



Healthy, safe and productive working lives

The *Australian Work Health and Safety Strategy 2012–2022* (the Strategy) provides a framework to drive improvements in work health and safety in Australia. The Strategy promotes a collaborative approach between the Commonwealth, state and territory governments, industry and unions and other organisations to achieve the vision of *healthy, safe and productive working lives*.

The Strategy was developed by working Australians for working Australians and is designed to be something everyone can relate to, implement and sustain over the coming decade.

Background

The Strategy builds on the previous *National OHS Strategy 2002–2012* under which significant progress was made to improve work health and safety outcomes. This included a reduction in the work-related injury fatality rate by nearly 40 per cent and a 25 per cent decrease in the incidence of injury and musculoskeletal claims.

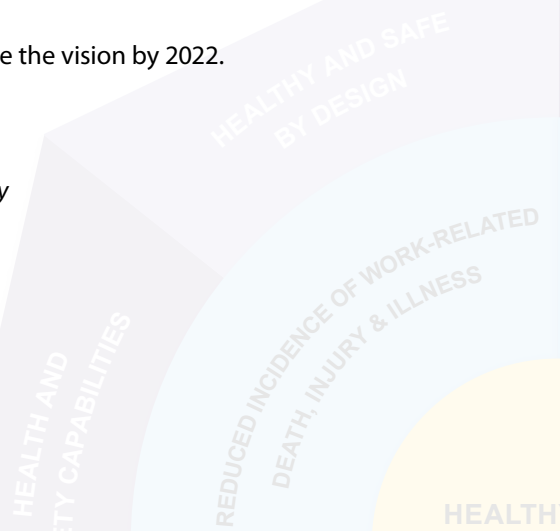
Safe Work Australia conducted an extensive 18 month consultation process with stakeholders to develop the Strategy and it was launched nationally in October 2012.

Outcomes, action areas and targets

The Strategy consists of four outcomes and seven action areas to help achieve the vision by 2022.

The outcomes are:

- a reduced incidence of work-related death, injury and illness *achieved by*
- reduced exposure to hazards and risks *using*
- improved hazard controls *supported by*
- an improved national work health and safety infrastructure.



AUSTRALIAN WORK HEALTH AND SAFETY STRATEGY 2012–2022



The seven areas in which actions are required to support the outcomes are:

- healthy and safe by design
- supply chains and networks
- health and safety capabilities
- leadership and culture
- research and evaluation
- government, and
- responsive and effective regulatory framework.

The Strategy sets three targets to measure progress in achieving the vision:

- a reduction of at least 20 per cent in the number of worker fatalities due to injury
- a reduction of at least 30 per cent in the incidence rate of claims resulting in one or more weeks off work, and
- a reduction of at least 30 per cent in the incidence rate of claims for musculoskeletal disorders resulting in one or more weeks off work.

Priority Industries

The broad industry groups identified as national priorities for prevention activities are:

- agriculture
- road transport
- manufacturing
- construction
- accommodation and food services
- public administration and safety, and
- health care and social assistance.

These groups have high numbers and rates of injury and/or fatalities or are by their nature hazardous.

More information

For more information on the *Australian Work Health and Safety Strategy 2012–2022* visit www.safeworkaustralia.gov.au.

Priority Disorders

The following disorders are identified as national priorities for the first five years of the strategy, based on the severity of consequences for workers, the number of workers estimated to be affected and the existence of known prevention options:

- musculoskeletal disorders
- mental disorders
- cancers (including skin cancer)
- asthma
- contact dermatitis, and
- noise-induced hearing loss.

About Safe Work Australia

Safe Work Australia is an Australian Government statutory body established in 2009. We are a national policy body with the primary responsibility to improve work health and safety and workers' compensation arrangements across Australia.