

# SAFE Companies UPDATE



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26 November 2009

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## 20 MORE COMPANIES BUILD A SAFER FOREST INDUSTRY

**Between Nov. 9 – 20, 20 more companies were SAFE certified. Congratulations to the following companies for contributing to safety on their job sites and in BC's forest industry:**

Triple H Contracting Ltd., Prespatou • William Laturnus dba Laturnus Consulting, Nanaimo • Kevin Howard Contracting, Hudson's Hope • Jim Olson Trucking Ltd., 100 Mile House • Lawless Creek Contracting Ltd., Sechelt • Donald Allan Washtock, Mission • Wade MacGregor Trucking, Duncan • Sheldarbrea Enterprises Ltd., Nanaimo • Donald Kunka dba Donald Kunka Logging, Williams Lake • Cobra Logging & Excavation Ltd., Telkwa • Vincent Machele Contracting, Lytton • Roadrunner Excavating Ltd., Lillooet • Hancock Forest Management, Ladysmith • Sage Falling Ltd., Powell River • Wayne Currie Trucking, Lumby • Shulus Logging Inc., Merritt • W. D. Moore Logging Co. Ltd., Winter Harbour • Leeson Lake Contracting Ltd., Winter Harbour • Rumble Road Contracting Ltd., Ladysmith • Mike Daniels Ent. Ltd. dba Highland Forestry, Smithers

## HAPPINESS IS SEEING YOUR MAINTENANCE AUDITS IN OUR MAILBOX!



All companies that were SAFE certified in 2007 or 2008 — whether you're an IOO or part of a BASE or SEBASE company — have a maintenance audit due this year.

The preferred date to get your audit in is always the anniversary of your certification. This allows you to keep in time with the 3-year recertification audit, which MUST be submitted by the exact 3-year anniversary date.

But remember — the absolute latest date to get your audits in is the end of the year to maintain SAFE certification and COR rebate eligibility. That means all audits must be post-marked no later than Dec. 31, 2009. We have hundreds of audits to review, so imagine how happy we'll be if you don't leave yours to the last minute!

If you didn't work this year and have zero assessable payroll in 2009 you can maintain your company's SAFE certification by submitting the No Work Activity Payroll Form obtained by [clicking here](#). The form must be signed by a company representative and submitted to the forest safety council. We'll verify your zero payroll account with WorkSafeBC. Once your form is approved, your company's SAFE certification will stay active. If your company has ceased operations, please complete that portion of the form.

**If the council doesn't receive your maintenance audit or a zero payroll notice by Dec. 31, 2009, then your SAFE certification will become inactive. Your company name will be removed from the SAFE Companies list and you won't be eligible for a 2009 WorkSafeBC COR rebate. If you need more info, call 1-877-741-1060.**

And please — don't wait till the 11th hour! The sooner you get yours in, the sooner we can process it and start your COR rebate, and get on to your neighbours'.



## YOUR TURN

### YOU WERE ASKING ABOUT YOUR MAINTENANCE AUDITS...

It's maintenance audit season for all companies that were certified in 2007 and '08, so check out the FAQs below and see if we can answer some of your questions. Also, you can [click here](#), for more Q & A to make your maintenance audit experience as smooth and easy as possible.

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**2,443** SAFE certified companies = Safety Leaders

# SAFE Companies UPDATE

PAGE 2

26 November 2009

**Q: What is this “maintenance audit” that my success letter and the reminder I got in the mail are talking about??**

A: Every year, you need to submit essentially the same package as your certification package. It includes all the audit forms and checklists along with all the data, just like the original certification package.

**Q: When I got my success letter, it said my next audit was due Dec. 31. Now I get a letter saying some other date. Why??**

A: Due to the 3-year cycle we are recommending companies keep close to a 12-month audit period. This also lets the forest safety council serve you more cost-effectively by smoothing out a huge year-end rush that significantly delays processing of all year-end audits. We hadn't anticipated such a large demand from the forestry industry when we first set up the program, so did not include that advice in early letters.

**Q: What if I'm late and past year-end with my maintenance audit??**

A: If you don't submit one by year-end, you'll be removed from the SAFE Companies list and won't be eligible for a 10% Certificate of Recognition (COR) rebate on your 2009 WorkSafeBC premiums. You will be put back on the SAFE Companies list as soon as you submit a maintenance audit in 2010, but the 10% COR rebate cannot be recovered for 2009.

**Q: So what exactly do you mean by “submit” and “year-end” and “late”? Is there any wiggle room??**

A: “Submitting” means the postmarked or courier acceptance date on the package or, if you deliver by hand, it means the date it arrives at our office. For BASE companies, the date is the date your auditor finishes the fieldwork and leaves your site. “Year-end” is Friday, Dec. 31, 2009. Your post office or courier may have restricted operating hours on Dec. 31 this year since many businesses will be closed in lieu of New Year's Day on the Saturday. The council office will be open for receiving until 5 p.m. on Friday, Dec. 31, 2009. This is a hard deadline. 2009 audits postmarked or hand-delivered after Dec. 31, 2009 will be considered late.



## SAFETY ALERT



### BEFORE YOU LOCK — OR UNLOCK!

If you lock or unlock safety gates with lock covers, make sure you look before you do so. In a recent incident on Vancouver Island, an employee of a security firm received severe lacerations to his hand when he reached in to the lock cover. The injuries were caused by razor blades taped to the gate's lock and cover.

Before reaching up to lock or unlock any gates, take the time to visually inspect the lock and cover. Report any similar types of vandalism to your OHS representative and the RCMP. Be safe!



## IN TRAINING

### ARE YOU IN CENTRAL BC & INTERESTED IN BECOMING AN INTERNAL AUDITOR?

Becoming an internal auditor capable of doing your SAFE Company's BASE maintenance audit can save time and money — plus you'll learn more about safety and your company's operations. If you are living or working in the central interior and thinking about becoming an internal auditor for your workplace by taking the forest safety council's Internal Auditor Course in Prince George, please contact Kelly Milholm at [Milholm@bcforestsafesafe.org](mailto:Milholm@bcforestsafesafe.org) or call 1-877-741-1060. For more info about the internal auditor course, [click here](#).



**BC Forest Safety Council**  
*Unsafe is Unacceptable*

Want more information? Have a story idea or comments about SAFE Companies Update? Contact us at [safeco@bcforestsafesafe.org](mailto:safeco@bcforestsafesafe.org) • [www.bcforestsafesafe.org](http://www.bcforestsafesafe.org)