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## Media Release

16<sup>th</sup> September, 2015

### **RMIT student wins SIA OHS education award**

The Safety Institute of Australia last night announced Simon Albery, a graduate of RMIT University, as the winner of the SIA National OHS Education Award in the Postgraduate category.

The Safety Institute of Australia joins with the Australian OHS Education Accreditation Board to present the awards which recognise students who demonstrate a high level of technical and theoretical knowledge, ability to access, analyse and evaluate information, solve OHS problems and communicate knowledge, skills and ideas around OHS. Demonstrated practical application of the knowledge and skills is also a key requirement.

With a background in engineering focusing on the advancement of safety in automotive manufacturing, Albery's research has examined four tasks in his manufacturing facility and compared the ability of risk matrices and FRAM to detect hazards that arise from variability and adaptability in the work process.

In nominating Albery for the award Associate Professor Susanne Tepe of RMIT University said that "in addition to Simon's overall academic achievement his masters thesis took Eric Hollnagel's FRAM, a very complex theoretical concept, and adapted it so that it could be tested in a real workplace. This was an amazingly insightful development of a useful technique for looking beyond the risk matrix".

Patrick Murphy, Chair of the Safety Institute of Australia commented that the student submissions were a testament to the quality of OHS education in Australia. Simon's work met all the requirements with his masters thesis on a practical risk assessment tool based on FRAM likely to contribute to safety in the wider community. We look with interest to Simon's further research as he is now extending this work through PhD research into variability and adaptation within work systems with the objective of improving both safety and performance".

[www.sia.org.au](http://www.sia.org.au)

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