

# Health and Safety Representative Support Program

## Supporting HSRs in the Transport industry

### About the HSR Support Program

Everyone in the workplace plays a role in making Victorian workplaces safer and healthier. HSRs contribute greatly to making Victorian workplaces safer. Employers should work with them, and support and encourage them to undertake their role.

- HSRs assist employees to have their views and concerns on occupational health and safety (OHS) heard by their employer
- HSRs facilitate communication and consultation
- Part 7 of The OHS Act sets out the HSRs role in raising and resolving OHS issues with their employer. They also have powers to take OHS issues further where necessary e.g. consulting and issuing Provisional Improvement Notices (PINs).

WorkSafe's HSR Support Program provides funding to several unions in various industry sectors to engage an HSR Support Officer to September 2009.

Each Support Officer works in an industry sector identified by WorkSafe as having a high incidence or severity of workplace health and safety claims and/or issues.

Each Support Officer promotes and supports employee representation. HSRs have the right to invite a Support Officer into the workplace to facilitate employee representation and other HSR roles and responsibilities.

Support Officers do not perform the activities of an HSR and are not roving union representatives.

### The Health and Safety Representative (HSR) Support Officer for the Transport industry is Eugene Richards.

Contact Eugene if you would like help to establish a Designated Work Group (DWG) or elect an HSR, or if you are an HSR seeking support to:

- understand your rights under the OHS Act
- choose and attend an approved introductory HSR training course or annual refresher training course
- join a network of HSRs in your industry
- increase your knowledge about workplace health and safety
- represent members of your DWG better
- find health and safety solutions for your workplace
- help you have effective consultation about health and safety in your workplace
- improve your Health and Safety Committee e.g. by inviting HSRSO participation
- help you to achieve better consultation about health and safety in your workplace.

WorkSafe Victoria encourages employers in the Transport industry sector to support and cooperate with Eugene in his role as an HSR Support Officer.

### Further Information

If you would like more information about the HSR Support Program, please visit our website [worksafe.vic.gov.au](http://worksafe.vic.gov.au) or call the WorkSafe Advisory Service on 1800 136 089.



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