

WorkSafe Inspectors Visiting Businesses in Victoria

WorkSafe Victoria are about to embark upon a series of "Safe Towns" and "Safer Work Zones" campaigns in regional and metropolitan locations around Victoria.

WorkSafe will be contacting small businesses to advise that workplace inspections will occur in their area approximately 4 weeks prior to inspectors arriving. The inspections will check whether small businesses are meeting their health and safety and Return to Work requirements.

WorkSafe's aim for each "Safe Towns" and "Safer Work Zones" campaign is to maximise safety improvements in a defined location and in small businesses that may have had little contact with WorkSafe in the past.

Upcoming "Safe Towns" campaigns (regional Victoria)

- **Swan Hill and Kerang, 8-12 December 2008**

Upcoming "Safer Work Zones" campaigns (metropolitan Victoria)

- **Campbellfield, 9-13 February 2009**

General information about "Safe Towns" and "Safer Work Zones" campaigns is available on the WorkSafe website.

We strongly recommend that you take advantage of MGA's free OH&S consultation to assist you in preparing before inspectors arrive.

Parmalat Community Store Of The Year Winners Announced

The Parmalat Community Store of the Year Program held its national awards conference in Alice Springs last month to acknowledge the top 50 independent retailers in Australia.

The program, which recognises stores that excel in business excellence, community involvement and business performance, attracted more than 1,000 entries from across Queensland, Victoria and New South Wales.

The "Celebration Weekend" was the culmination of four intensive rounds of judging to identify the final 50, and ultimately determine the regional, category and overall winners of the program.

Parmalat Community Store of the Year program winners:

Overall Winner: Magee's Supa IGA, Bowen QLD

1st Runner Up: Fairleys Supa IGA, Shepparton VIC

2nd Runner Up: Farmer Joe's Country Market, Kedron QLD

Category Winners

Independent Food Retailer: Magee's Supa IGA, Bowen QLD

Independent Convenience Store: Farmer Joe's Kedron QLD

Café/Takeaway/Bakery: Anakie General Store, Anakie VIC

Some of the Regional Winners

Victoria East: Michael's Supa IGA Leongatha VIC

Victoria Country: Fairleys Supa IGA, Shepparton VIC

These stores really performed above all others and should be congratulated on their commitment to customer service and contribution to the local community.

Join the MGA's 'Trauma & Critical Incident Response' Program!

In the event of a traumatic event in your store you will be armed with a quick response mechanism that will no doubt save your business much more than the small annual membership fee of \$159

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Upcoming Public Holidays

Members are advised that the following Public Holidays apply to all full time and part time employees:

Thursday	25 December 2008	Christmas Day
Friday	26 December 2008	Boxing Day
Thursday	1 January 2009	New Years Day
Monday	26 January 2009	Australia Day

Information regarding the Public Holiday rates is available on our website or contact a Workplace Advisor on **1800 888 479**