



**NOT AT WORK,  
MATE**

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# *The Building Trades Group of Unions Drug and Alcohol Committee*

FUNDED BY NSW HEALTH

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## **TRAINING COURSE ON ALCOHOL AND OTHER DRUG SAFETY IN THE WORKPLACE**

### **INDUSTRY TRAINING NEEDS**

All building and construction sites require personnel to understand workplace health and safety. Under performance based legislation it is the responsibility of all personnel to work in a consultative process to achieve a safe workplace.

It is the responsibility of safety committees on building and construction sites is to assist employers and employees to achieve safety standards that will prevent incidents occurring. Alcohol and other drugs have been identified through statistical evidence as a cause of accidents where personnel failed to adhere to safe work practices or occupational health and safety rules.

### **THE TRAINING COURSE**

The Program's accredited training course on Alcohol and Other Drug Safety in the Workplace was designed for and is presented to Safety Committee members, delegates, employer representatives, apprentices, and anyone else who has responsibilities for maintaining safety standards on building sites and preventing accidents.

They need to be able to recognise safety problems related to drug and alcohol use, and take immediate steps to deal with the problem, including removing a dangerously effected worker from the job. They also need to be able to explain the drug and alcohol safety policy to workers; and to refer workers who want help to suitable agencies. In order to do this effectively, they need to be aware of their own attitudes and prejudices to drug and alcohol use.

The training course has been designed to enable all participants to have a better understanding of the problems associated with the use or misuse of alcohol and other drugs. It also aims to provide participants with the necessary skills to effectively intervene in the case of a worker being unable to work safely as a result of alcohol or other drugs

# COURSE OUTLINE AND SPECIFICATIONS

**Summary** The course is a 2 hour structured session on drug and alcohol safety specially designed for site Safety Committee members, Apprentices and others in the building and construction industry.

**1. Aims** To improve safety on building sites by:

Educating Safety Committee members, delegates and workers on implementing the Building Trades Group Drug and Alcohol Program.

Increase the level of knowledge and discussion of drug and alcohol issues amongst building workers.

**2. Target Group** Safety Committee members, delegates, employer representatives, apprentices and others from the building and construction industry.

**3. Rationale** Site Safety Committee members, delegates and employer representatives and all building workers are responsible for maintaining safety standards on building sites and preventing accidents. They need to be able to recognise safety problems related to drug and alcohol use, and take immediate steps to deal with the problem, including removing a dangerously effected worker from the job.

They also need to understand and, when necessary be able to explain the drug and alcohol safety policy to workers; and to refer workers who want help to suitable agencies. In order to do this effectively, they need to be aware of their own attitudes and prejudices to drug and alcohol use.

## **4. Learning Objectives**

By the end of the Course the participants should:

- a) be aware of the background and policy of the Construction Industry Drug and Alcohol Program (knowledge).
- b) recognise various cultural, health and occupational factors influencing drug and alcohol use (knowledge).
- c) identify types and patterns of drug and alcohol use in the workplace (knowledge).
- d) recognise safety problems in the workplace that may be related to drug and alcohol use (knowledge).

- e) be able to immediately respond to a worker dangerously effected by alcohol or other drugs by removing the worker from the job (skill).
- f) be aware of their own attitudes and prejudices to drug and alcohol use (attitude).
- g) be aware of options for referral and assistance for workers with drug and alcohol problems eg. ADIS, D.Tox, Counselling, etc., (knowledge).

**5 Course Duration** The course is designed for presentation independently or as part of existing Training Courses. The duration is approximately 2 hours (120 minutes).

**TOPIC and DURATION**

**METHODS**

1.	Introduction Knowledge of Drug & Alcohol Safety (25 minutes)	Video/Discussion
2.	Program Policy & Background (10 minutes)	Presentation/Discussion
3.	Safety Problems and Factors influencing Drug & Alcohol Use (15 minutes)	Overheads
4.	Effects of Drugs & Alcohol Patterns of Drug & Alcohol Use (15 minutes)	Overheads/Discussion
5.	How to respond to an Affected Worker (10 minutes)	Review Policy Role Play/Discussion
6.	Safe Drinking Levels (10 minutes)	Overheads/Discussion
7.	Attitudes & Prejudices (10 minutes)	Check List & Discussion
8.	Where to Get Help, Treatment Information (10 minutes)	Handouts/Discussion
9.	AIDS/HIV Information and Procedure for Safe Removal of Syringes found on Building Sites. (10 minutes)	Overheads/discussion
10.	Summary/Questionnaire (5 minutes)	

**6. Materials**

The Program will supply the following for Participants:

- Program policy and guidelines
- Drug information handout
- Referrals handout
- Stickers
- Safe drinking levels card

**7. Certificate**

All participants who complete the course will receive a Certificate of Attendance stating that they have attended and completed the course.