



Top 10 Reasons to Buy Into Safety

July 1, 2013 Safety First | Mike McKenna Originally published in The Journal of Commerce

There is a business case to be made for why safety from the top down can improve your business.

Many of the attendees at this year's Vancouver Regional Construction Association (VRCA) Construction Learning Forum were exposed to the concept of why safety is good business through safety sessions the B.C. Construction Safety Alliance (BCCSA) partnered with the VRCA to present.

With a greater shift in industry to emphasize safety from the top down, this year's safety sessions were no different, tailored to not only middle managers and health and safety professionals, but construction business owners and upper management.

In a fiercely competitive industry, it is no longer sufficient to just throw money at safety or only include a single line item to cover first aid on a project bid that will surely eat into profit margins when safety is purely reactionary.

To insulate against the costs of a worksite incident and to reap the organizational benefits of a good safety culture means a commitment to safety prevention.

Here are 10 reasons why good safety means good business:

1. Lower absenteeism – if people are fit and healthy, they're at work and making the contribution they're paid for. Employers are getting some bang for their buck.

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2. Lower wage bills – eliminate the doubled-up costs of sick pay for the absentees and overtime cover to fill the gaps; companies are saving cash.
3. Reduced repairs and re-working – when things get done right first time, less injury, damage or out of spec product means less costs for repairs, re-working and waste disposal.
4. Happier workforce – it's a deep rooted desire in us all to feel safe. If employees feel safe and secure at work, they'll be happy.
5. Lower staff turnover – if they don't think the grass is greener anywhere else, companies will be paying a lot less to replace workers who've left and a lot less on recruitment and training too.
6. Reduced risk of fines – fines and all of the associated legal costs come directly off the bottom line. Limiting these costs protects companies' profits.
7. Reduced insurance claims – injury and illness claims, property damage and business interruption all cost money. Investing money to reduce claims will save money in the long term.
8. Reduced insurance premiums – insurers are increasingly looking at corporate health and safety performance indexes to assess the risks of insuring businesses and set premiums accordingly. The better the health and safety performance, the lower the premium.
9. Improved productivity, quality & profitability – staff who feel safe, valued and equipped with the right skills have the confidence and capability to be effective, efficient and productive. In, "Well Being in the Workplace", Harter, Schmidt and Keyes recognized that, "the presence of positive workplace perceptions and feelings are associated with higher business unit customer loyalty, higher profitability, higher productivity and lower rates of staff turnover".
10. More satisfied clients & stakeholders – if quality, efficiency, staff relations are all exemplary, a business will have a reputation to reflect that. Without that reputation, business will probably suffer. With case studies showing a 1:4 ratio of direct costs to indirect costs from a major incident, companies stand to lose even more revenue due to damages to their reputation and customer/client confidence.

While it is important to recognize the business benefits positive health and safety culture can bring, for us, the moral reasons will always be the most important.

The real cost is the loss of loved ones.

That is the strongest argument in favour of investing in preventative health and safety.

Mike McKenna is the executive director of the B.C. Construction Safety Alliance, B.C.'s non-profit construction funded safety association.

We've updated our logos and we hope you will, too!



Last year, MHCA invested in a new brand identity that you see throughout *The Heavy News Weekly*. If you are a proud MHCA member and wish to download and use our NEW logos for your marketing initiatives, please visit:

www.mhca.mb.ca/media/logos



Groundbreaker - MHCA's new quarterly magazine was recently shipped to our members and key stakeholders.

You can view the magazine online now by clicking the link below!

<http://tinyurl.com/c5v74ek>

Clean Environment Commission releases BIPOLE III report

On July 10, 2013 the Clean Environment Commission (CEC) report on Manitoba's Hydro's Bipole III transmission project was released to the public.

The report contains the CEC's review as well as findings from public hearings that included a wide cross-section of the public and important stakeholders. As part of the provincial environmental assessment process, the public is invited to submit comments and/or objections regarding a proposed project through the Public Registry.

The full CEC Bipole III report is available at: <http://tinyurl.com/n9lxwn4>

In response to concerns, the Minister of Conservation may request the Clean Environment Commission to convene a public hearing. During such a hearing the Commission receives representations from the project proponent, the general public—both supporters and opponents, and from various government departments responsible for reviewing the proposal. The Commission reviews the evidence and information presented at the hearing and prepares a report containing advice and recommendations for the Minister.

