

Disclaimer

The contents of this document are intended to serve as a guide to Federal and Provincial Acts and Regulations affecting the Equipment Distributors Industry and are by no means to be interpreted as professional legal advice. Although every attempt is made to ensure the accuracy of this guide, the CAED claims no responsibility for any potentially false information presented in this document. If doubt arises, please refer to the official documents published by the appropriate governing agency.

Introduction

Workplace injuries, hazardous products and environmental degradation are but a few of the many recurring forces affecting the bottom line of industries across Canada, including the Equipment Distribution Industry. Both the Federal and Provincial governments have responded over the past several years with a significant amount of environmental health and safety (EHS) legislation in an effort to sustain human and environmental health without compromising economic growth. For many, these laws, statutes, acts and regulations can be very difficult to find and even more cumbersome to read and understand. As such, the Canadian Association of Equipment Distributors (CAED) has produced the **“Guide to Environment, Health & Safety Legislation”**. While created with EHS managers in mind, all levels of employees can benefit from this user-friendly guide. Whether you are a CEO looking for an update on the passing of new legislation, or a mechanic looking for safer ways to do your job, this guide has the tools to find the answers to your EHS questions.

Using the Guide

**Please note that this Guide is formatted for use in Microsoft Word. A printable version is also available on the CAED’s website in Adobe Acrobat Reader (PDF).*

Essentially, the purpose of this guide is to provide industry workers with the proper tools to easily access and understand EHS legislation. Although this guide may be downloaded and printed in hardcopy, its true value is in the Internet links (hyperlinks) provided and thus, it is highly recommended that users take advantage of these features by using the electronic format. Since both federal and provincial legislation affect the equipment distribution industry, a separate guide has been created for federal legislation as well as for each individual Province. To keep things simple, the format for each guide is as follows:

Table of Contents

1. The title of each Act affecting the industry has been identified and is listed in the Table of Contents; which is built-in as a separate frame for each **main document**. Clicking on a particular Act will bring you to that Act in the main document. To access the **Table of Contents** simply click on **Format** in the tool bar above. Then click on **Frames** and then **Table of Contents in Frame**.

Example:

Format → Frames → Table of Contents in Frame

Main Document

Acts and Regulations

2. The title of each **Act** and **Regulation** in the main document is **hyperlinked**. Clicking on this link will bring you directly to its full text version on the CANLII website.
3. Whenever possible, a brief **summary** accompanies the Act or Regulation.
4. As listed in the Table of Contents, following each Act, a list of **Associated Regulations** are identified and also contain hyperlinks to the full text versions as well as summaries whenever possible.
5. For each Act, the **Responsible Government Department(s)** are listed and hyperlinked to their respective Department's home page.
6. For further information pertaining to an Act or associated Regulations, **Other Resources** are then listed and are also hyperlinked.
7. The final tool available for gathering information on a particular act or regulation is the **Contact** information (such as telephone number or email address) provided by the responsible government Department.

Guides and Guidelines

8. Links to existing guides and guidelines are listed for a variety of EHS activities. However, this is not the focus of this guide and it is anticipated that this section will eventually become an entirely separate guide for the industry.

Key References

9. Key references including those used as hyperlinks to full text acts and regulations in the main document are identified, listed and hyperlinked.

Please note that this guide is by no means complete, but is rather intended to be dynamic - constantly growing and evolving to best suit the needs of the industry. As such, comments and feedback regarding the contents of this guide are both

encouraged and welcome. To do so, please contact the CAED at info@caed.org.

British Columbia EHS Legislation



I. [CONSUMER PROTECTION ACT](#)

[RSBC 1996, c. 69]

“The *Consumer Protection Act* is a two-pronged statute. Not only does it set out substantive rules of law, which prohibits or regulates certain types of (consumer) behaviour, it also creates a bureaucracy called a consumer protection “director” with wide powers of investigation.” Essentially, this Act serves to protect the consumer from improper conduct during consumer transactions taking place within the province.

