

Information Bulletin

The constantly changing nature of construction work distinguishes it from other types of work. Different hazards and risks emerge on a daily basis and the risks faced by construction workers are many and varied. Every employer has the overall responsibility for workplace health and safety at a construction site. In addition to protecting the health and safety of their own workers, employers/owners and principal contractors must also ensure that other persons, such as customers, visitors, other workers and the general public, are not exposed to risks as a result of their work activity.

The Occupational Health and Safety Regulations require:

If a construction project involves the work of two or more employers or their workers, each employer must notify the principal contractor, prior to any task that is likely to create a hazard to a worker of another employer.

If a work location has overlapping or adjoining work activities that create a hazard to workers and the combined workforce, and the workplace is more than five, then the principal contractor must appoint a qualified coordinator for the purpose of ensuring the coordination of health and safety activities for that location. A qualified coordinator is an individual who is knowledgeable of the work, the hazards involved and the means to control the hazards, by reason of education, training, experience or a combination thereof.

