

Work Health and Safety News

July brings us mid-winter and school holidays - and both of these give us reason to be grateful we live in Sydney, where the winters are sunny and mild and there's so much to do!

There has been a lot happening at UNSW too, with work powering ahead on Project Salus and the University's Safe Return to Campus. Several faculties and departments have had briefings from Benestar at their regular staff meetings.

We've had two webinars for parents - one on Pandemic Parenting and one on managing the school holidays - and you can find links below to view the recordings. This newsletter also brings you some warnings about the use of alcohol-based hand sanitiser, working with mercury and the proper use of respiratory protective devices.

The consultation period for the Health and Safety Consultation and Issue Resolution Procedure closes soon, as do our special offers on free yoga and Fitbit Premium content. Plus, we have Plastic Free July - it's yet another bumper edition!



It's been a busy time on Project Salus as the project team continues to understand WHS Monitor, data and configuration requirements, standard functionality and how identified WHS needs are met. The team is also confirming the selection of business case approved modules/functionality to ensure that fundamental building blocks are in place and will enable the attainment of project objectives.

This means that in the coming months the team will work with the Business Advisory Group and others to consult on changes to WHS process flows and confirm data mapping requirements before commencing configuration in September. Key processes under review are:

- Incident management
- Risk management (risk assessments, safe work procedures)
- Fieldwork
- Competency/training management
- Asset management (plant and equipment)
- Audits and inspections

Don't forget, you can get a sneak preview of WHS Monitor by <u>clicking here</u> to watch a demo that will guide you through the system and its innovative features.

IF you have any questions or would like to find out further information on Project Salus, you can contact the project on <u>salus@unsw.edu.au</u> or alternatively fee free to reach out to your <u>local WHS contact</u>.

The University has put in place a Safe Return to Campus process which will unfold in stages over the coming months. The first stage was wholly focussed on our campus-dependent research community and



Elemental mercury is liquid at room temperature and is easily vaporised in ambient temperatures. Most occupational exposures to mercury occur through inhalation of elemental mercury vapour, for example when doing laboratory work with mercury in an enclosed space. Thihith mercurysc workslf

If you are working with mercury, it is important to monitor your workspace. This includes conduct867 -0 0 89211 728.8668 .



- Ways to keep time on technology manageable.
- Ideas for reducing the toys and book clutter.

Benestar is the University's Employee Assistance Program (EAP)





Time is running out to take advantage of free Fitbit Premium content for UNSW staff - this offer expires at the end of July!

The Fitbit app is free to download and the premium content offers thousands of workouts, guided programs and in-depth, expert content.

You do not need a Fitbit device in order to use the app or access the premium content (though some features such as step tracking will be unavailable).

To access the premium content, <u>click here</u>. You will need to enter this access code: 693354

If you wish to purchase a Fitbit, we've also been given a discount on a range of devices. <u>Click here</u> to checkout the range. You will need to enter this access code: MBUNSW2020. (Please price check your choice against other websites to ensure you're getting the best deal!)

This July, join the Plastic Free July movement and refuse single-use plastics.

On the 10th anniversary of Plastic Free July, the UNSW community can again take part in this important global initiative to reduce single-use plastic on campus or wherever you are working.

The Covid-19 pandemic has changed the landscape significantly when it comes to avoiding single-use plastic and choosing reusables. However, the problem of plastic pollution hasn't gone away and we all have a responsibility to take action against plastic waste. You can minimise single-use plastic in your <u>own home</u>, <u>at work</u>, or get involved in <u>community initiatives</u>.

Four things you can do to be part of the Plastic Free solution:

- 1. Become a planner: Keep shopping bags in your car and plan ahead to avoid resorting to the convenience of single-use plastics.
- 2. Sustainable takeaway packaging: If reusable containers are not an option, then <u>choose compostable</u> takeaway packaging.
- 3. Less plastic shopping: While on campus or at home, plastic free shopping is another way for us to reduce our impact on the planet. Here are some resources: <u>Plastic free workplace procurement</u> <u>Less Plastic Shopping Guide</u>
- 4. Get involved in community initiatives: Join beach or park cleans or a plastic free picnic in your area, or organise your own. These are FREE, family-friendly activities in the fresh air, with an educational aspect too. Take the Plastic Free July, Take 3 for the Sea or National Geographic Plastic pledge. Here are some more tips for you to get involved.





