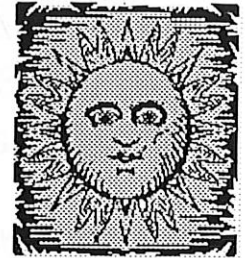


RISKY TIMES



SUMMER 1999 - 2000

Issue 18

"Risky Times" by C.A.L.M. Risk Management Section

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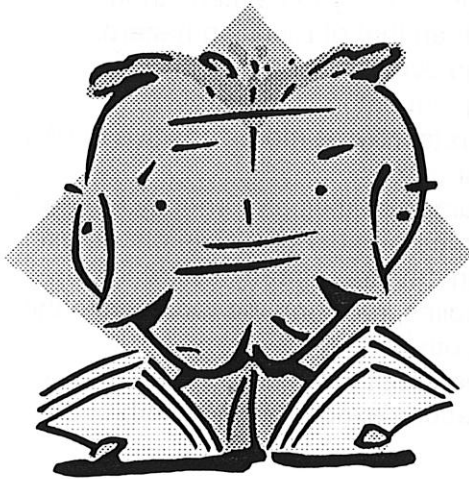
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<http://calmweb.calm.wa.gov.au/drbc/dsd/hrb/risk/risky-times.html>

CHANGING TIMES

The end of an era has come for Department of Conservation and Land Management, this also means a new beginning. The separation of Conservation and Timber production operations and the introduction of a Conservation Commission means a change in roles, responsibility and identity for CALM people.

A series of workshops was recently presented by Mr Brian Greedy, from Professional Business Solutions, at the request of the CALM-People Reference Group and CALM Corporate Executive. The workshops focused on "team leaders managing change" in preparation for the current and future changes CALM people and leaders are likely to be exposed to. The following is a selection of keypoints presented in the training.



- ☺ Change is a process of doing things differently.
- ☺ Change is a fact of life for all organisations, large or small, public or private.
- ☺ Change is inevitable.
- ☺ Change is constant.
- ☺ Adjusting to change may be different for each individual. This depends on how the individual adapts to the demands of the new situations they find themselves in.

Responding to the challenges of change is a choice people have. The choice is between dwelling on the fact that change has occurred or thriving from the opportunities presented by the change.

One of the key points presented by Brian Greedy was the I'm OK / You're OK model. He said, "you can influence others by changing the way you react to them."

Enjoy the challenges ahead.

I'M OK / YOU'RE OK

Winners and Losers.

The quality of a person's life is in direct proportion to their commitment to excellence, regardless of their chosen field of endeavour." Vincent T. Lombardi.

*The winner - is always a part of the answer
The loser - is always part of the problem*

*The winner - always has a program
The loser - always has an excuse*

*The winner - says "Let me do that for you"
The loser - says "That's not my job"*

*The winner - sees an answer for every problem
The loser - sees a problem for every answer*

*The winner - sees a green near every sand trap
The loser - sees a sand trap near every green*

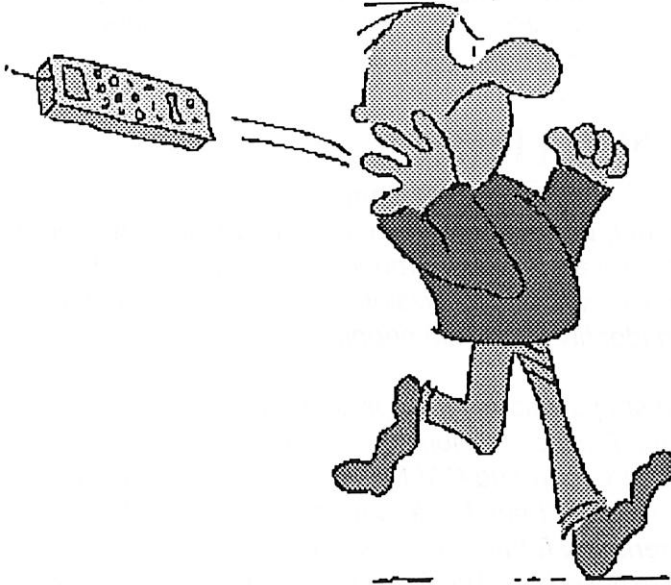
*The winner - says,
"It may be difficult - but it's possible"
The loser - says,
"It may be possible - but it's too difficult"*

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Summer
'99/'00.