(Source: <http://www.duhaime.org/Will/cabccons.htm>)

Associated Regulations

[Consumer Protection Act Regulation](#) [B.C. Reg. 62/87]

[Contract for Future Services Regulation](#) [B.C. Reg. 386/87]

[Direct Sellers Regulation](#) [B.C. Reg. 419/93]

Responsible Government Department(s)

[Business Practices and Consumer Protection Authority](#)

Other Resources

[Canadian Better Business Bureau](#)

[Canadian Consumer Information Gateway](#)

Duhaime.org
[Industry Canada](http://IndustryCanada) - Consumer and Corporate Affairs

Contact

Victoria office:
5th Floor
1019 Wharf Street
Victoria BC V8W 2Y9

Burnaby office:
419 - 4940 Canada Way
Burnaby BC V5G 4K6

Business Practices and Consumer Protection Authority of British Columbia
Tel.: (604) 320-1667
Toll free: 1-888-564-9963
Fax: (250) 920-7181
E-mail: info@bpcpa.ca
Web site: <http://www.bpcpa.ca>

II. ELECTRICAL SAFETY ACT
[RSBC 1996, c. 109]

This Act regulates work done on electrical equipment. It prescribes who is permitted to conduct electrical work, and how the work is done. The electrical work may also be subject to inspection by the Ministry.

Associated Regulations

[B.C. Electrical Code Regulation 2002](#) [B.C. Reg. 258/2002]

[Electrical Safety Regulation](#) [B.C. Reg. 487/95]

Responsible Government Department(s)

[Ministry of Community, Aboriginal & Women's Services](#)

Other Resources

[BC Hydro – Safety](#)

[Canosh, Canada's National Occupational Safety and Health Web site](#)

[Electrical Contractors Industry \(US\)](#)

[Electrical Safety](#)

A Health and Safety Centre website containing guidelines for electrical safety in specific working conditions.

[Electricity - Hazard Alerts](#)

This site contains links to electrical hazards that may occur in the workplace.

[Handbook on PCB's and in Electrical Equipment](#)

[Work Safe BC](#)

[WBC Health and Safety Centre](#)

Contact

Safety and Standards

6th Floor
800 Johnson St.
Victoria
BC

Mail to: PO Box 9490
Stn Prov Govt
Victoria
BC
V8W9N7
250 387-4082

III. [ENERGY EFFICIENCY ACT](#)

[RSBC 1996, c. 114]

This Act addresses efficiency standards for energy devices and gives power to the Lieutenant Governor in Council to make and enforce regulations accordingly.

Responsible Government Department(s)

[Ministry of Energy and Mines](#)

Other Resources

[BC Hydro – Power Smart for Business](#)

[Community Energy Association](#)

[Canadian Energy Efficiency Centre](#)

[Office of Energy Efficiency – Programs and Initiatives](#)

Contact

Energy and Mines Communications Office – Public Affairs Bureau

General Enquiries
Shawn Robins,
Communications
Director
1810 Blanchard St.,
8th Floor
Phone: 250 952-0606

Fax: 250 952-0627

Mail to:
PO Box 9324,
STN PROV GOVT,
Victoria BC,

IV. ENVIRONMENT MANAGEMENT ACT

[RSBC 1996, c. 118]

The purpose of this Act is to manage, protect, and enhance the natural environment of the province. Conservation officers ensure compliance and enforcement of this Act and subsequent regulations.

***Currently being amended with the Waste Management Act – New Environmental Management Act is in third reading (July 2004). ***

Associated Regulations

[Environmental Data Quality Assurance Regulation](#)

[B.C. Reg. 301/90]

Responsible Government Department(s)

[Ministry of Water, Land and Air Protection](#)

Other Resources

[Canadian Centre for Pollution Prevention](#)

[Canadian Council of Ministers of the Environment](#)

[Environmental Assessment Office](#)

[Environmental Management Act – First Reading](#)

[Guidelines for Industry Emergency Response Plans - BC](#)

(revised from 1992)

[Environment Canada](#)

[Environmental Management Systems Info](#)

Contains links to a variety of information regarding EMS topics.

[Provincial Emergency Program](#)

Contact

Water Land and Air Communications Office – Public Affairs Bureau

General Enquiries

Liz Bicknell,

Communications

Director

2975 Jutland Road,

3rd Floor

Phone: 250 387-1161

Fax: 250 356-6464

Mail to:

PO Box 9360,

STN PROV GOVT,

Victoria, BC V8W 9M2

V. [FIRE SERVICES ACT](#)

[RSBC 1996, c. 144]

This Act gives the right to the fire commissioner and the commissioner's inspectors to enter any premises in British Columbia in order to assure that fire hazards are minimized. This is achieved by conducting inspections, ensuring compliance, and when necessary, imposing fines.

