

 ***“Minerva Canada plays a key role in the occupational health and safety education of the next generation of professional engineers and business managers. The impact of Minerva’s efforts is felt on a daily basis within my own Faculty of Engineering.”***

*– Dr. Paul Amyotte, P.Eng.
Department of Chemical Engineering
Dalhousie University, Halifax*

 ***“We would like the university graduates we hire to have as key an understanding of health and safety concepts as they do of engineering principles like heat transfer or thermodynamics.”***

*– Tony Pasteris
Operations Integrity Manager
Environment & Safety Department, Products & Chemical Division
Imperial Oil, Toronto*

 ***“A quantum reduction in accident rates is possible if business and engineering schools teach occupational health and safety management principles with the same passion as other subjects fundamental to these professions.”***

*– Vic Pakalnis
Regional Director, Eastern Ontario
Ministry of Labour, Ottawa*

Minerva Canada is a not-for-profit organization that aims to introduce the concepts and principles of occupational health and safety into the curriculum of post-secondary schools. The ultimate goal is to prepare graduates for managing their organization’s health and safety program as an integral part of its operations. Health and safety are critical business issues with staggering human and financial costs that can be prevented.

Key Sponsors:



Minerva Canada
c/o Industrial Accident Prevention Association
207 Queens Quay West, Suite 550
Toronto, ON M5J 2Y3

Tel: 416.506-8888
Fax: 416.506-9910
Email: minerva@iapa.on.ca
www.minervacanada.org

**HEALTH AND
SAFETY IS A
MINDSET**

**PROMOTING THE TEACHING OF OCCUPATIONAL
HEALTH & SAFETY MANAGEMENT
PRINCIPLES IN POST-SECONDARY SCHOOLS**



OUR MISSION

To act as a focal point in promoting the teaching of occupational health and safety management principles in post-secondary schools.

OUR VISION

A future in which graduates of Canadian post-secondary schools – our future leaders – demonstrate a full understanding of – and a commitment to implement – a systems approach to managing and eliminating workplace-related injuries and illnesses.

PURPOSE

To promote and facilitate instruction of workplace health and safety in Canadian post-secondary educational institutions, thereby equipping graduates of such institutions with the knowledge, understanding, skills, and commitment necessary to ensure that comprehensive occupational health and safety systems exist in their future workplaces.

INDICATORS OF SUCCESS

Minerva will have achieved its purpose when graduates of Canadian post-secondary institutions have an enduring commitment to:

- Eliminate human, social and financial costs of injury and illness in their future workplaces.
- Establish occupational health and safety as an essential and integral component of their responsibilities at all levels of leadership.

In order to achieve this success, Minerva will:

- Promote instruction of the systems approach to occupational health and safety in Canadian management and engineering schools.
- Develop instructional tools, such as case studies, modules, and curriculum standards, for the teaching of health and safety in post-secondary institutions.
- Facilitate communication among corporations, governments and post-secondary institutions to foster a health and safety culture in Canada.

BACKGROUND

In 1997, Minerva Canada was legally incorporated as a not-for-profit organization. The Canadian Society of Safety Engineering, an organization dedicated to loss prevention, was initially involved in the Minerva activities in Canada and since 1989 has had two ex-officio Directors on the Minerva Board.

The concept of Minerva originated in the United States at the National Safety Management Society as a project to work toward an increase in the teaching of the principles of safety management.

The rationale for this activity is based primarily on the premise that our future leaders of business and designers of equipment are leaving the academic environment with little or no knowledge of the ever-increasing responsibilities they will face regarding workplace health and safety. Business and engineering schools are targeted initially because a high proportion of those graduates will be managers in the near future.

What is Minerva Canada?

A Canadian not-for-profit organization that aims to introduce the concepts and principles of occupational health and safety into the curriculum of post-secondary schools, especially business and engineering. The ultimate goal is to prepare graduates for managing their organization's health and safety program as they would manage their many other business functions.

Minerva Canada promotes the management of a business with health and safety principles integrated into all operations rather than managing safety in isolation. Minerva Canada seeks to develop the understanding that workplace health and safety is a management responsibility with excellent returns.

Why Should Industry be Concerned

None of us expect to become ill or injured as a result of our employment, and yet each year the lives of thousands of Canadians are altered by workplace incidents that are preventable. This is a leadership issue and we must ensure that the future leaders of Canadian industry are dedicated and equipped to change this unwelcome reality...we must act now.

The human cost of accidents is unquantifiable. The financial cost is staggering - conservatively estimated at a minimum of \$10 billion annually in Canada - and represents a major obstacle to competitiveness. Safety and health are crucial business issues. Future managers must have an awareness and understanding of their responsibilities to manage these functions as part of the overall business activity.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Minerva has produced several case studies that are actively used at several universities across Canada.
- Minerva has conducted a series of workshops with business and engineering school leaders to facilitate the understanding of key health and safety concepts.
- Minerva has brought industry, government and academic leaders together to develop action plans.
- Minerva has expert speakers to assist in the delivery of health and safety education modules or case studies.

RESOURCES AVAILABLE

- Case studies:
 - Automotive Plastics
 - National Rubber Company of Canada
 - Storey Energy
 - Hydroelectric Generating Station Cover-Shield Failure
- Modules
- Current list of pertinent health and safety articles
- Guest speakers
- Web site (www.minervacanada.org)
- Periodic newsletter