Upon receipt of the Commission's report, the Minister may choose to accept all or part of its recommendations but is under no legal obligation to do so.

If the Commission's recommendations are not acted upon, or incorporated into the licence under review, written reasons must be provided by the Minister or the Department of Conservation and these must be filed in the Public Registry.

In addition to licensing matters, some environmental issues require public involvement before government policy can be developed. In these cases, the Minister of Conservation can request that the Commission convene a hearing to gather public opinion.

Manitoba Conservation has also signed onto a Canada-Manitoba Agreement on Environmental Assessment Cooperation with Environment Canada. As part of this agreement, regarding projects where there is also federal jurisdiction, a process is set out respecting joint review.

Commission hearings may be used as a source of information for the federal review or there may be a joint review panel formed for specific projects. Commission members would be part of these panels.

Gord Mackintosh, Manitoba's Minister of Conservation emphasized the report's recommendations will be considered as part of the licensing decision along with a report on the Crown's consultations with Aboriginal communities for the project, as required by the Constitution, which is ongoing.

The report recommended the provincial government issue Manitoba Hydro an environmental licence to build Bipole III with a number of specific conditions, while identifying several opportunities for the province to improve advance work for future project reports including working with environmental assessment practitioners to improve the province's environmental assessment process.

The minister said that work has already begun and that public consultations on new protocols for environmental assessments will be fast tracked to start this winter. The consultations were first announced last year in TomorrowNow – Manitoba's Green Plan.

As a first step in improving environmental assessment processes in Manitoba, the minister also announced the province will create an online public registry with powerful search capabilities for all environment act licence applications, environmental impact statements and licence decisions.

Automatic email notification of future licence applications and decisions will also be available to subscribers. These online enhancements will not affect the current advertising requirements for licence applications or the provision of hard copy documents to communities that request them.

2013 MHCA Membership & Services Directory available!



Released annually in spring, the MHCA Annual Directory is the exclusive Equipment Rental Rates Guide in Manitoba. Its 'yellow pages' list companies by areas of service. The 2013 Directory was mailed to MHCA members at the beginning of May.

Non-members can purchase this year's directory by contacting Brenda at 204.947.1379 or brenda@mhca.mb.ca

Public and private sector project owners extensively use the Directory to locate and contact needed suppliers of services, including contractors, materials, equipment, aggregates, oils, design, and engineering — to name a few.

Have a story for us? We'd love to hear about it!

The MHCA is only successful thanks to our strong membership roster that continues to grow, and now we want to hear from you!

We want to hear about a success story, a great photograph or a fantastic video or anything you want to share with us and the rest of the MHCA membership!

We'd like to hear from our members on things such as:

- A New Exciting Construction Project your company is involved with
- A Recent Successful Completion of a Construction Project
- A success story or achievement for your company or staff member(s)

Feel free to submit your idea or story to media@mhca.mb.ca

We will contact you for more information or details on your story, and then have it ready for a future issue of the Heavy News Weekly!

UNIVERSITY OF MANITOBA FACULTY OF ENGINEERING RECEIVES FULL ACCREDITATION

Thursday, July 11, 2013

The Faculty of Engineering at the U of M is pleased to announce that all five BSc Engineering programs offered by the Faculty have had accreditation renewed for the maximum term of six years from the Canadian Engineering Accreditation Board (CEAB).

"This accreditation outcome is the result of the collective effort of virtually everyone in the Faculty of Engineering, says Dr. Jonathan Beddoes, Dean of Engineering.

"Accreditation for the maximum possible six years is a strong affirmation by the Accreditation Board of the high calibre of the engineering programs offered at the University of Manitoba. With this result in hand the Faculty will continue efforts to further refine the engineering programs and enhance the student experience of all engineering students."

The CEAB was established by Engineers Canada in 1965 to accredit undergraduate engineering programs that provide the academic requirements necessary for licensure as a professional engineer in Canada. Through the Accreditation Board's activities, the Canadian criteria and procedures for accrediting undergraduate engineering programs are now recognized around the world.

"The Baccalaureate degree programs in Biosystems, Civil, Computer, Electrical and Mechanical Engineering at the University of Manitoba are accredited by the Canadian Engineering Accreditation Board of Engineers Canada."

