



Media Release

21 August 2020

False Information Disseminated to Architects

The Occupational Health and Safety Authority (OHSa) would like to draw the attention of architects and professionals in the construction industry about incorrect and misleading information on safety cards that is being disseminated by a private training service provider (*vide* copy of message below).

The service provider is alleging that the Skills Card will soon become a mandatory requirement for all construction sites. The email further states that specific training is required to acquire the safety card and that a fine is being imposed under OHS legislation. They requested the recipient of the message to attend training provided by their company.

OHSa would like to clarify that the safety cards system is neither regulated by the OHS Authority, nor are safety cards issued by OHSa, since this is an initiative of the Building Industry Consultative Council (BICC), which will be administered by the Building and Construction Agency (BCA).

Moreover, Legal Notice 36 of 2012 (the Occupational Health and Safety [Payment of Penalties] Regulations) refers to penalties which can be imposed for various breaches of occupational health and safety legislation, and therefore does not in any way refer to safety cards as erroneously claimed by the company.

OHSa would also like to clarify that the OHS Authority Act requires training to be site and task specific, and that the safety card does not fully satisfy training obligations in terms of the OHS Authority Act.

“Whereas OHSa is fully committed towards ensuring higher levels of occupational health and safety at work, including in the construction industry, and whereas it fully supports all initiatives intended to raise awareness, it cannot in any way condone any action based on false information or deception. The contents of the message (in all formats sent) are deceitful and should be ignored by the recipients,” Dr Mark Gauci, OHSa’s CEO said.

Further information about occupational health and safety may be obtained directly from the Occupational Health and Safety Authority (ohsa@gov.mt) while other information about the Skills Card may be obtained from the Building Industry Consultative Council (info.bicc@gov.mt).

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Sent from "Ghaziz Perit,

Nispera li tinsab tajjeb

Kif forsi diga infurmat, fi ffit gimghat ohra, il-?Building & Construction Agency? maghrufa ahjar bhala BCA ser issir Awtorita' li flimkien mal-BICC ser tnedi l-esigenza li kullhadd ikollu SAFETY CARD fuq is-siti kollha tal-kostruzzjoni.

Mehmuz qed nibghatlek informazzjoni dwar kif wiehed jkiseb din il-karta ta identita (Safety Card) li kull individwu mod mandatorju irid ikollu.

Prezentament l-Aviz Legali 36 tas-sena 2012 jimponi multa ta €250 fin-nuqqas ta tahrig kif ukoll fil-kaz ta incident il-polza ta l-assigurazzjoni ma tkunx tista tkopri il-kumpens kollu.

Ghal daqstant napprezza kemm int kif ukoll kollegi timlew id-dokument mehmuz u nkun nistaw naghtukom it-tahrig mandatorju.

Ghal aktar informazzjoni jekk joghgbok cempilli halli nkun nista nghinek aktar dwar dan is-suggett ta materja importanti

Grazzi u tislijiet* Samsung Galaxy smartphone.