Associated Regulations

[British Columbia Fire Code Regulation](#) [B.C. Reg. 285/98]

Adopts the National Fire Code of Canada (1995)

Responsible Government Department(s)

[Ministry of Community, Aboriginal & Women's Services](#)

[Office of the Fire Commissioner](#)

Other Resources

[About the National Fire Code](#)

[NFPA - National Fire Protection Agency](#)

[Office of the Fire Commissioner](#)

This government website contains several useful links regarding fire safety legislation, training and emergency response.

Contact

Housing, Building
and Safety

[Department index](#)

PO Box 9490

Stn Prov Govt

Victoria, BC V8W 9N7

Phone: 250 387-4095

Fax: 250 387-7973

Office of the Fire
Commissioner:

PO Box 9491

Stn Prov Govt

Victoria, BC V8W 9N7

Phone: 250 356-9000

Fax: 250 356-9019

[Website](#)

Building Policy Branch:

PO Box 9951

Stn Prov Govt

Victoria, BC V8W 9R3

Telephone: 250 356-
9011

Fax: 250 387-3765

[Website](#)

Safety Policy and

Liaison Branch:

PO Box 9490

Stn Prov Govt

Telephone: 250 387-
4095

Fax: 250 387-6212

VI. [HEALTH ACT](#)

[RSBC 1996, c. 179]

Part 4 of this Act (Health Hazards) gives the right to a certified inspector/officer to enter any premises in the province to ensure that it is free of health hazards and is in compliance with the law. This Act also states that in addition to the Waste Management Act requirements, any toxic spill must be reported to the medical health officer and immediate action must be taken to cease and prevent the discharge.

Associated Regulations

[Sewage Disposal Regulation](#) [B.C. Reg. 411/85]

Responsible Government Department(s)

[Ministry of Health Services](#)

Other Resources

[Environmental Emergencies – Environment Canada
Guidelines for Industry Emergency Response Plans - BC](#)

(revised from 1992)

[Health Association of British Columbia](#)

[Health Canada](#)

[Legislation and Professional Regulation](#)

Contact

Office of the Provincial Health Officer

4th Floor, 1515 Blanshard Street

Victoria BC V8W 3C8

Phone: (250) 952-1330

Fax: (250) 952-1362

E-mail: [O.P.H.O./Contacts](#)

VII. [HIGHWAY \(INDUSTRIAL\) ACT](#)

[RSBC 1996, c. 189]

This Act regulates the use and maintenance of industrial roads. More specifically to the equipment industry, it sets safety requirements for the equipment and vehicles being used on these roads. It also imposes proper credentials for those using the equipment.

Associated Regulations

[Vehicular Traffic on Industrial Roads Regulations \(Part XX\)](#)

[B.C. Reg. 450/59]

These Regulations go in further detail regarding equipment and safety requirements for vehicles and workers using industrial roads. For example: certification and licensing, inspection of equipment, approval of brakes and brake systems, safety appliances (tires, doors and windows, rear vision mirrors, etc.), safety glass, and signals.

Responsible Government Department(s)

[Ministry of Transportation](#)

Contact

Transportation Communications Office – Public Affairs Bureau

Steve Anderson - Communications Director

5B, 940 Blanshard Street
General/Public Enquiries
Phone: 250 387-3198
Fax: 250 356-2950

Mail to:
PO Box 9850,
STN PROV GOVT,
Victoria, BC
V8W 9T5

VIII. [INDUSTRY TRAINING AND APPRENTICESHIP ACT](#)

[SBC 1997, c. 50]

This Act establishes an “Industry Training and Apprenticeship Commission” whose role is to determine which trades and occupations fall under this Act. As such, this Commission is thus responsible for ensuring that proper certification and training is implemented for said trades and occupations.

Associated Regulations

[Industry Training and Apprenticeship Regulation](#) [B.C. Reg. 386/97]

This Regulation identifies and lists the trades and occupations that are “compulsory certification trades” as stated in the associated Act. Included in this list are: automotive collision repair technicians, automotive refinishing technicians, automotive service technicians, electricians, and sheet metal workers. This Regulation also established the criteria for the designation of trades or occupations.

