



August 2009

bulletin - human resource services

Fall Training Schedule – ©Better SuperVision and COR

©BETTER SUPERVISION

This is our 14th year of ©Better SuperVision training, the gold standard for construction supervisor training. Topics include Leadership, Communication, Contractual and Legal Obligations, Planning and Scheduling and Teamwork. Graduates have used the program for credit toward the nationally recognized Gold Seal Certification for construction Project Managers, Superintendents, Estimators and Owners' Project Managers.

We've heard from you and are excited to offer the program this fall over a condensed 6 week format. Classes are held each Tuesday evening and all day Thursdays beginning October 6, 2009. Candidates participate actively

in all sessions, and classes are led by industry professionals.

The program has a demanding schedule, followed by a 90-day Practicum back on the job, under the supervision and guidance of a mentor.

We are expecting a full class of 12-16 participants, so book early! Deadline for registration is Tuesday, September 22.

Tuition, established in 1996 by of Board of Directors, remains unchanged at \$1000.00 per student.

For further information and to register, contact Diana Zurbuchen or Dave Earle at CLR.

CERTIFICATE OF RECOGNITION (COR)

The November 30 deadline for COR training is fast approaching. To ensure that you have the opportunity to complete the required training, CLR is offering a full slate of programs.

As a benefit of your membership, these sessions are offered at no cost to you! All seminars will be held at CLR's New Westminster offices.

- COR Owner / Senior Manager
October 7, 8:30am – 12:00 pm
- COR Auditor
November 4 and 5,
8:30am – 4:30pm both days
- COR Supervisor
October 21 and 22,
8:30am – 4:30pm both days

For further information and to register, contact Diana Zurbuchen or Dave Earle at CLR.

Proposed Changes to Building Code

Three changes are proposed to provincial building regulations. Developed with input from industry and local governments, the Province is proposing these changes as part of the process of developing unified green provisions for the construction of new buildings in B.C.

1) Building Code requirements for high-efficiency toilets (including dual-flush units) and urinals in new construction would move the existing 6-litre flush volume requirement to a 4.8-litre volume requirement.

2) The proposed changes would create an optional regulation that would enable local governments to require solar hot water ready construction for new single family houses. The requirements for single

WorkSafeBC Imposes Major Penalty

The largest penalty for occupational health and safety violation in BC has been imposed by WorkSafeBC against two firms involved in construction of the Canada Line rapid transit route. The penalties are associated with the death of a crane operator who was killed while working on the North Arm Bridge connecting the Vancouver and Richmond sections of the line.

On January 21, 2008 a crane operator was using a small carry-deck crane as part of the ironworker crew installing bike path components onto the Vancouver side of the North Arm Bridge. When he attempted to move a load of hardware from the front deck of the crane to the bike path below by swinging it over the bridge guide-way, the crane tipped over on its driver side. The crane operator tried to exit the rear of the crane, but was pinched between the crane and the guide-way's parapet wall and was killed instantly.

The WorkSafeBC investigation, released in 2008, concluded that the following were underlying factors in this incident:

- Insufficient supervision of the work
- Load weights were not clearly presented
- No effective system to measure operating radius
- Insufficient training and experience of the operator

The employer of the deceased worker, SNC-Lavalin Constructors (Pacific) Inc. Rizzani de Eccher Inc. was ordered to pay \$233,535.58. The prime contractor, SNC-Lavalin Constructors (Pacific) Inc., was ordered to pay an additional \$81,808.13.

WorkSafeBC Imposes Major Penalty

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The penalties are two of the highest ever imposed by WorkSafeBC, reflecting the seriousness of the violations and the resulting fatality. The criteria for a discretionary penalty — a fatality arising from a high-risk violation committed willfully or with reckless disregard — were met in this case, allowing for the larger penalty amount.

The message here is clear – ensuring proper certification, adequate training, good supervision and complete documentation are critical. Anyone with a crane operator in their organization must ensure that the individual is properly trained, instructed and supervised. This should include the operator being certified by (or working towards certification) through the BC Association for Crane

Safety (BCACS). Further information on the certification process can be found at their website www.bcacs.ca.

But it doesn't stop there.

Before assigning an operator to a task, the employer must ensure they are properly instructed and trained. Certification is part of this process, but it is still up to the employer to ensure that the operator is competent. Ask:

1) To see their certification (and identification), or confirmation that they are enrolled in the process to obtain certification. As of July 1, 2007, current crane operators must possess either proof of certification or a BC Association for Crane Safety (BCACS) document confirming assessment registration.

2) When is the last time you have operated this type of equipment? 3) Where have you operated this equipment before?

4) When and where have you completed a lift similar to this before?

5) What are the hazards specific to the workplace and the operating location?

The answers to these questions will allow you to begin to assess the operator's competency. If you are not confident the operator can perform the task safely, you must not let them proceed.

Simply because a crane operator is certified or experienced does not necessarily mean they can operate the equipment on your site, near your workers, safely. It is up to the employer to assess and ensure the competency of every worker.

Proposed Changes to Building Code

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family homes would apply to required roof space, mandatory roof loading requirement and conduit specifications.

3) Proposed updates to the Building Code Letters of Assurance would shift towards more clearly defined roles, responsibilities, and accountabilities. Generally, the proposals fall into four areas: change "Registered Professional" to "Register Professional of Record"; create a single Schedule B; add Part 10 (Energy Efficiency and Water Conservation) Provisions to the Letters of Assurance; and expansion of the Application of Letters of Assurance in Part 9 Buildings.

Your input is needed by September 14!

Any changes are anticipated to be effective this fall – for further information, please contact Dave Earle at CLR.