



SAFETY ALERT

OF THE MONTH

PLEASE SHARE THIS INFORMATION

Maintaining an Effective Safety Program

AOM: 2025-12-16

An effective safety program requires ongoing maintenance. Site and job conditions change throughout the year, so your safety program must adapt regularly. One of the best ways to keep your program current is to conduct an annual review. Set aside time to reflect on the past year and create a to-do list for improvements in the coming year.

- **Annual Management Reviews.** These reviews are required by regulation and are used by managers to identify trends or frequent problems that need to be fixed through a change in policy or other high-level actions.
- **SAFE Company Audits.** Audits are an excellent tool for evaluating your safety program. If an auditor or SAFE Company Advisor visits, ask questions and use their expertise to fine-tune your program and identify gaps.
- **Keeping up with regulation changes.** Your annual review is a good opportunity to ensure compliance with new or updated regulations. For example, some companies are still not compliant with the first aid regulation changes introduced in 2024.
- **Leadership and communication.** Thank your crew for their efforts and their commitment to safety. Always take the time to promote safety and motivate workers to do the right thing.
- **Health and Wellness.** In industries with the potential for serious injuries, health concerns – especially mental health – can be overlooked. Commit to looking after the overall well-being of your team.
- **Reports and Records.** First aid records, close call reports and incident investigations all tell a story about your company's risks. Year-end is the perfect time to review these records, identify trends, and implement changes to reduce incidents.
- **Documentation and Communication.** Check your Corrective Action Log for outstanding items. Also, plan safety communication activities for the next year such as posting alerts, conducting meetings, or holding emergency drills.



Resources:

- 1) [Occupational Health and Safety Regulation – 3.3 Contents of program](#) – This is the regulation that requires an annual management review of safety programs for certain companies.



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BCFSC Latest News & Resources

[New Course – Virtual Instructor Led Basic Incident Investigation](#) – The regular Basic Incident Investigation training is also available as a requested instructor-led virtual course which is convenient for companies with employees located around the province. It includes a combination of instructor-led virtual meetings and learning activities through BCFSC's online Learning Centre. The training is scheduled as two half-day sessions to provide flexibility for participants who are actively working.

[Forest Safety News](#) – read the latest issue of the FSN

[FIRS App](#) – The full version of the BCFSC FIRS App is now available to download from your App store. Use the FIRS App manage forms and documents for safety-related paperwork related to SAFE Companies and COR audit forms management.

BCFSC Training:

The 2026 training dates have been posted on the BCFSC website. **[View the 2026 Course Schedule here.](#)**

Worker Assessment and Training

Each forestry occupation requires different knowledge and skillsets to perform the job at hand. BCFSC worked with industry to develop competency-based standards, training, and assessment tools to help employers evaluate workers and complete on-the-job training.

Take a look at our **[FREE assessment forms](#)** for Basic Forest Workers, Yarding, Mechanized Harvesting and Road Building.

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