

## **POLICY – Workplace Bullying**

The Victorian Occupational Health and Safety Act Victoria, 2004 prohibits bullying or harassing behaviour that may cause or create a risk of physical or mental injury to another person.

Krueger Shopfitters does not condone bullying or violent behaviour in the workplace whether the source of such behaviour is internal to Krueger Shopfitters employees, or external, (eg on- site sub – contractors, customers).

## **Background**

Bullying is defined as "repeated, unreasonable behaviour directed toward an employee, or group of employees, that creates a risk to health and safety".

Some behaviours of bullying are:

- Verbal abuse
- Excluding or isolating employees
- Psychological harassment
- Assigning employees meaningless tasks unrelated to the job
- Deliberately withholding information that is vital for effective work performance
- Unfair criticism
- Publicly humiliating an employee
- Ignoring or belittling an employees contribution or opinion

## **Management Responsibilities**

Any complaint will be treated promptly by management and with complete confidentiality. All records relating to a workplace bullying claim will be kept in a confidential file and can only be accessed with the permission of Linda Waterson, General Manager.

## **Employee Responsibilities**

All Krueger Shopfitters employees must comply with this policy.

Failure to comply with the policy depending on the severity of the case will result in a disciplinary procedure. Similar disciplinary action will be taken against anyone who victimises or retaliates against a person who has complained of workplace bullying.

If an employee believes that they are subjected to workplace bullying they should contact Linda Waterson.

Employees should be aware that spreading gossip or rumours about alleged workplace bullying or falsely accusing somebody of engaging in bullying against a person may expose them to defamation action. Krueger Shopfitters also recognises false accusations of workplace bullying can have serious effects on innocent people.

Signed by:

Issued by; Linda Waterson

Reviewed by; Matt Gibbs

**Brett Krueger**