

# Make Safety a Priority in the Lead up to Christmas - Don't become a Christmas statistic

The safest workplace is the one where employers and workers stop and take the time to think about the work they will be doing, and plan to do it as safely as possible.

Workers and employers must put safety first in the busy lead-up to Christmas to prevent workplace fatalities. That's the warning from WorkSafe Victoria which has revealed that workers are more likely to die in November and December than any other time of the year.

WorkSafe Victoria statistics show almost 25 per cent of workplace fatalities occur in the final eight weeks of the year.

Safety is everyone's responsibility, so it's up to all employers and workers to work together to ensure fatalities do not occur. The final two (2) months of the year are a busy time for most workplaces, however it should never compromise safety.



Christmas is traditionally busy with employers and employees rushing to meet tighter deadlines and complete projects:

- >> Agriculture, it's farmers harvesting crops or hay
- >> Construction, it's builders, tradesmen and contractors trying to finish projects
- >> Manufacturing, it's factories and warehouses trying to finalise and complete orders before the holiday shutdown.



Last year 19 workers lost their lives in Victoria and eight of those alone were during this dangerous time of year.

It is important for employers to talk to their workers about the strategies that need to be implemented to ensure deadlines are met without risking an employee's life.

## What can you do?

**STOP** and take time to think about the task  
**PLAN** to complete tasks as safely as possible  
**ALLOCATE** extra time to complete tasks

Please remember the cost of a fatality or serious injury far outweighs the cost of missing a deadline safely. Ultimately it could make the difference between life and death.

Everyone needs to think about safety.

**Don't become a Christmas statistic.**

For the sake of your family and friends, make workplace safety your number one priority.

Got a safety related issue?

Remember to call the Safety Hotline 1800 907 312

RLX Safety Alert // Prepared by Manager: Safety and Compliance

