



Ministry of Border Control and Labour

Press Announcement

World Day for Safety and Health at Work: Occupational Safety and Health Management System: *A tool for continual improvement*

The World Day for Safety and Health at Work is an international annual campaign to promote safety and health at the workplace. It is held annually, on April 28th. The International Labour Organization celebrates the World Day for Safety and Health at Work on the 28th April to promote the prevention of occupational accidents and diseases globally. It is an awareness-raising campaign intended to focus international attention on emerging trends in the field of occupational safety and health and on the magnitude of work-related injuries, diseases and fatalities worldwide.

This year's observance of World Day for Safety and Health at Work focuses on the implementation of an Occupational Safety and Health Management System (OSHMS) as *a tool for continual improvement* in the workplace. Employers should on a regular basis seek to promote programs and efforts to prevent workplace incidents and accidents. The Occupational Safety and Health Management System is a comprehensive and structured safety and health mechanism for the joint implementation of management and workers as OSHMS can only be an effective tool for preventing hazards and occupational health risks if it is "*owned*" by all stakeholders. An OSHMS is a preventive method to implement safety and health measures which consists of four steps and incorporates the principle of continual improvement. Its principles are based on the **PDCA Cycle: PLAN, DO, CHECK, ACT.**

As we celebrate World Day for Safety and Health at work today, it is anticipated that Turks & Caicos Islands workplaces will seek to ensure that ever possible measure is being taken to encourage occupational safety and health at the work. Such efforts would not only improve working conditions and work environments, but ultimately boost performance.

The Labour Department, Ministry of Health and other key stakeholders would like to impress upon employers to develop best practices within their work programs, strategies, and plans, key measures to reduce risks and injuries on the job.

For more information on how you can make a start, contact the Labour Department at 946-4575 or look for updates on our website www.labour.tc