



News Release - SafeWork SA

9 February 2007

SAFETY CAMPAIGN ON LABOUR HIRE IN FOOD MANUFACTURING

Workplace safety authorities across Australia and New Zealand have launched a coordinated campaign today focusing on the safety of labour hire workers in high-risk sectors of the food manufacturing industry.

In South Australia, SafeWork SA will target general food manufacturers, and labour hire agencies which place workers in this high-risk industry.

Information to the relevant parties will be provided in all jurisdictions in February and March to inform both labour hire and general food manufacturers of the campaign; their legal obligations relating to occupational health and safety; and actions that should be taken to ensure a safe work environment.

SafeWork SA inspectors will visit a number of workplaces in the labour hire industry and general food manufacturers across the State during May to verify the level of compliance with legislative obligations.

The enforcement campaign will focus on a number of areas, including:

- Familiarity of labour hire agents with the risks at host employer workplaces;
- Induction and task-specific training provided by the both the agent and host employer;
- Appropriateness of placements of labour hire workers; and
- Consultation between the agent and the host employer.

“The campaign is aimed at protecting labour hire workers and educating both the labour hire and general food manufacturers to jointly ensure the safety of labour hire workers”, says the Executive Director of SafeWork SA, Michele Patterson.

Further information on the national intervention campaign and an information package can be obtained by contacting SafeWork SA on 1300 365 255 or 8303 0400.

For answers and advice on workplace health and safety and the relevant laws, SafeWork SA operates a telephone Help Centre on 1 300 365 255 or 8303 0400. To report serious accidents or incidents, in the workplace call 1 800 777 209