



SAFE Companies Audit Deadline Extended

All audits due in July or August 2021 have been extended to September 30, 2021 in support of the provincial state of emergency due to the wildfires.

Companies are required to submit audits in 2021 to meet their SAFE and COR program requirements. The audit needs to cover the 12 months prior to the audit date.

[Get the forms and templates you need to help you with your SAFE Companies audit submission.](#) Use the IOO forms and resources for Individual Owner Operator audits and use the SEBASE/ISEBASE for small employer audits. 🌱



Conversion of BC COR to SAFE Certification

By Martin Ridgway, SAFE Companies Supervisor, Quality Assurance

BCFSC makes every effort to ensure a level playing field for bidding on forestry contracts. The conversion process has been working for several years for select companies. BCFSC is pleased to announce that all companies with WorkSafeBC Certification of Recognition (COR) certification through any other BC COR certifying partner can obtain SAFE Companies Certification.

This certification is available to any AgSafe, BCCSA, ESC, go2HR, MSABC or SafetyDriven COR-certified company working in the BC forestry sector but there are exceptions which include:

- The company seeks a forestry COR certification in addition to the existing COR certification.
- The company wants to SAFE-certify one or more of its classification units (CUs) already assigned or aligned with forestry.
- The company has a WorkSafeBC forestry-aligned classification unit.

In these cases, the company must follow the regular SAFE Certification process.

Furthermore, BASE-sized conversion audits no longer have a requirement for additional questions to be added to the COR audit. Results from several years found that there was no additional safety certainty added by this extra cost.

If you have any questions about this, please contact us by email at safeco@bcforestsafesafe.org. 🌱

WorkSafeBC Invites Stakeholder Feedback Regarding Workplace Status

WorkSafeBC's Policy, Regulation and Research Division is releasing a discussion paper on **determining workplace status** with options and draft policy to stakeholders for comment.

“Workplace status” refers to whether someone is an employer, worker, or independent operator. A person's status defines the rights and responsibilities the person has under the *Workers Compensation Act*, including compulsory coverage for workers, and obligations of employers to pay assessments into the accident fund.

At issue are changes to WorkSafeBC's workplace status policies to ensure the policies remain up to date. Changes are necessary to align policy with the *Workers Compensation Act* and the common law, and to enable WorkSafeBC to make decisions which reflect the changing nature of work in British Columbia.

The discussion paper, with options and draft policy, as well as information on how to provide feedback, can be found here:

[Proposed policy amendments on determining workplace status](#)

Stakeholders are welcome to provide feedback on the options until **4:30pm on Wednesday, December 15, 2021**. WorkSafeBC's Board of Directors will consider stakeholder feedback before making a decision on the proposed policy amendments. 🌱