



[www.ohsalert.com.au](http://www.ohsalert.com.au)

## "McDonaldsing" safety system wins employer safety award

---

08 December 2015 2:17pm

An award-winning employer improved safety, compliance and productivity across its various construction sites by "McDonaldsing" its safety system, its director says.

McDonaldsing, Mavid Construction Pty Ltd director Matt Sharpe explains, is ensuring all workers are following the same safety policies and procedures irrespective of where they're working.

"If you go to buy a hamburger [from McDonald's], you know exactly what it's going to be regardless of where you're buying it from," he told *OHS Alert*.

"We're producing a safety system which is the same on all of our sites regardless of the people that are managing them."

Mavid's rapid growth prompted it to introduce a cloud-based (internet) safety system, as it was becoming harder to manage safety across so many sites while producing a cost-effective product, Sharpe says.

The employer originally trialled a number of already-made online safety systems, but each had shortcomings and didn't suit the business, he says.

As a result, Mavid created its own system incorporating a number of Apple apps, which are accessible at all times on all handheld devices, such as iPads and other computers.

The apps enable workers to access safety and other documents for the organisation, as well as information – such as traffic management procedures, inductions, hazard reports and emergency response plans – for each job, Sharpe says.

They also allow workers to fill out and update forms on site and in real time.

Sharpe says the system is user friendly, "helps us by keeping us on top of our game", saves time and improves productivity and compliance.

If an incident occurs, for example, photos and other details can be updated online immediately, and the safety manager – who might not be on site – can access the information immediately.

The system also helps Mavid's 500 subcontractors stay compliant in their own businesses, Sharpe notes, by showing them the types of forms they should be filling out and the measures they should be taking to ensure their workers are safe.

One challenge the organisation faced in implementing a cloud-based system was that some older workers weren't very "tech-savvy", Sharpe says.

To overcome this, Mavid conducted extensive training with workers on how to use the system, why they needed to use it and when to use it, he says.

Employers should trial an online safety system in "bite-sized pieces" before "flipping the company upside-down" and implementing it across all sites, Sharpe recommends.

Some systems won't fit a business perfectly, and trialling it on a few sites to ensure it works well is the best way to introduce such a system, he says.

Mavid Construction recently won the 2015 SafeWork NSW award for best workplace health and safety practice in a small business (see [related article](#)).

## Related articles

- Related Article : [Safest employers in four states announced](#)
- Related Article : [Online systems to spread safety messages under EUs](#)
- Related Article : [Switch from paper to online system improves safety](#)

© Copyright 2016 OHS Alert