

# NEWS

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Breaking News and new articles from the team here at Dora Smith Ltd

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### Dear Reader,

For those of you who are already important clients and for those who may be in the future, we would like to keep you updated with what is current in the Health and Safety field and with some of our exciting new developments at Dora Smith Limited.

We are increasingly working with clients to assess and monitor workplace hazards. This can include analysing air samples for pollutants, noise assessments, asbestos monitoring for clearance or exposure, advice on management of asbestos hazards, analysing bulk samples of dust or material for contaminants and advising clients with regard to ergonomic design and assessment of workstations.

### In terms of in-house news:

The appearance on the horizon of her "*Best by*" date has Dora looking ahead. The future of the business will be secure in the hands of Jessica Green who will begin "picking up the reins" this year. Jess has been with us over 2 years now and at the end of last year she gained her Dip OSH from Massey University with Honours. She has a special interest in occupational hygiene and will be spending time later this year with a specialist Occupational Hygienist to further increase her skill-base in this area.

We also welcomed Sarah Rzoska to our growing team in September. Sarah is a young nurse who has worked as a Practice Nurse since graduating in 2007. This gave her an excellent skill base on which to build the skills required for occupational health nursing.

Rose is the person with that cheerful voice you will usually hear when you ring us. She minds our office, attempts to send us all in the right direction at the right time, organises appointments and adds up the books!

With this young vibrant team being up-skilled rapidly the standard of service will be reflected in the energy and enthusiasm they have and the business will continue to develop accordingly.

Our growth has resulted in Dora travelling around New Zealand setting up an Affiliated Network of 18 other likeminded businesses providing occupational health and safety services to NZ workplaces. Each provider continues to work as an independent practitioner but when clients require a consistent approach across all their national branches we are now able to supply this.

In other news, Dora has been a recognised Telarc Consultant for the Q-Safe program for a while now and many businesses have taken the opportunity to use Dora's expertise in implementing the associated requirements for this program. Dora is also a qualified auditor for both the Q-Base and Q-Safe programmes, as well as AS/NZS 4801.

As you will be well aware, there is a shortage of skilled and trained workers and Occupational Health Nursing is no exception! Dora Smith Limited regularly has students from the Nursing degree offered at the Western Institute of Technology at Taranaki (WITT). From time to time one of our nurses may ask if they can involve a student in the services we provide for you. We would like to ask for your support in the training of up-and-coming nurses by allowing this to take place.

As you can see, our company is growing, both in size and in experience with our greatest strength being our ability to walk clients through the whole health and safety management system from start to finish, assisting where required.

If you feel we could assist you in any way, or if you would like further information, please don't hesitate to contact us. We are always more than happy to help!

We hope you had a safe, healthy and happy holiday break and look forward to catching up with you in the not too distant future.

Kindest regards

*Dora, Jess, Sarah & Rose*

**January 2009: Business Manager**

As mentioned above Jess is going to be taking over the business as Dora gradually reduces her work load.

**February 2009: Planned launch of the National Occupational Nurse Network**

This network has been established to meet the needs of clients wanting a consistent approach nation wide.

**March 2009: NZQA 17-594 - Hearing Conservation training course**

We have had enquiries for this course and will run it on the 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> May in Palmerston North, providing there are sufficient numbers to makes this viable.