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MOBILE PHONE USE Radiation Scare

Recent media reports have raised concerns about the health risks to mobile phone users from electromagnetic radiation.



The possible relationship between brain tumors and mobile phones is being discussed by scientists, phone companies, phone users and the media.

Mobile phones do emit microwaves. If microwave or pulsed low frequency electromagnetic fields (EMFs) do turn out to be carcinogenic, even if we backdate it five years, we would not be expecting to see much in the way of induced cancers for another ten years. In the meantime we discover that almost all of the major phone companies are quietly and prudently patenting EMF reducing cases and aeri-als, according to Alasdair Philips, UK, Powerwatch.

There have been no conclusive studies, evidence or legal precedents accepting the relationship between mobile phone use and brain tumours. A Swedish study on 11,000 mobile phone users found symptoms such as fatigue, headaches, burning sensations on the skin were more common amongst those who made longer calls. A German study showed blood pressure rose between 5-10mm Hg during mobile phone use. An Australian study found that mice exposed to pulsed digital phone radiation over 18 months had twice the risk of developing cancers.

The "unknown" is the concern of many health conscious mobile phone users who have already adopted harm-minimisation strategies. The delay in conclusive evidence of health risk and subsequent health warnings in the cases of x-ray machines, asbestos and smoking are examples commonly quoted by people concerned about the potential health risk of mobile phone use.

So what do we make of it all?

According to Dr P. Dixon;

- ◆ The greatest risk to a mobile phone users is from an accident while distracted - particularly when driving. This risk is likely to be many thousand times greater than that of radiation hazard.
- ◆ There is no evidence so far of tumour formation or memory impairment in humans.
- ◆ Mice and rats may be more sensitive to EMF effects on their cells.
- ◆ Further human studies are urgently needed because of the large number of mobile phone users.
- ◆ Some manufacturer already sell radiation shields for mobiles, reducing the radiation to the head - expect others to follow.
- ◆ Moving the aerial 8 inches from the head would dramatically reduce exposure - to 1/64th of the dose.


Recommendation's for CALM mobile users.


- ☎ Limit the length and frequency of phone calls - this will also help with the budget.
- ☎ Where mobile phones are to be used in vehicles - install hands free phone kits.
- ☎ Ask the phone manufacturer about radiation minimisation accessories, eg shields or covers.
- ☎ Regular users, use a portable hands free extension, which keeps the phone and its aerial more than 8 inches from the head.
- ☎ Keep abreast with new research and technology available.

Sources include: www.globalchange.com/radiation2.htm
www.flipag.net/nopoles/phillips.htm





Summer Blood Challenge 2000.


 The summer blood challenge - whereby CALM has accepted the challenge put out by the Motor Cycle Riders Association and reigning champions WA Police Force, to help ensure WA hospitals have adequate blood supplies for the summer months.


The challenge commenced on 8th November and runs until 28th February 2000. CALM is one of 31 WA organisation participating in the challenge. CALM people have already made 20 donations, out of the 742 donations given by the end of week 5 of the challenge. 

CALM donors can register their donation by completing a "Loyalty" form available at the registration area of all Blood Service venues.











 For new blood donors - some facts to help you in your decision to give this life-saving gift to the community.

- Most people between 16 -70 years can donate blood. You need to weigh 45 kg or more and should be feeling well at the time of your donation.
- It is important to eat and drink prior to donating, as this will help your body replace the fluid you donate.
- On arrival, you will be interviewed, your haemoglobin will be checked. The blood donation occurs and afterwards drinks and refreshments are available for consumption.
- The actual donation takes 5-12 minutes, however you should allow up to an hour for the entire process.
- You can safely give blood every three months. 



 Call 131495 (during office hours) to find out the location of your nearest blood donor centre or mobile unit locations and to make a booking.



