

SAFE

FORECAST

## The Next Lap

With a tight labour market coupled with a strong demand for infrastructure projects, the pursuit of Workplace Safety and Health (WSH) excellence is not without challenges but it is one which we will strive towards with relentless passion and commitment. In the coming year, OSHD will continue to work together with its industry partners and stakeholders to spur further improvements in WSH standards.

### Total WSH

As part of the strategy to meet Workplace Health challenges arising from an ageing workforce, the rise in the numbers of workers with chronic diseases, and emerging WSH risks, the concept of 'Total WSH' was developed as an approach to managing safety and health in the workplace holistically. It is a comprehensive and integrated approach to managing WSH risks to provide and maintain a safe and healthy working environment to all employees by identifying and addressing all WSH risks in a proactive and integrated way.

An implementation guideline prepared in collaboration with the Health Promotion Board, has been developed to assist companies in their journey towards Total WSH. To signal the importance of the workplace in protecting and promoting workers' health and safety, announcements would be made at strategic platforms on the concept of Total WSH as a new paradigm for workers' health, safety and well-being. The Singapore WSH Conference 2014 will have as its theme, 'Integrating Safety and Health: Towards a Holistic Approach'.

### Vision Zero

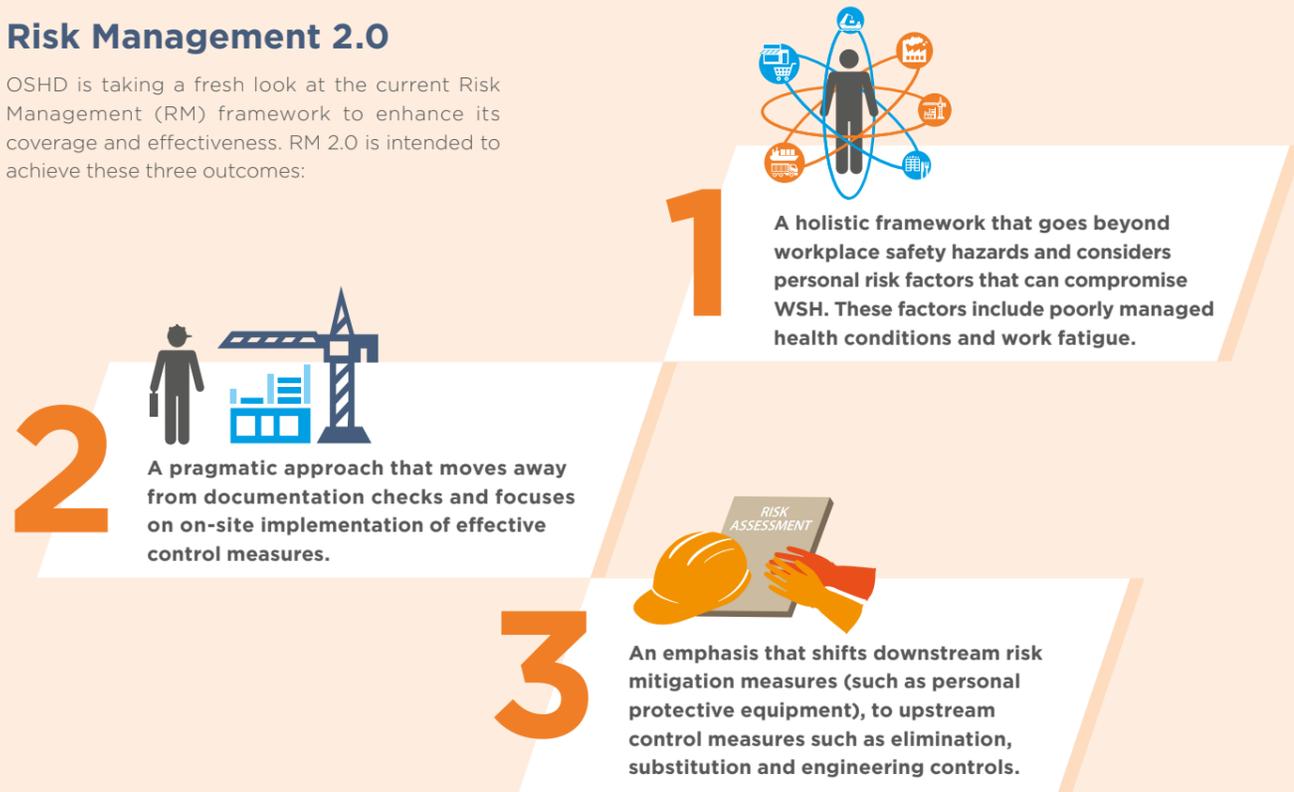
Internationally, there are a growing number of countries which have embraced the Vision Zero mindset to drive further improvement in WSH outcomes. Vision Zero is the belief that no loss of life or ill-health arising from work is acceptable and that all workplace incidents are preventable. An international scan of national WSH strategies on Vision Zero was conducted to gain a deeper understanding on the concept and initiatives were carried out to generate conversation on the topic, including WSH Stakeholders' Dialogue sessions and a forum where international WSH thought leaders and experts shared their perspectives, opportunities and challenges in this area and engaged the forum participants in a panel discussion.

