

NEWS RELEASE

New cane siding induction

A new online cane siding induction process will be rolled out in the Herbert from next week.

The induction will be available to anyone likely to access a cane siding during the upcoming crushing season, whether they are harvesting contractors, haulout operators or growers.

Wilmar Sugar successfully implemented the revised safety induction process in the Burdekin and Proserpine regions last year and will expand its use to include the Herbert and Plane Creek regions this year.

Herbert Cane Supply Manager Jim Kirchner said the induction comprised two sections.

“The first is a generic induction which applies to all cane sidings across Wilmar Sugar’s four milling regions,” he said.

“The second section is region specific.”

Wilmar Sugar previously worked closely with Canegrowers Herbert River to provide the siding induction training, which had an associated cost for all participants.

“Wilmar Sugar is offering the new online induction free of charge,” Mr Kirchner said.

“One of the key benefits of the new system is that it enables people to do the training in their own time.

“It also means it will be easier for haulout operators who start during the season to get inducted.”

As with the previous system, the induction is valid for two years.

“We expect about 150 people to complete the training this year,” Mr Kirchner said.

Cane trains and haulout operators share access to the Herbert’s 241 cane sidings, making them a high-risk area.

Mr Kirchner said incidents involving improper use of sidings were a regular occurrence during the crushing season.

“The fundamental rule is that train and haulout operations have to remain separate,” he said.

“If a locomotive is in the siding, a haulout can’t enter and vice versa.”

The content covered in the online induction is also provided to all of Wilmar Sugar’s cane transport employees annually.

The online induction is currently available by contacting either Wilmar Sugar Workplace Health and Safety Officer Don Oswin on 0409 877 342 or Logistics Officer Murray Slevin on 0439 606 802.

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