

Work Health and Safety News



December 2019

We are heading into the silly season and there's still so much going on! We've got lots of news for you this month, with changes to speed limits around the light rail, a new process for requesting disposal of your chemical waste, and new penalty offences from the state government. We have great news from the UNSW Fitness & Aquatic Centre, which passed its safety assessment with truly flying colours! There's also a couple of reminders about end of year parties and the holiday season, plus an interesting take on the definition of a 'worker' - brought to you by reality television.



Chemical Waste Management

The new <u>HS014 Waste Inventory Form</u> must now be used to dispose of any hazardous waste. All fields in this form must be completed. If the forms are not fully completed, the waste will not be collected by the contractors. If you are unsure how to determine the UN number and Packaging group, a <u>guide</u> has been developed to assist you. You must also ensure the chemical waste label is Globally Harmonised System (GHS) compliant.

Key changes:

- The new form must be filled out and submitted online in Excel format only.
- All cells in row 16 must be completed.
- It must include the UN Number of the chemical waste, which can be found in Australian Dangerous Goods Code ed. 7.6, Table 3.2.3.
- If forms are submitted in any other way, they will not be accepted, and our service supplier will not g9 -0 [3.) 0 9 284.04 362.6(g9 -0 [





Work Health and Safety Amendment

(Miscellaneous) Regulation 2019 to introduce two new penalty notice offences and expand the exemptions to confidentiality rules.



Working during shutdown

If you get an exemption to work on campus during the end-of-year shutdown, this is considered 'after-hours' work and therefore you must have safety measures in place due to the increased risk associated with lack of emergency response support. People working in labs or workshops carrying out medium to high risk activities must have an approved HS703 Working Alone or After Hours Approval Form and have a buddy system in place. Full details are in the HS322 HS322 Working Alone or After Hours Guideline.

When a villain is injured...

A contestant on the Channel 7 show 'House Rules' recently took a case to the Workers Compensation Commission. Nicole Prince argued that she was painted as the show's villain and suffered bullying and harassment which caused her psychological injuries. She also had not been able to find work after the show. The Arbitrator considered the level of control Channel 7 had over her, the fact that she was not able to work during filming, that she was paid a weekly allowance and that she was clearly not running her own business but furthering Channel 7's business. The Arbitrator found that she met the definition of 'worker' and awarded her reimbursement of her medical expenses.

Channel 7's appeal will be decided in early 2020.