These initiatives provided greater clarity and broad consensus among stakeholders on how Vision Zero for WSH could be applied in Singapore. For Singapore, Vision Zero is a mindset that all work injuries and ill-health are preventable and achievable. Moving forward, as part of horizon planning for the next phase of Singapore's WSH journey, we will be discussing with the International Advisory Panel for WSH on Vision Zero. The discussion will outline strategies to achieve the desired outcomes of a change in mindset and proposes actions towards working safely and healthily for a lifetime.



## Risk Management 2.0

OSHD is taking a fresh look at the current Risk Management (RM) framework to enhance its coverage and effectiveness. RM 2.0 is intended to achieve these three outcomes:



OSHD will be revising the Approved Code of Practice on WSH RM to include the consideration of personal risk factors that can compromise WSH, and to emphasise the implementation of upstream risk control measures.

To aid industry in moving from the current RM framework to RM 2.0, more guides will be developed and industry best practices will be shared with the industry. These include more RM Compendia for common work activities; RM guides for workers and small businesses; and case studies illustrating how companies have gained a business edge through the implementation of upstream risk controls.

## Review of Work Injury Compensation Framework

A good Work Injury Compensation (WIC) system for Singapore has to go beyond injury compensation to one that places greater emphasis on the injured workers in their rehabilitation and return back to work. In this new WIC landscape, it is envisaged that the various stakeholders will play a proactive role in shaping a progressive WIC system for the injured workers. In doing so, it will also have a positive bearing on the WSH outcomes where every injury, fatality, occupational disease should be prevented as much as possible in the first place.

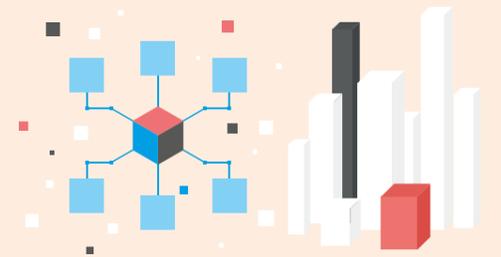
To achieve this, the review will broadly cover areas such as



The review will take place in the next two years and we will be working closely with the stakeholders on the various proposals.

## WSH Database

Complementing the WIC review, the WSH Council is working with MOM, WSH Institute and insurers to develop a database that provides a consolidated view of a company's WIC claims history and WSH performance information to subscribed users. The database leverages on the power of information sharing to achieve fairer WIC insurance premiums that then help drive companies towards better WSH management. This will enable companies to recognise the cost-benefit of good WSH management and eventually, lead to safer and healthier workplaces for employees. This initiative is in line with the WSH 2018 strategy of being an enabler to improve industry WSH standards in the medium to long term. The database will be piloted in May 2014 and is intended to be ready for launch by end of 2014.



## Greater Deterrence and Quality Outcomes through Enforcement

While we continue to develop WSH capability in the industry and promote the benefits of WSH, enforcement will remain the backbone of OSHD's WSH framework. In 2014, OSHD will strengthen and step up its enforcement efforts to ensure the compliance of basic safety standards especially in the areas where work injuries and fatalities are more prevalent. MOM will continue to work closely with the industry to raise WSH standards but we will not hesitate to impose tough measures to correct poor practices and deter malpractices by contractors. With our recently enhanced regulatory framework, we will be imposing stronger penalties for WSH contraventions as well as tightening enforcement tools such as minimum period for Stop Work Orders to allow for safety training and more stringent criteria to exit the Business under Surveillance Programme.



## ProBE Plus 2014

Based on accident trends in 2013 and early 2014, MOM and WSH Council has identified Formwork Safety, Work at Heights and Crane Safety as priority focus areas for ProBE Plus 2014, where year-long efforts to raise awareness and build industry capabilities will be systemically followed by targeted enforcement operations based on these focus areas.

