

# Industry Leaders Gather for Constructing Safety Leadership Conference

After months of planning, development and testing, the Saskatchewan Construction Safety Association (SCSA) is proud to announce that the Hazard Identification (ID) virtual reality (VR) training tool developed in partnership with White Rabbit VR, a division of Twisted Pair Productions, is being made available to member companies through demonstrations and in the classroom. SCSA members and students now have the opportunity to be enveloped in a realistic, 360 degree alternate reality for workplace training. This training tool allows users to spot hazards more effectively and in a variety of scenarios that wouldn't be as readily available within the confines of traditional classroom training. The Hazard ID VR is one of the first of its kind for the Saskatchewan construction industry.

"This changes the game for us in so far as building stronger impressions in learning. It gives the user experience in navigating dangerous situations and understanding safety management in a safe way. We are particularly excited about the implications of this technology for young and new workers. The sad reality is that 25% of the injury claims in our industry, involve a young worker under the age of 25 and the SCSA has a key role to play in supporting business owners and leaders in their injury prevention efforts for this demographic," explains Collin Pullar, president of the SCSA.

Through the use of technology, modernizing product and service delivery has been a major strategic focus of the SCSA over the last year. A new mobile Hazard Assessment Tool and ten additional safety topics were added to the already popular SCSA's Guide to Occupational Health and Safety (OHS) Legislation mobile app, which has tracked more than 4,000 user downloads since its launch in September 2017. Inside the SCSA classrooms, projects introducing tablet devices and virtual reality (VR) training tools are taking the delivery of safety training and information retention to a whole new level.

"The secret of the success of Hazard ID VR has been the partnership business model between White Rabbit VR and SCSA. We know virtual reality. SCSA knows safety. Together, we've created a marketable, state-of-the-art training tool that will help improve safety training, not only for SCSA, but for construction companies and training institutions across Saskatchewan and Canada," said Mike MacNaughton, president and CEO of Twisted Pair/White Rabbit VR.

"We believe that the vast majority of injuries are preventable but we have learned over the years that telling people how to stay safe isn't enough to overhaul a culture that has historically struggled with safety. Anything that is going to affect a change in an organization and a province has to be done at the leadership level. Our mission, Constructing Safety Leadership, is entirely about supporting leaders and the Hazard ID VR tool is just one of several technological investments that enables us to do that," says Pullar.

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**Collin Pullar, SCSA President**

## Hazard ID VR

**SEE THE DANGERS IN THE VIRTUAL WORLD – AVOID THEM IN REAL LIFE**

- **Hazard ID VR is a training tool that provides a realistic, 360 degree alternate reality construction workplace experience.**
- **It is designed to be used in conjunction with an instructor or supervisor led Hazard ID course.**
- **To book a demonstration or to experience this training tool, contact the SCSA. [www.scsaonline.ca/media/safety-demos](http://www.scsaonline.ca/media/safety-demos)**
- **Developed in partnership with White Rabbit VR, a division of Twisted Pair Productions. To purchase, contact [www.whiterabbitvr.ca/hazardvr](http://www.whiterabbitvr.ca/hazardvr)**



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The second annual SCSA Constructing Safety Leadership Conference, held in conjunction with Sask Construction Week, attracted over 100 industry leaders who gathered at TCU Place in Saskatoon on April 10, 2019.

Thomas Benjoe CEO, FHQ Developments and Bradyn Parisian Owner, MoSolar kicked off the day with a session on Safety, Business Culture and Inclusion. This was followed by an industry panel on Safety in Procurement featuring Grant Ring Vice President, SaskPower; Harlan Kennedy Executive Director, Ministry of Central Services; and Jeremy Meinema, Finance & Land Manager, City of Saskatoon, Residential Land Corp. The morning concluded with a session on Emerging Legal Trends with Amy Groothuis Partner, MillerThompson in conversation with SCSA president, Collin Pullar.

The afternoon featured John Spooner Sr. Vice President, Aon Reed Stenhouse Inc presenting on Contract Surety and Insurance and a General Contractor Panel Discussion with Aaron Yohnke District Manager, PCL Construction and Tom Holfeld District Manager, Graham Construction.

Well-known local radio hosts Jamie Nye of the Green Zone, and Mark Loshack (Shack) of Rock 102, were the emcees and moderators throughout the day, which also featured leadership reflections from guest speakers Bill Chow, president of the SJHL, and Drew Remenda, Sportsnet's Game Analyst for the Edmonton Oilers and former San Jose Sharks Assistant Coach.

Attendees participated in numerous discussions and networking opportunities throughout the conference and also had a chance to experience the SCSA's newly-launched Hazard ID VR training tool on location.

The conference concluded with a special ceremony recognizing the 2019 SCSA's Health and Safety Administrator (HSA) of the Year Award recipient, Vanessa Andres of Triple A Directional Drilling; and the National Construction Safety Officer (NCSO™) of the Year Award recipient, Jessica Stewart of Alliance Energy Ltd.



Constructing Safety Leadership Conference program features impressive lineup of industry leaders



Hazard ID VR demonstrated at Constructing Safety Leadership Conference