

SAFER Combustible Dust Advisors



Stuart Moore from Canadian Forest Products Canal Flats Sawmill was selected to represent the Kootenay/Columbia Valley region; **Eric Gregson** from Weyerhaeuser Canada Princeton Sawmill was selected to represent the Thompson Nicola/Okanagan region; **Doug Tingley** from International Forest products Acorn Sawmill was selected to represent the BC Coast/Lower Mainland; and finally, **John Binng** from Western Forest products Alberni Pacific Division was selected to represent the BC Coast/ Vancouver Island region.

SAFER COUNCIL MEMBERS

SAFER Council Co-Chairs

John Bulcock—Western Forest Products

Ron Corbeil—USW D3 HS&E Coordinator

SAFER Council Board Members

Les Veale—USW Local 2009 - Langley

Ross Lennox—Canadian Forest Products Ltd.

Rick Whiteford—USW Local 1-1937 - Duncan

Dwight Yochim—Truck Loggers Association

Harbinder Hara—USW Local 1-417 - Kamloops

Ryan Johnson—Tolko Industries Ltd.

Pat McGregor—USW Local 1-423 - Kelowna

David Murray—International Forest Products

SAFER is jointly managed by USW, FIR, and the IFLRA where the industry and the union enjoy equal representation. Under the leadership of two Co-Chairs selected from the union and industry ranks, the SAFER Council coordinates its safety activities and initiatives under the guidance of eight safety advocate board members and six trustees. In 2013, SAFER celebrated 25 years of creating healthy environments and improving accident prevention for workers and their families.



SAFER
Safety Advisory Foundation for Education & Research

SAFER Combustible
Dust Pilot Project:
An Exercise in Awareness

SAFER Combustible Dust Advisor

Combustible Dust Management

SAFER Combustible Dust Pilot Project: An Exercise in Awareness

NEVER AGAIN

Since the 2012 dust explosions in the northern interior, combustible dust is on everyone's radar and the BC Forest Industry is taking it seriously and so have their employees mostly represented by the United Steelworkers (USW). Joint Health & Safety Committee can help if they are provided the tools and training.



April 2012:
Lakeland Mills
Explosion Aftermath

LOOKING AHEAD

A SAFER Combustible Dust Advisor will offer training on combustible dust management and assist your Joint Health & Safety Committee to better understand what you need to do to with respect to combustible dust mitigation and control.

The SAFER Combustible Dust Advisor will help to identify where wood dust might accumulate both in close proximity to typical primary and secondary machine centres, and where wood dust accumulates away from the processes that produce the dust. These might be in the general work area, in concealed areas like attics, false ceilings, crawl spaces, electrical panels and wall spaces, and within the various components of the dust collection system.

LEADING THE WAY

During recent forest industry collective bargaining, the negotiating parties recognized an opportunity to further involve employees—USW members—in efforts to control combustible dust in the workplace. As a result, SAFER Combustible Dust Advisors have been selected from four regions in the BC Southern Interior and BC Coast. These individuals were selected to receive combustible dust recognition training for their role as SAFER Combustible Dust Advisors based on their involvement as safety advocates within their operations and a Occupational Health & Safety Committee background.



SAFER
Combustible Dust
Advisors

INVOLVING JOINT HEALTH & SAFETY COMMITTEES

The SAFER Combustible Dust Advisor Pilot Project was created to promote awareness and compliance of the evolving dust standards for the purpose of enhancing safety and productivity. And involvement of the Joint Health & Safety Committee is paramount. Committee involvement will enhance their knowledge base on combustible dust management and will promote a sense of meaningful participation with regard to combustible dust mitigation and control.

MANAGEMENT OF CHANGE PROCESS IMPORTANT

A management of change policy should be implemented in all lumber manufacturing operations handling combustible dust and be understood by Joint Health & Safety Committee members. The goal of the Joint Health & Safety Committee is to make sure that no change occurs that could increase the severity or consequence of an existing dust hazard or introduce a dust hazard where none previously existed.

SAFER Combustible Dust Advisors will also urge Joint Health & Safety Committees to become familiar with the resources offered by Fire Inspection & Prevention Initiative (FIPI) which offers education on the science behind combustible dust explosions and the steps that can be taken to mitigate and/or control combustible dust at its source.



SAFER Council mission is to assist workers and employers in the BC Forest Industry to improve accident prevention and create a health environment, both on and off the job. To reach this safety goal, SAFER has taken a leadership role in the development of safety training session for workers.

www.safer.ca