

Adventure & Outdoor Update

SupportAdventure.co.nz
SAFETY SYSTEMS DRIVEN BY SAFETY CULTURE



Outdoors New Zealand
Mahi Ngahau ā-Waho Aotearoa



Supportadventure website – have your say

The formal consultation period for the supportadventure.co.nz website finishes at the end of April. Take a look at this new one-stop-shop for practical information and advice on running a safe business and then have your say on how we can improve the site. Thanks to everyone who's provided feedback so far.

We recommend you focus on the [incidents](#) section at this stage of the season. Run the checklist past your team and see if your incident reporting and learning systems are working as well as they could.



Photo: Tourism Northland

Department of Labour updates

Guidance document for Adventure Activities Regulations

The Department of Labour (DOL) is still finalising the guidance document for the adventure activities regulations. DOL anticipates it will answer the many questions that operators have about whether or not their activities are covered by the regulations and what they need to do. Although the release date is later than expected, we have been assured they will be out shortly.

The guidance document will be available on DOL's [website](#) and through www.supportadventure.co.nz



Photo: Destination Marlborough

Safety audit standard

DOL reports that the safety audit standard is close to being finalised. The standard describes the generic minimum requirements for a safety management system for adventure activity operators to which the Health and Safety in Employment (Adventure Activities) Regulations 2011 apply. It provides a framework for safety audit providers to determine compliance with the requirements.

Recognising existing safety audits & safety audit providers

DOL says it expects to make announcements soon about safety audit certificates that have been obtained up until the end of 2012 that it will accept for the purposes of the adventure activities regulations.

DOL will also announce what safety audit providers need to do if they wish to be recognised to provide safety audits for the purposes of the regulations beyond 2012.

TIA & Outdoors NZ working with DOL

TIA and Outdoors NZ are continuing to meet with DOL staff responsible for implementing their adventure activities regulations projects. We are building a strong collaborative working relationship with the government department.

Recent meetings focused on the release date for the regulation guidelines and the audit provider criteria and approval process. DOL has assured us there will be close consultation throughout the development of these criteria. We will continue to advocate for simple, effective systems that add value for operators and help to improve safety across the sector.

TIA & Outdoors NZ Project updates:

Visit the supportadventure.co.nz website for background information on the Adventure Safety Review projects Outdoors NZ and TIA have been contracted by DOL to complete.

TIA

Work continues on the supportadventure website and implementing your feedback as the end of the consultation period comes closer. The formal launch of the site is planned for May. The next major tool to be added to the site will be a Search function.

Activity Safety Guidelines

Work is progressing on detailed activity safety guidelines for the canyoning, caving and indoor rock climbing sectors.

Meetings with the canyoning and caving guideline development teams are scheduled for early March in Queenstown and Waitomo respectively.

Indoor rock climbing sector members are being contacted and their industry team will be formed soon.

Canyoning, caving and indoor rock climbing are the first in a series of sector specific activity safety guidelines that will help businesses ensure they are operating to accepted safety levels. A draft content template and guideline development processes have been established and will be trialled with these initial three groups.



Photo: Daniel Clearwater

Contact TIA Adventure & Outdoor Project Leader Rachael Moore if you would like to be involved, email rachael.moore@tianz.org.nz, phone 04 495 0817.

Outdoors NZ

Sector wide incident reporting system

Stakeholders and individuals with incident reporting systems expertise have been invited to attend a focus group meeting in March to develop a proposed sector wide incident reporting system.

Their work will be informed by a report Outdoors NZ completed last month which describes incident reporting systems currently in use in New Zealand and some international approaches.

Operators will be asked provide feedback on the proposed system and to express their interest in using it and their likely level of engagement.

The UK's 'lessons learned' approach

A strategy that is being used in the UK to communicate incident outcomes is a 'lessons learned' approach. This involves a committee of experts reviewing incidents to identify transferable lessons that would assist all operators to improve safety.

Check out this [website](#) for examples. There are some great lessons that can be incorporated into any safety management plan.

Levels & measure of competency

Work is continuing on the background report into levels and measures of competency that exist for adventure and outdoor commercial sector instructors. We expect to communicate this report to sector focus groups by the end of March.

We welcome input on both these projects. Email Outdoors NZ Project Leader [Sue Gemmell](#).



Photo: Helipro Rotorua



Photo: Fotosearch

Contributing to an international safety standard

Outdoors NZ and TIA are part of a working group developing an international standard for safety in adventure tourism. This international connection was one of the recommendations coming out of the government's adventure safety review.

Sharing safety information

We are keen to see operators use this monthly Adventure & Outdoor Update to promote sharing of safety information.

If you have any upcoming training or workshops that would benefit from including external attendees let us know and we'll help spread the word.

Some of the benefits of combining your company training with others include:

- shared costs of external facilitators and other resources
- sharing of ideas and techniques
- wider network for staff – especially those in senior roles who may not have many peers within the organisation
- consistency and moderation of accepted standard practice



Welcome to the new CEO

Garth Dawson is the new Outdoors NZ CEO. A genuine outdoors enthusiast who has travelled the world in pursuit of adventure, Garth has spent the last ten years as a marketing agency chief executive with a wealth of skills and knowledge gained from growing two dynamic creative businesses. Garth started at Outdoors NZ on 12 March. Read the full introduction to Garth on the Outdoors NZ [website](#).



Photo: Garth Dawson

Thanks & farewell to Paul Chaplow

Outdoors NZ Chief Executive, Paul Chaplow left his role at the end of last month. TIA Advocacy Manager Geoff Ensor says Paul earned widespread respect for his commitment and contribution to adventure and outdoor safety.

"As the leader of Outdoors NZ, Paul has made a significant contribution to building an even stronger safety framework for the adventure tourism and outdoor commercial sector. His work style has helped forge a strong working relationship between our two organisations which we look forward to building on in the years ahead."



Photo: Paul Chaplow

Play your part

We encourage you to play your part in promoting a culture of sharing safety information in our exciting and valuable adventure tourism and outdoor sector. Keep in touch.

Sue and Rachael

Sue Gemmell, Outdoors NZ Project Leader - Safety Review, email sue@outdoorsnz.org.nz phone 04 385 7287 mobile 027 436 5612

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(Main photo by Tika Ram Aryal of Polynesian Spa, Rotorua)

Adventure & Outdoor Updates sent on 13 March 2012. Having trouble seeing this newsletter? [View it online](#). If you no longer wish to receive these updates you may [instantly unsubscribe](#), but we'll be sorry to see you go.