



WA Independent Retailers Take the Safe Road

More than 30 independent retailers from Western Australia attended MGA's one day OS&H training recently in Perth. Most were either store owners, managers, supervisors, or administrative staff, and all of them were there to measure their safety management system against the requirements of Western Australian legislation.

Two one day sessions were conducted by MGA safety trainers Roger Pallant and Margaret Haines. Each session covered key safety areas for supermarket owners/management such as legislative requirements, staff induction, emergency management, through to the safe handling of hazardous substances.

All attendees were left with an action plan of what to do for their stores and their staff. They also were provided with a Risk Management Survey to assess their compliance with the WA legislation, and a Workplace Inspection checklist to identify hazards within their store.

Roger and Margaret were impressed with the level of engagement from the participants and their honesty in telling everyone about safety issues within their store. The sharing of information between the participants was excellent and provided real examples of 'what to do' and in some cases 'what not to do'.

The need to have safety documentation such as safety policy, the safety procedures, safe work instructions and safety forms was highlighted during the courses. The MGA OH&S CD was presented and shown to be a 'short cut' to having all the safety documentation needed for a supermarket. All the store owners and most of the store managers at each session purchased the CD with a view to customising to suit their store requirements. With a commercial value of around \$2,000 the MGA price of \$110 per store is a small cost to pay when fines are potentially in the tens of thousands of dollars.


Congratulations to the Western Australian participants at the MGA safety courses. You have taken a big step towards protecting your staff and your business.




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