Responsible Government Department(s)

[Ministry of Advanced Education](#)
[Industry Training Authority of BC](#)

Other Resources

[Canadian Apprenticeship Forum](#)
[Canadian Association of Equipment Distributors](#)
[Canadian Equipment Industry Training Committee](#)
[Industry Training Authority of BC](#)
[HRSDC - Canada](#)
[Trade Secrets](#)
[Red Seal – Inter-provincial Standards](#)

Contact

Industry Training Authority
Phone: 604-214-8700
Fax: 604-214-8701
E-Mail: info@itabc.ca

IX. [LABOUR RELATIONS CODE](#)

[RSBC 1996, c. 244]

The relations between union members and employers are covered under this code. It also discusses the rights, duties and unfair labour practices of both the employee and the employer. As well, the Code sets a framework for bargaining rights.

Associated Regulations

[Labour Relations Regulation](#) [B.C. Reg. 7/93]

Responsible Government Department(s)

[Ministry of Skills Development and Labour](#)

Other Resources

[A Guide to the Labour Relations Code](#)
[Labour Relations Code Review](#)

Contact

The British Columbia Labour Relations Board
Suite 600, Oceanic Plaza,
1066 West Hastings Street,
Vancouver, British Columbia
V6E 3X1
Telephone: (604) 660-1300
Fax: (604) 660-1892

X. [MOTOR VEHICLE ACT](#)

[RSBC 1996, C. 318]

This Act regulates the use of vehicles within the province. This includes licensing, repair and maintenance, safety standards, offences, and emission controls. Pertinent sections include Part 1 sections 9 and 10 regarding farming and industrial equipment licensing, sections 47-50 regarding engine emissions and air pollution, and Part 4 section 219 – equipment of motor vehicles.

Associated Regulations

[Emission Inspection Exemption Regulation](#) [B.C. Reg. 320/92]

[Exhaust Emission Standards Regulation](#) [B.C. Reg. 274/2000]

[Heavy Vehicle Diesel Emission Standards Regulation](#) [B.C. Reg. 108/99]

[Inspection Standards \(Safety and Repair\) Regulation](#)
[B.C. Reg. 103/2002]

[Motor Vehicle Act Regulations](#) [B.C. Reg. 26/58]

[Standards for Vehicles and Their Equipment](#) [B.C. Reg. 262/84]

Responsible Government Department(s)

[Ministry of Transportation](#)

[Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General](#)

Other Resources

[Commercial Vehicle Safety and Enforcement](#)

This site, for commercial carriers or those who drive for a living, provides weigh-scale information, a 7x24 toll-free number for permits, and offers information important to drivers and carriers.

(Source: <http://www.pssg.gov.bc.ca/programs.htm>)

[Consultations](#)

Legislation and policy pages containing information on all legislation and associated consultations introduced by the Solicitor General during the Legislative Session. The pages also contain information on consultations that may lead to future legislation or changes in policy.

(Source: <http://www.pssg.gov.bc.ca/programs.htm>)

[Off-Road Small Spark-Ignition Engine Emission Regulations](#) (NEW)
[SOR/2003-355]

These new proposed Regulations prescribe diesel engine emission restrictions and require engines produced in and/or sold in Canada to obtain and display a certified National Emissions Mark “EC”.

Contact

Public Safety and Solicitor General Communications Office –
Public Affairs Bureau

Curt Albertson - Communications Director

10th Floor,
1001 Douglas Street
General/Public
Enquiries
Phone: 250 387-0520
Fax: 250 387-1753

Mail to:
PO Box 9282,
STN PROV GOVT,
Victoria, BC
V8W 9J7

XI. [TRANSPORTATION OF DANGEROUS GOODS ACT](#)

[RSBC 1996, c. 458]

An Act prescribing the safety requirements for transporting goods classified as dangerous as listed in the Act’s Schedule. Many materials used in the equipment industry are included in this Schedule.

