

Coming Together To Serve You Better

AMALGAMATION UPDATE

Background

- The emotional and financial toll of workplace fatalities and injuries in Ontario has led Ontario's prevention system to undertake a critical assessment and restructuring, so it can better meet the needs of Ontario's workers and employers.
- The result is a decision to amalgamate 12 health and safety associations into four new associations.
- One of these four new associations is an amalgamation of the Education Safety Association of Ontario (ESAO), the Municipal Health and Safety Association (MHSA), and the Ontario Safety Association for Community and Healthcare (OSACH).
- The new organization, temporarily called Health and Safety Association for Government Services (HSAGS), is headed by Louise Logan who has, for the past 15 years, been involved with workplace health and safety at the provincial, national, and international levels in both professional and volunteer capacities.

What this means to you as a client

- First of all, we know you value the services and expertise that are specific to your sector, and we value this too. These changes are being made to serve you, the client, better and more efficiently.
- It is early days. We are working hard to make the transition process as smooth and seamless as possible, and to continue to focus our attention where it is needed the most: working with our clients to improve health and safety across Ontario.
- Some of the benefits you can expect to see as we move forward into the future include:
 - ↳ More staff where they're needed most: on the front line
 - ↳ More sector-specific products and services
 - ↳ Enhanced products, programs, and services
 - ↳ Enhanced responsiveness to customer needs
 - ↳ More resources and training opportunities
 - ↳ Easier access to information and advice
 - ↳ More prevention resources to devote to Ontario's employers and workers
 - ↳ Increased opportunities to achieve zero injuries, illnesses, and fatalities in the workplace
- Although the amalgamation officially takes effect January 1, 2010, our three organizations (ESAO, MHSA, OSACH) are already working together to design the services our customers need in 2010 and beyond.
- It is important to note that as of January 1, 2010, you will still be able to reach us through the phone numbers and websites you are used to for each of the three associations – ESAO, MHSA, and OSACH.
- We are committed to putting an end to workplace tragedy. We look forward to working with you to achieve Zero – zero injuries, illnesses, and fatalities in the workplace.