



SAFETY ASSOCIATION OF SASKATCHEWAN MANUFACTURERS

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Meeting Report

May 17, 2018

Q2 Safety Meeting – Open Forum

SASM Regina Office

In Attendance:

SASM Ken Ricketts, Cathy Glasser, Desira Rostad, Randy Thomas, Shelley Miner

Members

Amy Gabriel – Bourgault Industries Ltd.
Chris Wentzell – Vaderstad Industries
Femi Peluola – GATX Rail Canada
Keith Guillaume – Buffalo Pound Water Treatment Corp.
Reide Baseden - Brandt

WCB

Scott Coghlan

Guest

Lyle Hewitt – White Rabbit VR

1. **Sign in:** 8:30 am – 8:45 am
2. **Call to Order:** Ken Ricketts called the meeting to order at 8:51 am.
3. **Introductions:** All in attendance introduced themselves.
4. **WhiteRabbit Virtual Reality:** - Lyle Hewitt
WhiteRabbit presented information on how virtual reality and safety training are a strong fit. The 5 main reasons to use virtual reality training in a workplace:
 - 1) It will save you money
 - 2) It will make your workplace safer
 - 3) Employees will be more engaged in training
 - 4) Employees will be better trained
 - 5) Able to carry out remote training at a lower cost

Lyle noted that virtual reality has been used by the military and aviation for about 20 years, but more recently companies like UPS, NFL, KFC, Walmart and Ford have transitioned to VR training. VR training has a 75% retention rate.

WhiteRabbit has 3 training options available:

- 1) CGI simulations
- 2) Video 360°
- 3) Interactive video (a hybrid of 1 & 2)

WhiteRabbit has a joint venture agreement with SCSA and will be piloting a VR course on hazard identification. So SCSA is not a customer; they are a 50% partner. They plan to market this hazard ID course across North America.

WhiteRabbit is looking to develop similar partnerships with other safety associations like SASM, and/or individual manufacturing companies. Alternatively, a company could work with WhiteRabbit to develop and buy their own product. There are a few grants available as well.

Vaderstad and Brandt suggested that Overhead Crane would be the best safety course to try using this technology as it's widely used in the industry.

5. **Workplace Impairment:** -Ken Ricketts

Ken talked about the current issue of marijuana in the workplace being a much larger topic, not solely focused on marijuana. The real issue is impairment and substance abuse in the workplace. Impairment can be caused by alcohol, prescription drugs, a busy family life (lack of sleep), having a second job, etc. Ken stressed the need to have a Return-to-Work program in place so that impairment can be properly managed.

6. **Roundtable Discussion**

Doctors and WCB claims discussion. Scott from WCB informed the group that now doctors can bill WCB whenever they need to complete a RTW form for an employer (initial visit). Companies do not have to pay the fee. Companies are encouraged to talk to doctors in their community, train them on their RTW policy, then take employees to the "trained and informed" doctor. Employees can see their own doctor afterwards if they want.

Amy Gabriel asked who is considered the primary care giver. Scott from WCB indicated that it is the doctor who is doing the most work with the employee, not necessarily the initial doctor.

Ken Ricketts mentioned that SASM needs to continue to teach companies how to complete the physical demands descriptions.

7. **Adjournment:** The meeting adjourned at 1:57 pm.