Associated Regulations

[Transport of Dangerous Goods Regulation](#) [B.C. Reg. 203/85]

Responsible Government Department(s)

[Ministry of Transportation](#)

Other Resources

[The Compliance Centre](#)

[Schedule](#) – Federal TDG classifies dangerous goods

[Transport Canada](#)

[Transportation of Dangerous Goods – A Primer](#)

Contact

Transportation Communications Office – Public Affairs Bureau

Steve Anderson - Communications Director

5B, 940 Blanshard
Street,

General/Public
Enquiries

Phone: 250 387-3198
Fax: 250 356-2950

Mail to:
PO Box 9850,
STN PROV GOVT,
Victoria, BC
V8W 9T5

XII. WASTE MANAGEMENT ACT **[RSBC 1996, c.482]**

This Act prescribes the way in which waste is to be managed within the province. It covers such aspects as: handling, storage and disposal, spill prevention, control, response and recovery, and enforcement.

***Currently being amended with the Environment Management Act – new Environmental Management Act is in third reading (July 2004). ***

Associated Regulations

[Antisapstain Chemical Waste Control Regulation](#)

[B.C. Reg. 300/90]

[Cleaner Gasoline Regulation](#) [B.C. Reg. 498/95]

[Conditional Exemption Regulation](#) [B.C. Reg. 201/94]

[Contaminated Sites Regulation](#) [B.C. Reg. 375/96]

[Gasoline Vapour Control Regulation](#) [B.C. Reg. 226/95]

[Motor Vehicle Emissions Control Warranty Regulation](#) [B.C. Reg. 116/96]

[Oil and Gas Waste Regulation](#) [B.C. Reg. 208/96]

[Ozone Depleting Substances and Other Halocarbons Regulation](#)

[B.C. Reg. 387/99]

[Petroleum Storage and Distribution Facilities Storm Water Regulation](#)

[B.C. Reg. 168/94]

[Post-Consumer Residual Stewardship Program Regulation](#)

[B.C. Reg. 111/97]

[Special Waste Regulation](#) [B.C. Reg. 63/88]

[Spill Cost Recovery Regulation](#) [B.C. Reg. 250/98]

[Spill Reporting Regulation](#) [B.C. Reg. 263/90]

[Storage of Recyclable Material Regulation](#) [B.C. Reg. 133/92]

[Sulphur Content of Fuel Regulation](#) [B.C. Reg. 67/89]

[Waste Management Permit Fees Regulation](#) [B.C. Reg. 299/92]

[Wood Residue Burner and Incinerator Regulation](#) [B.C. Reg. 519/95]

Responsible Government Department(s)

[Ministry of Water, Land and Air Protection](#)

Other Resources

[Contaminated Sites](#)

[Environmental Management Act](#) – *First Reading*

[Guidelines for Industry Emergency Response Plans - BC](#)

(revised from 1992)

[Hazardous Material Response Plan - BC](#) (under development)

[Hazardous Products Act \(Canada\) - Summary of Key Sections](#)

[Industrial Waste – Environmental Management Branch](#)

The links include information, policy and regulations related to discharges of solids, liquids, and gaseous wastes to the environment.

(Source: http://wlapwww.gov.bc.ca/epd/epdpa/industrial_waste/iwhome.html)

[Inland Oil Spill Response Plan - BC](#) (under development)

Contact

Water Land and Air Communications Office – Public Affairs Bureau

General Enquiries

Liz Bicknell,

Communications

Director

2975 Jutland Road,

3rd Floor

Phone: 250 387-1161

Fax: 250 356-6464

Mail to:

PO Box 9360,

STN PROV GOVT,

Victoria, BC V8W 9M2

Ministry of Water Land and Air Protection - Industry and Business
Section

2975 Jutland Road,

3rd Floor

PO Box 9342,
STN PROV GOVT,
Victoria, BC V8W 9M1

XIII. WORKERS COMPENSATION ACT

[RSBC 1996, c. 492]

This Act affects everyone in the equipment industry. The first two Parts of the Act discuss the details involving workers compensation, while Part 3 outlines the Occupational Health and Safety responsibilities. Such responsibilities include joint committees and worker representatives, accident reporting, inspections and investigations.

