

'It's no accident' is the OHS newsletter of the AMWU. Feedback and story ideas to [amwu@amwu.asn.au](mailto:amwu@amwu.asn.au)

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# THE CALL WENT OUT AND THEY CAME IN DROVES — 1200 VICTORIAN HSRs

Nearly 200 AMWU HSRs joined another 1,000 Victorian Health and Safety Reps at the famous Victorian Trades Hall Council Health and Safety Representatives' Conference in 2015. The Conference is approved as training leave by WorkSafe Victoria, which ensures that HSRs have the right to attend – after giving the employer at least 14 days notice.

The Conference is a great chance for WorkSafe Victoria to talk directly to HSRs and for HSRs to ask questions of CEO, Ms Claire Amies and Executive Director of Health and Safety, Ms Marnie Williams.

HSRs heard from experts on bullying, psychosocial hazards and what indicators show how well a workplace is managing its health and safety hazards. The annual Conference wasn't held during the last years of the LNP Government.



Very successful Health and Safety Rep Conferences were also held in Launceston and Hobart during October 2015. Over 150 Tasmanian Reps attended sessions on helping injured workers\*, conducting risk assessments and the key differences in how safety is organised which make one workplace safer than another.



\* Worker Assist is a free service providing advice for injured workers in Tasmania

We welcome your ideas for the content of the health and safety pages on the AMWU web site. Email us on [amwu@amwu.asn.au](mailto:amwu@amwu.asn.au)  
Sign up for regular health and safety news items [www.amwu.org.au/health\\_and\\_safety](http://www.amwu.org.au/health_and_safety)  
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# IT'S NO ACCIDENT

**HEALTH AND SAFETY NEWS**

DECEMBER 2015

PLEASE PLACE ON NOTICEBOARD

## TO EVERYONE WHO ANSWERED THE SURVEY ON THE HEALTH AND SAFETY OF CASUALS AND LABOUR HIRE WORKERS — THANK YOU.

Your responses have formed part of the AMWU case which will be heard in the Fair Work Commission (the industrial relations legal system) next year. The AMWU is campaigning for casual and labour hire employees to automatically convert to permanent status after six months, unless they decide they wish to remain casual/labour hire.

### Unions NSW Health and Safety Rep 2015

Congratulations to Adam Williams, NSW HSR, on his award for Best Solution To A Safety Problem from Unions NSW.

Following initiatives by Adam, the number of manual handling injuries at Orora Revesby will fall - the weight of ink buckets has been decreased by 25%.

Adam requested that all the information on injuries from general and manual handling tasks be collated across the business. Then using a Body Map, in consultation with those doing the work, changes were made to decrease manual handling risks. Not only did Adam's work change what happened at his site, but Orora have implemented changes nationally.

Congratulations to Adam, and all those at Orora.



From left to right – Adam Williams, Dave Henry NSW, Shay Deguara, Unions NSW.

# **OUR RIGHTS TO HEALTHY AND SAFE WORK**

**- By law we are allowed to -**

**- Refuse to work where it is unsafe -**

**- Have a say about the health and safety of ourselves and our fellow workers -**

**- Stand for election as a health & safety representative (HSR) and/or deputy -**

**- Vote to elect a HSR and deputy HSR -**

**- Report health and safety issues and hazards to our elected HSR -**

**- Consult our union delegate -**



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