The Canadian accreditation program is respected worldwide as one of the most rigorous programs of its kind. As a result, a number of engineering institutions in other countries have expressed an interest in having their engineering programs evaluated by the Canadian Accreditation Board using its accreditation criteria and procedures.

The accreditation process includes an accreditation visit and a qualitative and quantitative analysis of the curriculum content to ensure that it meets the minimum criteria. The CEAB may grant (or extend) accreditation of a program for a period of up to six years or it may deny accreditation altogether.

The Accreditation Board is currently composed of 15 professional engineers drawn from the private, public and academic sectors.

The members are volunteers and represent different parts of the country as well as a wide range of engineering disciplines. The Accreditation Board also relies on the volunteer services of an extensive network of professional engineers who serve on the visiting teams and on committees.

The Faculty of Engineering at the University of Manitoba is the oldest engineering school in western Canada, having celebrated its 100 Year Anniversary in 2007. Over ten-thousand engineers have graduated with at least one degree from the Faculty. The importance of the Faculty of Engineering to the Province of Manitoba is best defined by the fact that over 85% of Professional Engineers practicing in the Province of Manitoba are graduates of the Faculty of Engineering at the University of Manitoba.

Whether building better bridges and roads, designing next generation antennas, or growing crystals in a space shuttle flight, expertise within the Faculty of Engineering supports innovation and entrepreneurship in the Province and beyond. Faculty members collaborate with universities across the globe, major research organizations, leading manufacturers, public and private utilities, and all levels of government. Research within the Faculty generates external support of approximately \$14 million per year from public, private, and government sources.

The Faculty of Engineering is recognized internationally for its research achievements in a number of core areas, and is currently home to several Canada Research Chairs and Industrial Research Chairs sponsored by the Natural Sciences and Research Council of Canada (NSERC) and private industry. The Faculty headquartered a National Centre of Excellence in Intelligent Sensing for Innovative Structures and has participated in three Networks of Centres of Excellence in microelectronics, telecommunications and robotics.

For more information, contact:

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Annual Golf Classic

Wednesday August 14, 2013 | Elmhurst & Pine Ridge Golf Courses

REGISTRATION FEE - \$225.00 / person + gst

10:30am – registration desk opens

12:00 noon – shot gun start

Four Person Texas Scramble includes:

Green Fees & Motorized Cart

An Assortment of Spectacular Contests

Fabulous Steak Dinner

Bus shuttle between courses

before/after dinner

Member Company

Invoiced for to _____

Team Capt _____

****Email** _____

Other Golfers _____

Golf registration is SOLD OUT!

If you have NOT submitted your golfers names, please send them to

Christine Miller: christine@mhca.mb.ca or 204.947.1379

Visa / MC / AMX # _____

Signature _____

Dinner Only (\$50.00 / person all inclusive) _____

Invoice Tournament Fees: _____

Submit registrations ASAP by:

FAX: (204) 943-2279 | Email: christine@mhca.mb.ca

REMINDER:

The MHCA Events Committee will settle course placement by draw on August 7, 2013. All golfers will be notified by fax or email (if you provide one on the registration form) about course location on **August 8, 2013**. **All team captains are responsible for notifying the rest of their team of course placement.**

Use this form to enter as many golfers as you wish. If you are not registering a full team, the extra spaces will be filled by the tournament organizers. As per MHCA Board Policy, only registrations cancelled at least 72 hours prior to the commencement of this event will be refunded.

Training Schedule

Winnipeg Schedule:

Construction Safety Excellence™

COR™ Auditor Refresher (1/2 day AM)	July 26
COR™ Leadership in Safety Excellence	July 29-30
COR™ Principles of Health & Safety Management	July 31
COR™ Auditor	August 1-2
WHMIS (1/2 day AM)	August 7
TDG (1/2 day PM)	August 7
Flagperson (1/2 day AM)	August 8
COR™ Auditor Refresher (1/2 day AM)	August 9
Traffic Control Coordinator	August 19-20
Train the Trainer	August 21-22
COR™ Leadership in Safety Excellence	August 26-27
COR™ Principles of Health & Safety Management	August 28
COR™ Auditor	August 29-30



