WORKPLACE HEALTH AND SAFETY –
THE NEW WORLD
WHY WORKSAFE NEW ZEALAND?

• We’re killing and injuring too many people in our workplaces.
WHY WORKSAFE NEW ZEALAND?
CONCURRENT REFORM OF THE LAW

*Working Safer* most significant suite of reforms in 20 years

- Overhaul of the law
- More funding
- Focus on high-risk areas
- Focus on occupational harm & hazardous substances
- Better coordination between government agencies
- Improved worker participation
- Stronger penalties, enforcement tools and court powers
**MBIE AND WORKSAFE NZ – WORKING TOGETHER**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MBIE will</th>
<th>WorkSafe NZ will</th>
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<tr>
<td>• Lead development of legislation &amp; regulation</td>
<td>• Lead operation/implementation of system</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Partner with WorkSafe NZ in design of any H&amp;S strategy</td>
<td>• Provide technical input into design of legislation &amp; regulation, and provide supporting guidance/Approved Codes of Practice (ACoPs)</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Monitor WorkSafe NZ</td>
<td>• Provide feedback to MBIE on workability of regulatory regime</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Maintain central Govt overview of H&amp;S system</td>
<td>• Partner with MBIE in design of any H&amp;S strategy</td>
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PRIORITIES FOR WORKSAFE NZ

1. **Targeting risk**: focus on acute, chronic & catastrophic harms
2. **Working together**: work collaboratively with others for maximum effect
3. **Rebuilding Canterbury safely**: focus on construction, occupational health & high-risk populations
4. **Working smarter**: implement a clearer regulatory regime
5. **Strengthening our organisation**: build a high-performance agency
BUILDING A SAFETY CULTURE

- Government and industry must work together to build a stronger health and safety culture
- Safety is in everybody’s hands
- Stop work (and speak up) in unsafe situations
HEALTH AND SAFETY REFORM BILL
LEGISLATION AT A GLANCE

- New legislation introduced March 2014
- First major reform of health and safety law in over 20 years
- Part of Working Safer reform package
HEALTH AND SAFETY REFORM BILL
LEGISLATION AT A GLANCE

• Based on Australian Model Law
• Will replace the Health and Safety in Employment Act 1992
• Will amend:
  • the Hazardous Substances and New Organisms Act 1996
  • The Accident Compensation Act 2001
HEALTH AND SAFETY REFORM BILL
KEY CONCEPTS

Introduces a number of key concepts:
• Places duties on people in best position to control risks
• Places primary duty of care on all PCBUs
• Strengthens worker engagement and participation
• Defines worker and their health and safety duties
• Places specific duties on PCBUs ‘upstream’ in the supply chain
• Duty to consult when health and safety duties overlap
• Places a due diligence duty on officers of a PCBU
• Establishes a more effective enforcement regime with new tools
• Creates an appropriate system of regulations and guidance
HEALTH AND SAFETY REFORM BILL REGULATIONS

• **Regulation development in two phases**
• **First phase focused on developing regulations for:**
  - General risk and workplace management
  - Worker participation and representation
  - Work involving hazardous substances
  - Major hazard facilities
  - Work involving asbestos
• **Public consultation shortly**
HEALTH AND SAFETY REFORM BILL
NEXT STEPS

• Law now goes through Select Committee process
  • Your opportunity to make a submission
• Education campaign after law passed and before comes into force
SO WHAT IS THE GOAL

• The simple goal
  Workers go home safe every day

• The absolute goal
  25% (at least) reduction in fatalities and serious harms by 2020
CONCLUSION

Once-in-a-generation opportunity

Acting in isolation won’t work

Commit to being better
Everyone has a role to play.
One death and one injury is too many.