



Certificate of Recognition Occupational Health and Safety Audit

The Workers' Compensation Board (WCB) of Nova Scotia encourages all workplace parties, including employers, owners, workers, unions, contractors and suppliers, to take an active part in the prevention of workplace injury and illness. Implementing workplace safety systems and processes is a recognized way to effectively manage risk and reduce injury and illness.

At the WCB, we are pleased to recognize employers who have put these systems in place and taken the extra step of having their workplace audited by a recognized audit firm. A workplace health and safety audit helps ensure the necessary components are in place and also identifies opportunities for further development of injury and illness prevention initiatives within the workplace.

In addition to the health and safety management benefits of an audit, a number of organizations have made successful completion of an occupational health and safety audit a prerequisite for contracting or provision of services. The WCB encourages the consideration of health and safety when purchasing goods or services, and is pleased to recognize firms successfully completing an audit by one of the approved audit firms by endorsing the firm's Certificate of Recognition.

Health and safety associations and service providers play an important role in supporting prevention. Several organizations in Nova Scotia offer occupational health and safety consultant services, including health and safety audits. Upon request of the audit provider, Prevention Services at the WCB reviews audits against established criteria and endorses those audits that meet all the requirements.

The list of organizations whose audits are currently endorsed by the WCB is below:

- Frontline Safety
- Jacques Whitford
- National Safety Depot
- Nova Scotia Construction Safety Association
- Nova Scotia Safety Council
- Occupational Health & Educational Services (2002) Inc.

In addition to their audits, these organizations may provide Certificates of Recognition (or their equivalents) based on the results of health and safety audits. In some cases, the Government of Nova Scotia, or others, insist on potential suppliers having a Certificate of Recognition before they are eligible to bid on contracts (for instance, see the Government of Nova Scotia Construction Contract Guidelines).

Important Note: Not all tendering organizations accept the Certificates of Recognition from all of the above organizations. If you are planning to use a Certificate of Recognition from one of the above organizations as part of a contract bid, you are strongly advised to check with the tendering agency to verify that the tendering agency will accept a Certificate of Recognition from the organization you plan to use.

Anyone wishing to arrange for an occupational health and safety audit and Certificate of Recognition from one of these organizations should contact the organization directly.