FOR THE FULL CALENDAR
www.mcha.mb.ca/worksafely

To Register:
 Email: sarah@mhca.mb.ca
 OR Fax: 204-943-2279

WORKSAFELY™ COR™ WEEK

We are holding WORKSAFELY™ COR™ Week at the Manitoba Heavy Construction Association, 3-1680 Ellice Avenue, July 29th - Aug 2nd, 2013

COR™ Leadership in Safety Excellence	July 29-30	8:30a.m - 4:30p.m
COR™ Principles of Health & Safety Management	July 31	8:30a.m - 4:30p.m
COR™ Auditor	August 1-2	8:30a.m - 12:00p.m

REGISTER TODAY - SPOTS ARE LIMITED!

For any other training requests and to register please contact: Sarah Higgins at sarah@mhca.mb.ca

Construction Safety Excellence™

Please note that a minimum of 6 students is required to hold the training. WORKSAFELY™ policy states cancellation must be made at least twobusiness days in advance otherwise full course fee charge will apply.



ph: 204.947.1379 fx: 204.943.2279
www.mhca.mb.ca



A Break with the Summer Break Blues?

Peter G. Hall, EDC Vice-President and Chief Economist



Peter G. Hall



There's a sour seasonality that has become entrenched in recent global economics. In the past few years, summer has become a disarmingly punctual momentum-killer of global production. Perhaps the most critical question in EDC's Summer 2013 Global Export Forecast is whether we are in for yet another summer drubbing, or whether this is the year we break with that sorry tradition.

What makes it difficult to accept the new pattern as a trend is the wide variety of unpredictable events that caused it. Full-blown crisis hit the world economy in the summer of 2008. Stimulus made the following year an exception, but the end of the stimulus growth-surge killed growth in the summer of 2010. Knock-on effects of the Arab Spring and a shocking series of natural disasters quashed a decent surge of momentum in the summer of 2011. And last year it was the unexpected collapse of the Greek government and immediate fears of a widespread, debilitating domino effect that again undermined early-year momentum in the summer months. Will this summer be any different?

A glance at worrisome developments might elicit a well-practiced summer sigh. Mass protests are currently underway in Brazil and Turkey, conflict is intensifying in Syria, and the toppling of the Morsi government in Egypt has further unsettled the Middle East and prompted a spike in oil prices. To add to the uncertainty, the mere mention of an exit plan from quantitative easing has roiled global stock markets, depreciated a wide array of currencies, prompted a spike in bond rates and weakened key commodity

prices. Agreed, it's a different set of issues, but it's so timely that it looks like an evil spell.

Before we get too resigned to a repeat, there is a significant, albeit less newsworthy, upside. Notice the perceptible increase in momentum that is thus far undeterred by recent events. Growth in private sector activity is most obviously increasing in the US, but both Europe and Japan have seen growth estimations increase in recent weeks in response to policy measures, but also to key growth fundamentals. And at long last, confidence is rising. It is up in 6 of the past 8 months in Europe. Japan's Tankan Index is at its highest level since early 2008, and the same goes for US consumers, who, in the last two months, have convincingly broken out of their protracted recessionary pessimism.

It was a growth-and-confidence conundrum that kept the post-Depression economy from getting back on its feet again. As such, it is quite significant to see a simultaneous resurgence of these dual factors on a broad regional basis that seems to be occurring ostensibly on its own, without the aid of a new, flashy set of innovative policy measures. At this moment, it has the appearance of a homemade antidote to the event-related summer slowdowns that have become almost systemic.

EDC's summer forecast believes that current momentum will continue. In spite of some early-year softness, global growth is generally expected to remain resilient over the summer months and into the fall, averaging 3.3 per cent this year and rising to 4.1 per cent in 2014. Developed markets will see greater growth improvement, rising from 1.4 per cent in 2013 to 2.3 per cent next year, although emerging markets will still crank out superior overall performance at 5.1 and 5.8 per cent in the next two years, respectively. As such, Canadian exports are forecast to rise 7.4 per cent in 2013. Lower commodity prices will weigh on growth next year, with the forecast pegged at 4.7 per cent.

The bottom line? Time will tell whether this summer's negative shocks will again send the economy scurrying for cover. This time around, the world economy seems to be mounting its most credible assault on the doldrums since 2009. It's a critical moment, one that has been a long time coming.