

New study confirms the COR™ standard's big health and safety benefits

Research shows COR™-certified firms have reduced their injury rates by 28%

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The Infrastructure Health and Safety Association (IHSA) is pleased to learn the positive results of the first in-depth study on the effect of COR™ certification on health and safety in Ontario workplaces.

Dr. Chris McLeod and his team at the University of British Columbia's School of Population and Public Health conducted the study. It looked at injury rates of Ontario construction companies that have used the COR™ national standard to implement their health and safety management systems, and compared them to similar firms that do not use COR™.

Drawing on data from both IHSA and the Workplace Safety and Insurance Board (WSIB), the study found that lost-time injury rates among COR™-certified businesses in Ontario were, on average, 28% lower than their non-COR™ counterparts. Likewise, high-impact injury rates were 20% lower for COR™-certified firms.

Dr. McLeod has been researching the effectiveness of COR™ in western Canada for more than a decade. "The types of intervention effects that we see with COR™ [in Ontario] are the largest that I've seen," he says. "When you map a 28% reduction in injury rate onto return on an investment—in terms of the cost of claims, as well as the overall burden of injuries and illnesses to workers—it's quite significant."

Since IHSA helped introduce COR™ in Ontario in 2012, more than 500 companies have used it to design, implement, and evaluate their comprehensive health and safety management systems. Many other firms are now working toward COR™ certification—a multi-stage process that includes thorough internal and external auditing of a company's health and safety system.

These companies are demonstrating their commitment to—and excellence in—protecting their workers. Beyond that, COR™-certified firms may qualify ahead of other contractors for jobs where COR™ is a requirement. Buyers of construction can be assured that COR™ companies bring superior health and safety practices to the workplace.

To learn more about the methodology and results of the Ontario COR™ study, [download the research brief](#) and listen to Episode 37 of [IHSA's Safety Podcast](#) featuring Dr. Chris McLeod.

Then visit ihsa.ca/cor to learn more about the benefits of COR™, discover Ontario firms that have already achieved the standard, and get started on the road to becoming COR™ certified.