

Explain dangers

Construction can be dangerous business if people don't fulfill their responsibilities for onsite health and safety.

Learning your responsibilities is the first step. You should also be aware of other people's responsibilities so you know who to talk to if you see a hazard.

Identify controls

Health and safety hazards can be controlled if everyone knows his or her own responsibilities and acts on them.

The *Occupational Health and Safety Act* and the Construction Regulation (Ontario Regulation 213/91) define the responsibilities of workplace parties such as constructor, employer, supervisor, and worker. You can get a copy of the *Act* and regulations from CSAO, or online at www.csa.org.

Here are some examples of responsibilities of workplace parties.

CONSTRUCTOR (See Section 23 of the *Act*)

- Ensure that everyone and all work processes comply with the law. This includes all employers (subcontractors) and their workers.
- Ensure that all workers' health and safety are protected.
- Provide notification of project to the Ministry of Labour.

EMPLOYER (See Section 25 of the *Act*)

- Provide equipment, materials, and protective devices, and maintain them.
- Ensure that everyone and all processes comply with the requirements of the law.
- Provide information and instruction to protect workers' health and safety.

- Provide competent supervision.
- Acquaint workers with hazards.
- Take every precaution reasonable to protect workers.
- Ensure that all workers are at least 16 years old.

SUPERVISOR (See Section 27 of the *Act*)

- Ensure that the health and safety of workers are never in danger.
- Ensure that workers work safely, according to the law.
- Ensure that workers use and wear any protective equipment or clothing required by the law or the employer.
- Advise workers of any possible danger to their health and safety on the job.

WORKER (See Section 28 of the *Act*)

- Work safely at all times.
- Wear any protective equipment or clothing that your employer requires you to wear.
- Never remove a safety guard or any protective equipment.
- Report to your employer or supervisor any protective device that is missing or not working properly.
- Report to your employer or supervisor any hazard in the workplace.
- Report any violations of the law.

Demonstrate

Hold up the "green book" (*Occupational Health and Safety Act and Regulations for Construction Projects*) and ask your crew what they know about it.

Ask your crew to name

- two responsibilities of employers
- two responsibilities of supervisors.