

27 November 2012

Submissions
Independent Taskforce on Workplace Health and Safety
PO Box 3705
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Standards New Zealand submission on Safer Workplaces consultation document

Standards New Zealand believes that there are opportunities to improve workplace health and safety through Standards. This would require a strong, collaborative partnership between the regulator and the national Standards body.

The work of this partnership should involve:

- a centralised and coordinated approach to standardisation to support strategies for workplace health and safety
- systematic and regular review of Standards referenced in regulation and guidance
- alignment of New Zealand health and safety Standards to international best practice, wherever possible
- risk analysis and scoping workshops to identify the type of Standard (mandatory, voluntary, performance-based, or prescriptive) that is best suited to various regulatory objectives
- identification and development of supplementary materials to support implementation of and compliance with Standards.

Standards and the benefits of standardisation can be multifaceted and complex. We are happy to supply the taskforce with additional information should it be required. Additionally, the Standards Council and Standards New Zealand would be pleased to meet with the taskforce to expand on any of the matters raised in our submission.

Yours sincerely

Debbie Chin
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Standards New Zealand