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## Other

While the 2011 harmonised legislative framework has made SWMS easier to manage the reality is they are still an ineffective and confusing document. Submitted SWMS still contain pages of information that are not relevant to High Risk Construction Work, are purchased from third party suppliers and not site specific, are one of the first thing requested for by a SafeWork inspector or in some cases a union representative (if the task is High Risk Construction Work or not). To add further confusion OFSC accredited companies request SWMS for all tasks, not just High Risk Construction Work. Regardless of the workers signing the SWMS there is a degree of scepticism as to their understanding of the SWMS or any consultation process. In many cases they are seen as paper warfare and backside covering. Interestingly there is no legal requirement within the WHS regulations stating a SWMS must be signed by the worker, this is left as a grey area of "duty of care" meaning if the subcontractor forwards a unsigned SWMS to site it becomes the principle contractor's duty of care to ensure his workers are inducted into the SWMS and sign it.