



# ETU OHS REPS NEWSLETTER

## NEW APPRENTICE OFFICER

The ETU has appointed a new Apprentice Officer, Omar Merhi. Ray Crampton has taken on a very important new role of Training Officer within the ETU.

By way of introduction, Omar was asked to write a short article about himself.

*"I was the safety rep on a construction site in Southbank in August 2001 that had a site fatality. A hoist driver fell 14 floors to his death during crane works on the site. The impact was devastating to all workers. This is a constant reminder to me that safety is serious.*

*Workplace safety has never been or ever will be negotiated.*

*I was appointed the ETU's new Apprentice Officer in early April. Ray Crampton has moved into the all-important role of training within the union hence me taking over this position. I hope to continue the hard work that Ray has done to date and have already set myself some short and long term goals.*

*I have always been an activist for apprentices and will ensure that within this role that they are represented in all aspects of the trade; schooling, safety, site issues to name some. I have been a proud shop steward and an active OH+S Rep for this union since February 1993 and will continue to do so in this important role for our apprentices.*

*Although safety is everyone's responsibility, in reality, apprentices will be taken advantage of, time and time again by employers because apprentices may not know their rights, are easily intimidated, fear backlash etc....*

*We must collectively ensure that an apprentice works safely and effectively during their apprenticeship.*

*In our NOV 07 edition of ETU OHS reps newsletter there was reference to Apprentice Supervision. This is on-going and a copy of the apprentice supervision guidelines is available from ESV's web site: [www.esv.vic.gov.au](http://www.esv.vic.gov.au)*

*You play an integral role in the working life of an apprentice and I encourage you to continue to do so. If you have any questions at all, please do not hesitate to call me. Finally, I thank both Allan Mulvena and Tim Stephenson for their continual hard work that has given our reps so much confidence and strength out on worksites over the years".*

Omar can be contacted on 0418 513 127, or e-mail [omar@etu.asn.au](mailto:omar@etu.asn.au).



## INTERNATIONAL DAY OF MOURNING

International Day of Mourning will have come and gone by the time you read this. This year it was held on the 28th April. A service was held at the "Rock" at VTHC.

It was time to reflect on those that had lost their lives at work.

The pain and sense of loss doesn't go away, just diminishes with time. So we reflect on the year that was, and how so many more workers have been killed or injured during the course of their employment.

## UNIOR HAND TOOLS

UNIOR is a globally respected manufacturer of forged products out of Slovenia, it provides forging equipment and specialty parts to BMW, Audi, VW, Volvo, Ford, Renault, Peugeot, Daimler Chrysler and Skoda to name a few. All tools comply with ISO 09001.

UNIOR realizes one third of its sales from the manufacturer of hand tools with a tradition of tool forging going back until 1919.

UNIOR has a presence in Australian motor sport, supplying their quality product to various V8 Super Car teams including Jack Daniels Racing (Larry Perkins Engineering) and Team BOC (Andrew & Kim Jones).

UNIOR'S Director Mr Bob Alesevic approached the ETU in early 2008 with UNIOR'S range of hand tools and from that initial meeting UNIOR provided a range of their VDE 1000V insulated tools for a select group of our best and brightest to trial, and reports back from this select group of high end tradesmen

We celebrate their lives and mourn their loss. We are ever vigilant to ensure that another family or work mate does not need to go through the same thing.

In between writing this, and you the reader, reading this, another worker will have been killed.

You can make the difference, speak up for safety's sake, safety is not just once a year.

have been extremely positive with the tools being described as very comfortable and easy to use because of their ergonomic shapes and grips, excellent wear resistance on their cutting surface of the combination pliers and working surfaces of the screwdrivers etc.

UNIOR'S insulated hand tools ensure ultimate protection up to 1000V, with each tool being individually verified by means of impact strength, electrical, flame-retardancy, insulation adhesion and stamp testing.

UNIOR'S Director Mr Bob Alesevic and Kevin Heagney from UNIOR'S Mobile Tool Company made a presentation of UNIOR hand tools to the April ETU OH&S reps meeting.

If you are interested in having one of UNIOR'S BOB THE TOOLMAN mobile vans visit your site give UNIOR head office a call for the details of your local representative.

UNIOR –  
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Email: [sales@unior-aust.com.au](mailto:sales@unior-aust.com.au)

## 2008 Calendar

### EEIT OHS MEETING DATES

10AM –12PM

Melbourne –

Held at old ETU Office

Swanston St Carlton South

25th June

27th August

29th October

### OHS REP TRAINING

Contact Tanya—0393269377 to book into the courses below.

#### Initial 5 Day OHS REPS Course

June 11, 12, 16, 17 and 18

October 14, 15, 20, 21 and 22

#### 1 Day Refresher OHS Rep Course

Melbourne

16th July

12th November

Country

Morwell—28th May

Portland—30th July

Shepparton—24th September

Mildura—26th November