

Occupational Safety & Health Department

Instrumentation

This department is equipped with instruments to measure workplace stresses including noise, toxic fumes and dust to name a few.

Administration and Staffing

The general administration of the department is the responsibility of the Chief Occupational Safety and Health Officer. The Support Staff comprises Senior Occupational Safety and Health Officers and Occupational Safety and Health Officers.

Safer work, better lives.



**For Further Information,
Contact:**

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**Our Target
Is
Your Safety and Health at
Work**

The Occupational Safety and Health Department

General

This Department is charged with the responsibility of monitoring, encouraging and enforcing the practice of good safety and health standards at work.

It provides information, advisory, supervisory and regulatory services to assist employers, workers and trade unions in the recognition and control of workplace hazards/stresses.

Its legal authority is derived from the Occupational Safety and Health Act, No. 32 of 1997, Chap. 99:06 Laws of Guyana and the regulations made there under.

The Act is the primary legislation governing workplace safety and health. It applies to every industrial establishment and it provides for enforcement of the law where compliance is not achieved voluntarily.

An “Industrial Establishment” under the Occupational Safety and Health Act means a factory, shop, office, or workplace.

Objective and Functions

Objective:

To improve working conditions and environment in Guyana with the emphasis on preventative rather than curative measures.



Functions:

- I. Conduct inspections and surveys of workplaces in both the formal and informal economy in order to determine compliance with the Occupational Safety and Health Act Chap, 99:06 Laws of Guyana and Regulations.
- II. Provide advice and guidance on ways in which working conditions and environment could be improved and the maintenance of good workplace safety and health practice.
- III. Organize and conduct lectures and seminars on safety and health topics for workers, employers and trade unions.

- IV. Investigate the circumstances of accidents at work and make recommendations to prevent the recurrence of similar accidents.
- V. Investigate complaints which may arise from unsafe systems and methods of work in order to prevent similar recurrences.
- VI. Register industrial establishments in keeping with the requirements of the Occupational Safety and Health Act.
- VII. Register steam boiler certificates and maintain a steam boiler inspection register.
- VIII. Collaborate with the social partners and key stakeholders in the promotion of the joint responsibility system for safety and health at work through the establishment of joint workplace safety and health committees / representatives.
- IX. Liaise with key stakeholders and other interested national and international bodies in the promotion of OSH and the development and implementation of occupational safety and health standards.