# **The UPLOADS Project UpdateSeptember 2016**

The UPLOADS project has had a busy year, and we just wanted to take a moment to give you all an update on what we have been up to.

**The Latest 12-Month Report**
Thanks to the ongoing support and contributions from the led outdoor sector, the latest 12 month report is now in production and due for release later this year. We would like to acknowledge the sector’s critical role in producing the dataset described in this report. Without your continued involvement, it is not possible for UPLOADS to produce any meaningful analyses.
If you would like to become a contributing organisation, or have been in the past and would like to reconnect, please email us at uploadsproject@usc.edu.au

**UPLOADS: Next Generation**

UPLOADS is being redesigned! We have listened to the feedback from our contributing organisations and are in the process of making the UPLOADS program more accessible and easier to use. The new UPLOADS program will be Smartphone and tablet compatible, and available in the field – where all the action happens! Subscribe to our blog at [uploadsproject.org](http://www.uploadsproject.org/) for updates on the progress and release date for UPLOADS: Next Generation.

**Spreading the UPLOADS Love**
**Workshops:**
In collaboration with Outdoors Victoria and The Outdoor Education Group, the UPLOADS Project team have facilitated two workshops this year. The aim of these workshops was to demonstrate the importance and significance of bridging the research-practice gap in led outdoor activities and provide practical guidance on injury prevention in the delivery of led outdoor activity programs. These workshops presented a valuable platform for the UPLOADS Project to work directly with practitioners, engaging in productive discussions about the benefit of applying the [systems approach](https://uploadsproject.org/rasmussens-1997-risk-management-framework/) to more than just accidents and how a theory-based incident reporting system can be used to identify practical ways to prevent future incidents.

We have received a lot of positive feedback from these workshops and aim to keep facilitating them in the future. If you would like to organise a workshop in your state, please contact [Amanda Clacy](https://hf-sts.com/amanda-clacy/) (aclacy@usc.edu.au) or [Paul Salmon](https://hf-sts.com/professor-paul-salmon/) (psalmon@usc.edu.au).

**Conference attendance:**
Last month, [Paul Salmon](http://www.usc.edu.au/explore/structure/faculty-of-arts-business-and-law/staff/professor-paul-salmon) and [Clare Dallat](https://twitter.com/claredallat?ref_src=twsrc%5Egoogle%7Ctwcamp%5Eserp%7Ctwgr%5Eauthor) took the UPLOADS project international, presenting at both the [7th International Outdoor Education Research Conference](http://www.cbu.ca/ioerc7/), Canada and the [Applied](http://www.ahfe2017.org/books2016.html) [Human Factors and Ergonomics Conference](http://www.ahfe2017.org/books2016.html), Florida. The UPLOADS project generated a lot of positive interest at both of these conferences. Clare presented an overview of the design of her PhD risk assessment method, NO-HARMS (National Outdoor Hazard Assessment and Risk Management System), and Paul presented the results of the first [12 months UPLOADS study](https://uploadsproject.files.wordpress.com/2016/03/first-12-month-report_final.pdf).

The presentations generated excellent discussion amongst international colleagues from many different countries and backgrounds, including airline pilots and crash investigators, nuclear decommissioning and clean up experts, healthcare managers and WHS professors. Our international colleagues at these conferences impressed upon us that the project’s researchers, sponsors, and the Australian led outdoor activity sector had achieved something very unique together in the creation of the UPLOADS project. In fact, many doubted that such a partnership could be achieved in their home countries!

Each of our dissemination efforts provide valuable insights into both research and practice – a vital component for achieving success in any project. With renewed energy and a true belief in the value of a project that commenced several years ago from the ground up, we look forward to growing the UPLOADS project even more.

**UPLOADS PhD Students 2016**
**Clare Dallat** has reached an exciting time in her candidature. Having developed the NO-HARMS risk assessment process, she has since tested the model and found that it works, is understood, and is valid and reliable. **Tony Carden** has been officially confirmed as a PhD candidate and has wasted no time in submitting 3 papers on safety regulation in the led outdoor sector, which are now under review. Since commencing his PhD in February this year, **Brian Thoroman** has been working hard on his literature review for his research into near miss reporting and learning. There is a lot to learn from near miss incidents, which we suspect are being substantially underreported, so we look forward to seeing what Brian’s research can teach us.

**New PhD opportunity!** [Professor Caroline Finch](https://federation.edu.au/research/research-areas/research-centres-and-networks/australian-centre-for-research-into-injury-in-sport-and-its-prevention-acrisp/staff-and-students-directory/professor-caroline-finch) from Federation University has developed a scholarship program which will develop new insights into a surveillance system and prevention measures. This PhD program will be formally advertised soon.

**Upcoming Events**
From the 21st to the 23rd of October the UPLOADS team will be heading to NSW to the Outdoor Practitioners Conference, hosted by [ORIC](http://www.oric.org.au/).

On Friday the 21st of October, [the UPLOADS team will be hosting a workshop](http://www.oric.org.au/Conference/Pre-Conference.html) which will use case studies and learning-from-systems based incident investigation to give practical insights on incident prevention. Lessons learned from specific case studies will help practitioners to make a genuine contribution to preventing future incidents. Field staff, program managers, and regulators will all gain something from this data driven workshop. It will be great to see as many of you there as possible! [**REGISTER HERE**](http://www.oric.org.au/Online_Forms/Conference_Registration.html)

[Conference registration is also now open](http://www.oric.org.au/Online_Forms/Conference_Registration.html), and the Outdoor Partitioner’s Conference is calling for presenters. The vision is that sessions be valuable learning opportunities for front line practitioners delivering outdoor experiences. Whether based on hard skills, facilitation and soft skill development, or shared learning regarding contemporary issues, they are looking for workshops and sessions which are practical and relevant to practitioners in the led outdoor sector.

**Contact the Research Team**
[The UPLOADS research team](https://uploadsproject.org/team/) can be reached by email at uploadsproject@usc.edu.au

If you have any general questions about the UPLOADS project, please contact Amanda Clacy (aclacy@usc.edu.au; +617 5456 5904).

If you would like to contribute to the National Incident Dataset, please contact Michelle van Mulken (mvanmulk@usc.edu.au; +617 5456 5404).