

Highlights of a vibrant Queensland Safety Show include award winners

Award-winning products, live demonstrations and a series of practical workshops were among the highlights for visitors to this year's Queensland Safety Show.

In just its third year, the show recorded 4720 visits, with the manufacturing, construction, government and services sectors representing the majority of attendees to the 7,500 square metre workplace health and safety event. The diverse visitor base was matched by an equally diverse offering of solutions to Australia's greatest occupational health and safety challenges.

Highlights include award-winning safety solutions

Innovative products on show included two winners from the ABC's *New Inventors* program: the Drum Grab drum handling device and the scaffolder's HeightGuard.

In fact, HeightGuard's win was screened on day two of the Queensland Safety Show, where the product was unveiled to Queensland's construction industry for the first time. HeightGuard is an elegant solution to a long-standing problem. Falls from height are the construction industry's biggest killer and scaffolders are particularly vulnerable. As they put the frameworks in place that protect other construction workers, scaffolders have nothing in front of them to break a fall. HeightGuard literally fills the gap. Scaffolders simply hook the lowest point of HeightGuard's triangular frame onto the closest rail to provide a freestanding handrail on the new level above them.

Second *New Inventors* graduate, the Drum Grab, was tested by visitors at the co-located Queensland Materials Handling show. The three-armed Drum Grab fits practically all steel and all plastic 205 litre (44 gallon) drums and can lift a drum from its side into the vertical position or from a cluster of others without disturbing them. Nor will it drop a drum even when accidental swinging bouncing or collisions occur.

Another very clever idea to debut at the Queensland Safety Show was the Cosmo Collapsible Container and its exhibitor, Richard Rizzo of Flexdrive, was delighted with the response from show visitors.

"Nothing like the Cosmo Collapsible Container had ever been seen in Australia before and by the second day of the Queensland Safety Show, we had 70 strong leads even though we hadn't done any promotion ahead of the event," he said.

"The Cosmo container, which collapses to one-third of its original size when not in use, is a great alternative to the standard 20' or 40' container and a huge range of organisations – from the fire brigade to storage companies – showed great interest to solve challenges that we hadn't imagined. I walked out of the Queensland Safety Show on Thursday night feeling confident that the Cosmo container will be a huge success and have already booked a stand at The Safety Show Sydney."

Visitors also flocked to the stand of Fire Safety Advisor, an exhibitor in the show's fire safety feature area, which was established in the light of Queensland's new fire safety laws.

"The Queensland Safety Show was great for Fire Safety Advisor," said Fire Services Advisor's Harry Dodds. "We have in excess of 100 good quality leads and just two days after the show, have already closed a number of substantial sales and service contracts.

"We've also secured agencies that will increase our market share enormously. Fire Safety Advisor has never done a show at this level before and we considered it a way to test the market and the demand for our fire training services. We got excellent leads from Queensland-based and national companies in industries from tourism to mining. I would encourage anybody considering this event to grab the opportunity with both hands and start on a road to great results."

The next Queensland Safety Show will be held from Tuesday 21 to Thursday 23 June 2011 at the Brisbane Convention & Exhibition Centre. In the meantime, watch out for the Safety Show Sydney, from 27 to 29 October 2009. For more information, email safety@aec.net.au, visit www.qldsafetyshow.com.au or phone Australian Exhibitions & Conferences on 03 9654 7773.

Media release prepared by Firefly Marketing. Phone: (03) 9736 4334, mobile: (0421) 530 944 or email: marianm@fireflymarketing.com

