

RECORDING EXPOSURES

A new WSIB system records your reports of unexpected exposures to hazardous substances



The Workplace Safety and Insurance Board (WSIB) recently launched a program to record unexpected exposures to hazardous substances in construction. The program, called Construction Exposure Incident Reporting (CEIR), will accept a report from you about such an exposure so that there's a formal record of what happened. If you become ill in the future, you can refer to the CEIR record when pursuing a WSIB illness claim.

What kinds of things does CEIR cover?

With CEIR, you can report an unexpected incident in the workplace that results in

- a leak, spill, explosion, or release of a dangerous chemical or physical substance; or
- contact with an infectious substance.

CEIR accepts reports of only *unexpected* exposures. That means if someone's work commonly involves encounters with dangerous substances (e.g., an asbestos abatement worker), then you do not report these *expected* exposures through CEIR. Instead, you need to keep your own records of expected exposures. Contact the Construction Safety Association of Ontario for help in developing a recording program.

Do not use CEIR if a worker loses time from work or needs medical treatment, tests, or prescription medicine because of the exposure. Instead, fill out a WSIB Form 6 or Form 7.

What information will CEIR store?

- The names of the workers
- The date of the incident
- The location
- The type of incident (e.g., spill, leak, rupture, physical contact, etc.)

- The type of exposure (i.e., the hazardous substance)
- Investigation reports
- The name of the employer or constructor.

What should I do if I'm unexpectedly exposed?

You should report the unexpected exposure to the project superintendent, constructor, and employer, as well as to the joint health and safety committee (JHSC) or the health and safety representative for the project. The JHSC or health and safety rep should investigate the exposure. The employer can then submit an Employer's Exposure Incident Form (Form 3886A), available on www.wsib.on.ca, to the WSIB by fax or mail.

If the exposure occurs at a small project without a JHSC or rep, then the worker and supervisor should investigate and report the exposure using the Employer's Exposure Incident Form.

In any of these cases, the worker can also fill out a Worker's Exposure Incident Form (Form 3885A) and fax or mail it to the WSIB.

For more information on CEIR and to get the forms:

- ✓ visit www.wsib.on.ca
- ✓ email CEIR_project@wsib.on.ca
- ✓ call 1-800-465-9646. ☎