The Australian Red Cross Blood Service thank CALM and it's blood donors for participating in the Summer Blood Challenge 2000 















         

Incident Causation

 The old faithfuls of incident causation "slips, trips, falls and manual handling" continue to figure in Departmental injury statistics. 

 With the fire season in full swing and the continuing need for maximum effort, now would be a most opportune time to review injury types and work practices within your work unit. 

 There has been a gradual increase in the number of lost time injuries in the past few months. However the average days lost per injury, due to ongoing management of each and every case, is continuing to decline. 

STATISTICS FOR CALM DECEMBER 1998 - NOVEMBER 1999

	NUMBER		FREQUENCY RATE		AV DAYS LOST	HOURS WORKED	NO DAYS LOST
	LTI	MTI	LTI	MTI + LTI			
Central Forest							
Bunbury	0	1	0	31	0	32327	0
Busselton	0	4	0	49	0	81067	0
Mornington	1	3	8	33	2	120468	2
Blackwood	4	5	35	79	7	114104	26
Total	5	13	14	52	6	347966	28
Goldfields							
Kalgoorlie Total	0	0	0	0	0	26276	
Kimberley							
Kununurra	3	2	102	169	4	29533	12
Broome	0	1	0	45	0	22348	0
Total	3	3	58	116	4	51881	12
Midwest							
Geraldton	0	2	0	63	0	31619	0
Moora	0	2	0	84	0	23724	0
Shark Bay	0	0	0	0	0	45491	0
Total	0	4	0	40	0	100834	0
Pilbara							
Exmouth	0	0	0	0	0	24762	0
Karratha	0	3	0	81	0	36879	0
Total	0	3	0	49	0	61641	0
South Coast							
Albany	2	4	34	103	4	58237	7
Esperance	0	1	0	40	0	24895	0
Total	2	5	24	84	4	83132	7
Southern Forest							
Manjimup	0	1	0	10	0	102721	0
Manjimup Region	0	0	0	0	0	23519	0
Pemberton	2	6	20	80	3	100127	5
Walpole	0	3	0	34	0	87981	0
Total	2	10	6	38	3	314348	5
Swan Region							
Dwellingup	1	6	11	78	6	89831	6
Kelmscott	0	0	0	0	0	30940	0
Mundaring	4	7	42	115	16	95866	65
Marine + Conserv.	1	3	48	192	6	20822	6
Perth	7	5	62	106	7	112990	48
Total	13	21	37	97	10	350449	125
Wheatbelt							
Katanning	0	0	0	0	0	22736	0
Narrogin	1	1	34	69	1	29020	1
Merredin	0	0	0	0	0	11118	0
Total	1	1	16	32	1	62874	1
SOHQ Admin	2	2	3	6	10	719677	20
Forest Resources	8	23	12	48	13	648237	104
Science and Info.	3	14	9	51	7	331761	20
Total for Dept.	39	99	13	45	8	3099076	322

LTI = LOST TIME INJURY MTI = MEDICAL TREATMENT INJURY
 FREQUENCY RATE = No. OCCURRENCES IN PERIOD x 1,000,000 / TOTAL HRS
 AVERAGE DAYS LOST = No. OF DAYS LOST / No. OF LTI's

SIGNIFICANT INCIDENTS

One of the district offices was fumigated for termites. The fumigation was carried out underfloor in the morning. The contractor failed to mention that there may be adverse effects as a result of his work, but not long after he started spraying, the fumes came up through the floor. The office was subsequently rendered uninhabitable for the rest of the day, with several staff complaining of symptoms such as stinging eyes, sore throat, headache and nausea.

The smell persisted for two more days with staff still complaining of the ill effects three days later.



In hindsight, the Senior Operations Officer said "the job should have been completed over the weekend." The question of contractor negligence in not informing staff of the possible risk of ill health was discussed. He was acquainted with the chemical and should have given warning or arranged the job on the weekend.

At no time were any of the staff informed that the chemical was likely to "stink them out of the office". Nor was the contractor asked.

If in any doubt - ask.

For further information on any issues discussed in "Risky Times" or recommendations for future editions please contact Risk Management Section. - SOHQ, 50 Hayman Road, Como 6152. PHONE (08) 9334 0397 OR FAX (08) 9334 0475.