



MAG Members Explore Ergonomics and Tour West Fraser Mill

In March, Manufacturing Advisory Group (MAG) members gathered in 100 Mile House, BC, for their quarterly meeting and workshop.

The workshop, led by Era Poddar, PhD, CCPE from Ergoera Services Inc., focussed on Ergonomics and MSIs.

Era shared the objectives of ergonomics, which are to optimize human well-being and enhance overall system performance. A good ergonomics program and an ergonomically designed workplace can reduce operating costs, boost productivity, improve product quality, and enhance employee well-being, morale, and engagement. Additionally, it fosters a safety culture that lowers the risk of musculoskeletal injuries (MSIs) and disorders (MSDs), accidents, and errors.

Highlights of the workshop included:

- MSI or MSD - Why do they matter?
- Regulation Ergonomics & Human Factors Section
- Ergonomics program & strategies to control MSI/MSD Section performance.



After the meeting, the group toured the West Fraser 100 Mile Sawmill, where they observed how the facility uses computers, electronic scanners, laser beams and other advanced technologies to maximize lumber recovery from large volumes of logs. MAG would like to thank West Fraser for sharing their on-site safety initiatives and giving us a behind-the-scenes look at their lumber operations. 🌲

Combustible Dust and Process Safety March Workshops

Last March, BCFSC and MAG hosted three in-person workshops in Williams Lake, Quesnel and Prince George that focussed on Combustible Dust and Process Safety Management. These sessions were led by Kayleigh Rayner Brown, MASC, P.Eng., of Jensen Hughes, and were designed to help safety committee members understand the proposed updates to combustible dust regulations.

A total of 73 participants attended the workshops, where they discussed the upcoming changes to Part 6 of the Occupational Health and Safety Regulation. Key topics included:

- Combustible dust characterization
- Risk assessment and dust management planning
- Roles and responsibilities of qualified persons
- Documentation requirements

- Identifying and managing critical controls
- Applying process safety management concepts
- Planning next steps for facility compliance

Participants left with a clearer understanding of regulatory expectations and practical strategies for evaluating and strengthening their facility's process safety management systems. 🌲



Williams Lake, March 25th CD/PSM Workshop



Quesnel March 26th CD/PSM Workshop



Prince George March 28th CD/PSM Workshop

Combustible Dust Specialist Training – Coming This June

BCFSC is pleased to help to support and subsidize the Combustible Dust Specialist Training provided by Dust Safety Science.

This comprehensive, three-day training will be delivered by Michelle Murphy, MSc, CCPSC (Mica LLC) and Dr. Chris Cloney, PhD, P.Eng. (DustEx Research Ltd.) and will take place in June, followed by a hands-on practical session at the Sinclair Lakeland Mill in Prince George.

The training is designed to equip participants with a strong foundation in:

- Combustible dust awareness
- Hazard identification and analysis
- Effective hazard management strategies

The training combines theoretical instruction with practical application, using real-world examples and case studies tailored to the wood products sector and participating companies.

Key Topics will include:

- Fundamentals of combustible dust and explosion mechanics
- Dust testing parameters and interpreting test results
- Introduction to Dust Hazard Analysis (DHA) methodology
- Hazard identification, scenario development, and safeguard evaluation
- Reporting, recommendations, and best practices for hazard management
- Interactive case studies and group exercises relevant to BCFSC member operations

Participants who complete the training will receive a **Combustible Dust Specialist Certificate**, recognizing their advanced knowledge and preparedness in managing combustible dust risks. 🧯

Take a Look Inside A Lumber Mill – From Log to Board

Have you ever driven by a lumber mill and wondered what happens inside? Watch this [YouTube video](#) and take a closer look at Gorman Bros. Lumber Mill to find out what goes on in one of the MAG's landmarks in West Kelowna. 🌲