Associated Regulations

[Industrial Health and Safety Regulation](#) [B.C. Reg. 585/77]

[Occupational Health and Safety Regulation](#) [B.C. Reg. 296/97]

[Reports of Injuries Regulations](#) [B.C. Reg. 713/74]

[Transitional Review and Appeal Regulation](#) [B.C. Reg. 322/2002]

[Workers Compensation Act Appeal Regulation](#) [B.C. Reg. 321/2002]

[Workers Compensation Act \(Review Board\) Regulation](#) [B.C. Reg. 32/86]

[Workers Compensation Appeal Tribunal Compensation Regulation](#)
[B.C. Reg. 359/2002]

Responsible Government Department(s)

[Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General](#)

[Work Safe BC](#) – Worker Compensation Board of BC

Other Resources

[Canadian Centre for Occupational Health and Safety \(CCOHS\)](#)

[CCSE – Canadian Society of Safety Engineering](#)

[Hazardous Products Act \(Canada\) - Summary of Key Sections](#)

[Health and Safety Centre - BC](#)

[Heavy Equipment Servicing – Hazard Alerts](#)

A Health and Safety Centre site that has links to a variety of hazard alerts specific to heavy equipment servicing

[Industrial Health and Safety Solutions](#)

[Industrial Accident Prevention Association \(IAPA\)](#)

[Manufacturing – Health and Safety Centre](#)

[National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health \(NIOSH\)](#)

[OHS Regulation Guidelines](#)

This website contains numerous helpful guidelines for a variety of OHS related issues. Such issues include:

- [Chemical and biological substances](#)
- [Noise, vibration, radiation and temperature](#)
- [Personal Protective Clothing and Equipment](#)
- [Confined Spaces](#)
- [De-energization and Lockout](#)
- [Fall Protection](#)
- [Tools Machinery and Equipment](#)
- [Cranes and Hoists](#)
- [Electrical Safety](#)

[OSH for Everyone](#)

[Public Safety Canada](#)

[Work Safe BC – Worker Compensation Board of BC](#)

[Workers Compensation Act - Excerpts and Summaries](#)

Contact

British Columbia WCB - [Contact Us](#)

GUIDES AND GUIDELINES

[A Guide to the Labour Relations Code](#)

[Best Practices in Energy Efficiency](#)

[CSA Electrical Standards](#)

[CSA Energy Standards](#)

[Electrical Safety](#)

A Health and Safety Centre site prescribing guidelines for electrical safety in specific working conditions.

[Guidelines for Industry Emergency Response Plans - BC](#) (revised from 1992)

[Handbook on PCB's and in Electrical Equipment](#)

[Hazardous Material Response Plan - BC](#) (under development)

[Inland Oil Spill Response Plan - BC](#) (under development)

[OHS Regulation Guidelines](#)

This website contains numerous helpful guidelines for a variety of OHS related issues. Such issues include:

- [Chemical and biological substances](#)
- [Noise, vibration, radiation and temperature](#)
- [Personal Protective Clothing and Equipment](#)
- [Confined Spaces](#)
- [De-energization and Lockout](#)
- [Fall Protection](#)
- [Tools Machinery and Equipment](#)
- [Cranes and Hoists](#)
- [Electrical Safety](#)

[Provincial Emergency Program](#)

[Registering with the WCB: A Guide for Employers \(BC\)](#) (.pdf)

It's an employer's obligation to register with the Workers' Compensation Board of B.C. This brochure will assist employers in determining registration obligations.

(Source: http://www.worksafebc.com/publications/how_to_work_with_the_wcb/default.asp)

[Return to Work is Good Medicine](#) (.pdf)

Return to work programs help workers return to work in a safe and timely manner. Discusses return to work as therapy and physicians' role in the process.

(Source: http://www.worksafebc.com/publications/how_to_work_with_the_wcb/default.asp)

[WCB Benefits and Services: A handbook for workers \(BC\)](#) (.pdf)

Takes injured workers step by step through the workers' compensation system.

Provides information on the types of benefits offered, workers' rights and responsibilities, and returning to work.

(Source: http://www.worksafebc.com/publications/how_to_work_with_the_wcb/default.asp)

[Your Road to Recovery: A guide for seriously injured young workers](#) (.pdf)

Provides information on WCB benefits that might be available to young workers who were seriously injured on the job. Also includes information on access to resources outside the WCB and statements from seriously injured workers.

(Source: http://www.worksafebc.com/publications/how_to_work_with_the_wcb/default.asp)

KEY REFERENCES

[Canadian Legal Information Institute \(CanLII\)](#)

[The Province of British Columbia](#)

