straightforward solutions for common farm safety requirements

pinion ADVISORY

This fact sheet has been designed to provide some straightforward solutions that you can apply on farm to manage risks.

SAFETY REQUIREMENT	SOLUTION TO CONSIDER	MORE INFORMATION
Risk assessment	Get an aerial photo of your worksite and use this to map the risks. Given the increase in affordability of drones, this is now a straightforward task. Identify where the traffic flows, where chemicals are stored and loaded, where visitors or children come to, machinery movement, etc. Develop an action plan based on your aerial view. Take the kids for a walk. Observe where they go, what they are interested in and how they interact with their surroundings. This will help identify hazards from a child's perspective.	https://www.safework.sa.gov.au/business-industry/agriculture-horticulture/health-safety-guide
Signage for workplaces	Off the shelf signage is readily available through local or online retailers. Why not get an employee to walk around the workplace and develop a plan for what signage is required. This a straightforward action all farms can implement.	AWI have developed shearing shed kits. These are available for $25 per kit. AWI shed signage kit https://www.wool.com/on-farm-research-and-development/wool-harvesting-and-quality-preparation/health-and-safety/
Managing isolated workers Isolated workers need a method to communicate when they get into trouble. WHS regulation 48 states the following: ...Minimising the risks associated with remote or isolated work ... must provide a system of work that includes effective communication with the worker.	Personal GPS devices can be used to send a message in an emergency situation or check-in on the location of your workers. There are also apps available such as 'Emergency +' that assists to ensure the right service is contacted. This is linked to the phones GPS function.	SPOT devices provide satellite-based messaging capability, beyond the reach of cell phones. SPOT determines GPS location and sends location and pre-programmed message to communication satellites. Then location and messages are delivered according to instructions via email, text message, or emergency notifications. Cost: around $200 per unit https://australianhiker.com.au/gear/spot-gen-3-personal-satellite-gps/
Team communication	Using a group messaging app such as 'Messenger' or 'WhatsApp' to send group messages. These could include things such as "early start today due to heat, see you at 6am".	

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Chain of responsibility COR legislation commenced 1 October 2018 Applies to all heavy vehicles with a GVM greater than 4.5mt Large financial penalties apply for noncompliance	Review the fact sheet and policy template provided by Pinion Advisory.	More information can be found on the following websites: https://www.nhvr.gov.au/files/201802-0775-cor-faqs-primary-producers.pdf http://grainproducerssa.com.au/producers/hot-topics/chain-of-responsibility-laws
Redirect traffic flows	Redirect traffic flow away from areas that interact with children or household duties. Take note of these via the risk assessment then implement changes to reduce the risk. Signage here can also assist.	
Remove access to unsafe areas/ structures	If obsolete silos or structures can't be immediately removed then take away ladders and other access points, or seal up openings. Examples include old sheds, pits, silos and windmills.	
First aid training and kits available in the workplace	Having qualified first aiders is highly recommended. Training in this area is inexpensive and is a great way to ensure your team has the skills to respond when an accident occurs.	Code of Practice - First aid in the workplace https://safeworksa.govcms.gov.au/sites/g/files/net4331/f/5.4.5-firstaidcop.pdf
Testing and tagging to manage electrical risks in the workplace	Many electrical defects are detectable by visual inspection. Regular testing can detect electrical faults and deterioration that cannot be detected by visual inspection. The nature and frequency of inspection and testing will vary depending on the nature of the workplace and the risks associated.	Code of Practice - Managing electrical risks in the workplace https://www.safework.sa.gov.au/resources/managing-electrical-risks-workplace
Chemical accreditation	In South Australia everyone who either purchases or uses Schedule 7 chemicals must hold a current Chemical Accreditation. The Chemical Accreditation card expires after five years.	Service providers such as: ChemCert https://www.chemcert.com.au/courses
Awareness of all workers in your workplace Workers include contractors Do you know where all contractors are at all times?	Signage with contact numbers at the gate and direct all visitors to a central place or office. Have a sign-in and out process.	

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