

MBA BOLAND

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MBA BOLAND NEWSLETTER 2014

The new Construction Regulations was promulgated as expected during early February 2014 and you need to be updated on some of the most important changes thereof. It is very important that you must take notice of this to make the necessary changes regarding compliance thereof.

The whole question and debate on competence is not necessarily addressed in the new Construction Regulations but can be referred to the promulgation of the SACPCMP publication where competency is clearly defined. We will help you in this regard if there are any questions on this subject or you can go to their website at <http://www.sacpcmp.org.za/>

However, let's get to the important issues. You will be asking the question - what has changed? The following issues are mainly the issues that need to be addressed:

1. Much more emphasis is placed on the Client and the Client Agent to ensure Health & Safety are attended to for the duration of the project. If anything goes wrong it can implicate the Client as a last resort if everything is not in place with the Contractors or Sub-Contractors.
2. All projects over R 13m (CIDB 7), or over 1800 person hours or with more than 180 people will require a permit to work. Clients will have to apply for these permits before commencing with construction activities. Each permit will be unique to the specific project and must be prominently displayed at the site. DoL are still busy recruiting personnel for regular inspections. Therefore a window period of 18 months has been granted to comply thereto. The previous "Notification of Construction Work" is still applicable to all projects,

but no permits will be necessary for projects which do not fall under above mentioned criteria.

3. More emphasis and accountability is being placed on Designers to appreciate and include Health & Safety at the design of a project with longevity and quality in mind, as well as safety when maintenance has to be done on buildings / infrastructure.
4. It will be compulsory for everyone to have a "Medical Certificate of Fitness" issued by a registered Occupational Health Practitioner which must be on site and especially to "Work on Heights". Too many accidents happened in the past because of people working on site who are unfit for the work they are performing. Also the "Medical Certificate of Fitness" must be in place before commencing any construction activities on site.
5. The legal appointments in terms of management and supervision of construction work has been extended to more appropriate appointments at different levels. Let me explain. In the past many construction sites have worked with roaming construction supervisors. These days are over. Every construction site now has to have its own "Construction Manager" according to CR 6(1) and an "Assistant Construction Manager" or a number of them according to CR 6(2). They are all now restricted to only one site. This is going to impact hugely on many Contractors and Sub-Contractors in terms of manpower and costs. Sub-Contractors must now also be appointed as "Construction Supervisors" according to CR 6(3) and CR 6(7) depending on the size and the duration of the project. A full time or part-time Health & Safety Officer must be appointed at each construction site.
6. Take notice that "Form work and Support work" changed to Temporary Works. The contents are in essence the same and nothing else has changed.
7. Batch Plants changed to Bulk Mixing Plants, but did not change in its contents.
8. Explosive powered tools changed to Explosive actuated fastening devices, but did not change in its contents.

9. Use and storage of flammable liquids on construction sites is now making provision for the earthen of bulk storage tanks to prevent possible fire hazards due to unwanted sparks and shorting.

Due to the fact all personnel must have a "Medical Certificate of Fitness" before commencing with construction activities on site, I have spoken to a very reliable service provider to come to your construction site and do the medical testing on site. This is very convenient if one consider the fact that you don't have to drive your employees one by one to the Occupational Health Practitioner. For your convenience you can contact Cindy Wilson of EOH Health at the following numbers:

Tel: 021-5285656 or
Cell: 071 571 3956.

This can become a major issue, because any Inspector of Labour has the right to stop your site if the "Medical Certificate of Fitness" for your personnel is not in place or available on site.

I also include a table for the scheduled training at MBA Boland for the rest of 2014. This will enable you make your employees competent in terms of the required levels of training. This will become increasingly more important if the minimum levels of competence will be enforced in future.

MBA BOLAND TRAINING SCHEDULE FOR 2014

Training courses	Dates for planned courses / seminars
Basic Fire Fighting	14 April 2014 13 June 2014 15 August 2014 17 October 2014
Health & Safety Representatives	11 - 12 April 2014 17 - 18 June 2014 18 - 19 August 2014 20 - 21 October 2014
First Aid Level 1	6 - 7 Mei 2014 5 - 6 Augustus 2014 4 - 5 November 2014

Site Safety Supervisor	27 March 2014 25 April 2014 30 May 2014 27 June 2014 29 August 2014 19 September 2014 31 October 2014 28 November 2014
BIBC Information Session	20 March 2014
JBCC Work session (Contractors)	19 March 2014
Labour Relations Workshop (Dr Mario Denton)	8 April 2014
MBA Boland SHE Forum	9 April 2014 11 June 2014 13 August 2014 8 October 2014 3 December 2014

I am looking forward to your positive response and please feel absolutely free to contact us at MBA Boland to be of assistance in order to help you comply in terms of the law. Build with the best and please contact us.

MBA Boland regards



W.A. Liebenberg
Safety, Health & Environment Advisor
MBA Boland