



Australian Fertiliser Services Association

Registered Number 603 301 266 ABN 41 603 301 266

NSW Update provided by Amy Wyer- NSW Secretary

16 March 2017

Hi All,

It's been a great start to 2017. We've been extremely busy here in NSW and are taking full advantage of the work in order to make up for last year's wet period.

The WHS Monitor Project is making progress and is scheduled for presentation at the National Conference in September. After a gap analysis of the association's WHS Policies and Procedures was completed, it became obvious that there was a lot of work to be done in order to bring them up to scratch. As a result, it was decided that a consultant would be contracted to complete and update the policies so that a reliable set of documents would be available to members using the WHS Monitor System. These documents will be uploaded into the generic library and will be accessible to all users as a starting point for their own policies and procedures. The documents are being created and uploaded to the system in 3 stages. We are currently at the end of stage one and I am looking forward to previewing the stage 1 documents once finalised at the end of March.

Although the project has taken longer than expected, myself and the team are determined to see it through and believe it will be of great benefit to the AFSA members. Work, Health and Safety is an ongoing and very significant part of our industry. It is unfortunate that the importance of this topic is often only noticed when we fail to implement the correct processes. If you do not value WHS, it is likely that you have not dealt with the repercussions of a Workcover or Workers Compensation claim. At its simplest, WHS is about protecting the safety of your employees. However, it is also about protecting your business from legislation that could find you negligent if an accident were to happen - and accidents do happen.

I would like to thank our major suppliers who have offered their support with sponsorship. Both the gap analysis and the document creation have come at a price and the extra funding has allowed us to continue on with the project.

The NSW committee were planning on holding a convention focused on machinery and spread testing in Canberra closer to July. Unfortunately, due to time restraints, the committee is unable to hold the event this year and have postponed it until 2018 when NSW hold the National Conference. We encourage all members to attend this year's National Conference in Torquay, VIC, on the 15th September.

Kind regards,

Amy Wyer
NSW Secretary