



In Touch

EHS Newsletter September 2022



As we bask in the warm glow of a new season, we celebrate new beginnings with a look at young people in the workplace.

CONTACT US TO PROVIDE THE FOLLOWING SERVICES FOR YOUR BUSINESS:

- EHS Risk Assessments
- Occupational Hygiene Surveys
- Ergonomics Surveys
- EHS Management
- System Development and Implementation
- Environmental Monitoring
- Identification of EHS Legal Requirements and Compliance Audits
- Construction EHS Services
- Construction H&S Files
- Internal Auditor Training
- General EHS Training



HW592A1000508



OH0049



Department of Employment and Labour Approved Inspection Authority (OH0049-CI-09)

Newsletter compiled by Niqui Cloete-Barrass



SAFETECH is proud to welcome a dynamic new member to our team...

Zinzi Sogoni joins us as an **Occupational Hygiene Technologist**. Zinzi has a background in the Mining sector and is delighted to be part of the SAFETECH Southern Region division.

The youth bring a fresh, new energy and innovative ideas to the workplace. But there are also unique safety considerations when young workers start their career journeys...



Young workers may lack the **experience** and/or training to prevent injury or accidents at work.

They may not be as **physically, mentally or emotionally** strong as their more mature colleagues.

Young workers may also lack the knowledge of how to report or address safety concerns.

Safetrain cc t/a Safetech is a SANAS Accredited Inspection Body, No. OH 0049. Refer to www.sanas.co.za for Directory Accredited Facilities Inspection Bodies for schedule of accreditation.



In Touch

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If you are hiring a young person for the first time, or employing one with specific needs, you should **review your risk assessment** before they commence work.

A separate risk assessment for work experience students is not necessary if your existing assessment already considers the specific factors for young people.

WHAT ARE SOME OF THESE FACTORS?

Consider their exposure to:

- radiation
- noise and vibration
- toxic substances
- extreme temperatures



If these factors are present, there should already be control measures in place.

Harmful exposure means exposure that has **long-term health effects** on a still-developing young body.

Be aware of the **substances** they might come into contact with, consider **exposure levels** and ensure legal limits are met.



Also consider legally required **age limits** on the use of some equipment and machinery (for example forklift trucks and some woodworking machinery).

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TRAINING and SUPERVISING young workers

The amount and level of training needed is directly related to the risk they face in the workplace.



For a student on a short-term work experience placement, the induction/orientation and training should be tailored to the tasks they will be doing.

Make sure that they understand the instruction and training, and know the risks and hazards as well as the health and safety precautions and protocols in place.

Young workers are likely to need more supervision than older ones. They may need additional support to allow them to carry out their work without putting themselves and others at risk,

Regularly checking a young person's progress will help identify where any additional adjustments may be needed.



Let SAFETECH help you keep your young workers SAFE and HAPPY in your work environment!

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