



MODERN  
NIAGARA



SAFETY  
AWARDS  
2024

### **Impact Award Modern Niagara Group Inc.**

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— Clinton Askwith  
Modern Niagara Group Inc.

## **Leading the Way to Safety Excellence Through Education and Partnership**

As one of Canada's largest mechanical contractors responsible for building much of the country's infrastructure, Modern Niagara Group Inc. goes above and beyond industry regulations to prioritize safety. Its commitment to safety excellence and proactive approach to fostering a culture of compliance has earned it the Technical Standards and Safety Authority's (TSSA) Impact Award for 2024.

“We take our role very seriously because what we build out there represents the places where people are going to work, play, live, and heal. There's a substantial obligation that comes with that,” said Clinton Askwith, Director of Compliance with Modern Niagara. “We want to make sure that we're delivering the safety and compliance services that we need to make that happen.”

Modern Niagara's investment in training and development enables its team to navigate regulatory requirements, uphold safety standards and relay safety and compliance messaging to stakeholders in various jurisdictions. The organization's partnerships with safety regulators are also instrumental in mitigating risks and facilitating client-friendly solutions through initiatives spanning certification development, incident reporting, internal audits and adapting to outcome-based regulations.

When asked if there is one significant factor that distinguishes the organization's ability to contribute to safety in a meaningful way, Askwith emphasized that the whole is greater than the sum of its parts.

“I don't know if there's a single point that can be identified because the safety culture within Modern Niagara has been built into a mature program over the years; it is at the core of everything we do,” said Askwith, pointing to Modern Niagara's leadership, management buy-in and practice of putting people first.

Modern Niagara works with clients in the boilers, pressure vessels and pressure piping sectors, operating engineers in registered plants and fuel-related operations. Educating stakeholders about safety requirements and compliance is a strong component of what the organization does. “Even though it might not be a sector that we engage in, we want to make sure that if a client has a question, we can help guide them down the right road to finding the answer.”

It has become increasingly challenging for regulators and regulated parties to keep up with the rapid pace of innovation and change. “We are all forced to adapt very quickly on many fronts and sometimes, given the rapid changes, the fundamentals of safety may slip off the radar,” cautioned Askwith.

As a result, the shift towards data-driven decision-making has become more critical in identifying safety gaps and addressing inconsistencies. Data analytics on emerging trends provide a framework that guides safety decisions and the actions required to mitigate identified risks. In short, it is about taking a holistic approach to safety that includes a culture that values quality work, prioritizes people and supports positive client experiences.

“It's important that we never lose sight of the fact that safety must continue to be the primary motivator in business activities,” said Askwith, who sees the award as a recognition of the work that the Modern Niagara team does. “I am very happy for our people because it shows their efforts are recognized and make a significant impact on our day-to-day operations.”