Part V - Accident Prevention

QUESTION: Is the Workers' Compensation Fund Control Board involved in accident prevention at places of work?

Answer

Yes, under section 11 subsection (3) (a) and (b) of the Workers' Compensation Act, the Board promotes a scheme whose objectives are:

(a) The prevention of accidents or of any diseases, which are due to the nature of any occupation.

(b) The promotion of the health or safety of workers.

QUESTION: How does the Board assist employers in the prevention of accidents?

Answer

Staff from Safety Section of the Board visit employers regularly to conduct safety inspections, lectures and seminars free of charge. Employers are free to request for this gratis services offered by the Board.

QUESTION: What does the Board do to employers who do not follow the Board's advice on the need to correct unsafe actions and conditions at places of work?

Answer

The Board is not a law-enforcing agency on safety and health matters, but only offers advisory services. However, serious violation of safety and health regulations may be reported to the Chief Inspector of Factories and the Chief Inspector of Mines respectively who have authority to enforce the provisions of the laws i.e. Factories Act and Mines and Minerals Act of the Laws of Zambia.

QUESTION: How does the Safety Section of the Board set its priorities on which employers to assist in the prevention of accidents?

Answer

Through analysis of compensation claims received by the Board, which are an indicator that an employer has an accident prevention problem and should therefore be visited.

QUESTION: What else does the Board assist employers in safety and health matters?

Answer

The Safety Section encourages employers to form Health and Safety Committees where matters of health and safety are discussed by workers and management and co-coordinated accordingly. Employers are also encouraged to establish safety and health policies, which will show management's commitment in safety and health matters.

If your Question or concern has not been addressed here, please email it to compensation@workers.com.zm