence compiling & evaluating data assisted by Safe Work Australia
Draft Campaign report circulated to committee	<i>15 July</i>	Develop draft Campaign report
Campaign Report submitted	<i>Oct 2010</i>	Campaign report prepared and submitted to HWSA for endorsement
Campaign End Date	<i>19 Nov</i>	Report finalised and published

## 5 CAMPAIGN OUTCOMES

The development and implementation of the 2009 Construction – Scaffolding Campaign will achieve the following outcomes:

- An understanding on the current issues associated with the use of scaffolding impacting on compliance with AS 1576
- Assist industry to reduce incidents from occurring with poorly erected, maintained and used scaffolding – improve level of compliance with those sites visited
- Promoting hierarchy of control measures by using scaffolding when controlling risks of falls
- Access the capacity of duty holders and workers to manage the risks associated with using scaffolding, and if not, why not
- Strengthen the capacity of jurisdictions to influence safety when using scaffolding by understanding barriers and enablers for safe use

## 6 CONSULTATION

Consultation with other stakeholder jurisdictions will be undertaken through the Campaign coordination committee and meetings as required.

All representatives will be provided with the relevant information to assist with any decision-making through provision of information in electronic form for feedback/ideas/suggestions.

## 7 STAKEHOLDER RELATIONSHIP MANAGEMENT

Each authority will have responsibility for liaising, managing and communicating with the stakeholders within their jurisdiction. Each group will be informed of the Campaign through their states normal channels of liaising and consulting eg meetings/notices/emails/letters/briefings etc.

**Key messages:**

- This Campaign is designed to ensure compliance with existing workplace safety laws relating to scaffolding
- Increase industries awareness as to the safety issues associated with using unsafe scaffolding
- Recent incidents involving scaffolding has highlighted a need to be vigilant when erecting, altering, using and dismantling scaffolding
- The wide range of trades that use scaffolding are also exposed to significant risks of death and injury where scaffolding does not comply with AS 1576.

## 8 LINKAGES WITH OTHER CAMPAIGNS / BUSINESS INITIATIVES

This Campaign is a direct outcome from 25 November HWSA meeting.

NSW - this project links with the recently released Industry Safety Standard – Erecting, altering and dismantling Scaffolding. Part 1: Prefabricated steel modular scaffolding.

Queensland – a review is currently underway on Scaffolding Draft Code of Practice 2009

## 9 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

WorkCover NSW will provide:

- An Inspector to develop and coordinate activities between all other jurisdictions i.e. the administration, marketing and communications support
- Other jurisdictions to finance their staffs participation with one representative for coordination committee and field resources to undertake compliance visits:

<b>Campaign site visits</b>		
<b>Workplace safety authority</b>		
ACT WorkCover (Australian Capital Territory)	25	
NT WorkSafe (Northern Territory)	20	
SafeWork SA (South Australia)	50	
WorkCover New South Wales	250	
Workplace Health & Safety, Queensland	200	
Workplace Standards Tasmania	25	
WorkSafe Victoria	200	
WorkSafe Western Australia	50	
<b>Total</b>	<b>820</b>	

## 10 CAMPAIGN ORGANISATION

The Campaign will operate under a cross-jurisdictional Campaign Co-ordination Committee, chaired by NSW. The overall Campaign management, administration and reporting support will be provided by WorkCover NSW.

The Campaign coordination committee members have the responsibility to progress and coordinate their jurisdiction participation in this Campaign.

Committee members also have the responsibility for:

- Consulting with and informing their local stakeholders on the compliance Campaign
- Coordinating the delivery of the communications strategy within their own jurisdiction
- Briefing local field staff on the Campaign and use of the site visit sheets
  - Ensuring data collected during the Campaign is processed and forwarded to the Campaign Coordinator

A short report will be prepared by NSW for the next HWSA meeting to update HWSA members on the progress of the Campaign.

At the conclusion of the compliance Campaign and after an evaluation of the Campaign has been undertaken, a final report will be prepared and submitted to HWSA.

<b>Construction - Scaffolding Campaign Co-ordination Committee</b>	
<b>Jurisdiction</b>	<b>Name</b>
NSW - Lead agency	Kathy Maltby
ACT	Gary Rogers
ACT	Brian Rees
Tasmania	Robert Millhouse
SA	Brian Adams
NT	Brian Malacari
QLD - DEIR	Craig Hutton
WA	Steve Trend
Safe Work Australia	Jenny Job
Comcare	Astrid Jeffress
Victoria	Stephen Darnley

## 11 NEXT STEP

1. Campaign Concept, Campaign Brief and other supporting documentation to be endorsed by HWSA
2. Co-ordination committee to:
  - Re draft the Campaign concept and brief

- Re draft site visit checklists – scaffolding and suspended scaffolding
  - Re draft additional information sheets - scaffolding and suspended scaffolding
  - Establish evaluation requirements
3. Rollout Phase 1 campaign to inspectorates and industry
  4. Evaluate phase 1 results
  5. Commence Phase 2 in April 2010
  6. Evaluate Phase 2 results
  7. Evaluate Campaign and draft final report

## 12 COMMUNICATION OF RESULTS

### Reporting

WorkCover NSW Communications Group will be available to provide advice and assistance to the Campaign co-ordination committee in developing the communication strategy.

NSW will:

- Develop and distribute a generic media release, for use by each jurisdiction
- A PowerPoint presentation for briefing inspectors and stakeholders