



## HSE To Carry Out 20,000 “Pro-active” Inspections During 2016-2017

The Health & Safety Executive (HSE) will carry out 20,000 “pro-active” inspections (planned visits) that will “sustain” a focus on major health risks. Legionella has been specified as one of the main targets.

The HSE will also publish by the end of the year a new strategy for tackling occupational ill health and sets out the areas on which it will focus.

The HSE also plan to:

- Publish draft guidance by the end of September 2016 on how employers can place more emphasis on risk control and less on written assessment without reducing standards
- Review HSE guidance documents to ensure that they meet the needs of those using the service and to improve the use of digital channels.

The government will provide the HSE with £140.9 million funding in 2016-17, with the total falling every year to £123.4 million in 2019-20. During 2011-12, the funding was £228.1 million, since which it has already decreased by one third.

**The HSE hopes to offset the cuts by increasing income from its commercial activities, and from cost recovery schemes such as Fee for Intervention, to £94 million in 2016-17.**

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## *Simplification Of Hazardous Substances Regulations*

The HSE plan to review the various Regulations governing hazardous substances (COSHH), dangerous substances and Lead, so that they “promote proportionate risk management and make it easier for dutyholders to understand and comply with their duties.”

The review and options for reform shall be completed by April 2017. It is likely that the outcome will be a single set of consolidated and simplified Regulations.



The British Occupational Hygiene Society have been promoting the Breathe Freely Campaign aimed at raising the awareness of the need to protect the Health of Construction Workers.

The HSE fully support the Campaign and estimate that in 2014, 76,000 people whose current or most recent job was in construction, suffered from an illness caused or made worse by the job they did. Every week, 100 people die from construction-related ill-health in the UK.

Common harmful materials encountered within the Construction Industry include materials such as asbestos and cement dusts, welding fumes and other gases, legionella and spray-painting mists.

The construction industry has also launched new guidance to encourage better management of occupational health risks. More than 200 health-related enforcement notices were issued during HSE's recent construction inspection initiative.

The new guide entitled "Occupational Health Risk Management In Construction", has been written by the Construction Industry Advisory Committee (ConIAC) Health Risks Working Group.

It gives practical advice on what 'Health Risk' means for the Construction Industry and the role of occupational health service provision in preventing or controlling those risks.

Reported figures indicate that construction workers are at least 100 times **more likely** to die from a disease caused or made worse by their work rather than from a fatal accident. In addition, less than half of construction workers stay employed within the industry beyond the age of 60.

The guidance is freely available on the HSE website:

<http://www.hse.gov.uk/aboutus/meetings/iacs/coniac/coniac-oh-guidance.pdf>

K.S.Safety Have produced a power-point presentation summarizing some of the major health issues of concern within the construction industry. This can viewed or downloaded from our website at the following link

<http://www.ks-safety.com/news-documents/>



## **Respirable Crystalline Silica**

It is reported that around 800 people in Britain die each year from lung cancer caused by pro-longed exposure to Respirable Crystalline Silica (RCS) at work, with 900 new cases each year.

Controlling exposure to silica dust, will reduce the risk of developing lung cancer, silicosis and emphysema.

Silica dust exposure is a cross-industry issue, with a lack of understanding or awareness of silica dust as a hazard being a major concern.

Professionals from the construction, rail, public services and mineral product sectors are working together in an approach to combat cancer risk from dust.

Respirable silica dust can be generated when activities are undertaken such as drilling, sawing, sanding or grinding of concrete, kerb stones, slates, tiles, sandstone, some plastic composites etc. Small quantities of this fine dust can cause permanent lung damage. Respirable Crystalline Silica has previously been referred to as 'Silica – The Second Asbestos'.

The Institution of Occupational Safety and Health is campaigning to stop thousands of untimely work-related cancer deaths and are promoting a 'Breathe Easy' initiative within their 'No Time To Lose' campaign. Free resources and additional information with respect to silica dust and how to control it may be accessed on the following website <http://www.notimetolose.org.uk>

**K.S.Safety Ltd are able to assist with the supply and face-fit testing of FFP3 respirators.**

**K.S.Safety Ltd are able to assist with the personal airborne exposure measurements to harmful substances including respirable silica.**

## **Old Lead Paint**

Breathing in or ingesting lead dust or fume can cause serious problems like kidney, nerve and brain damage and has also been linked with incidents of infertility.

Lead pigments were widely used in paints for homes, schools and offices until the 1960's and were not removed from commonly utilized paints until the early 1980's. Lead paint can be found beneath existing paint applications in older buildings.

Where paint with a concentration of lead with a percentage content of equal to or greater than 1% is removed by sanding and abrasion, or even by blast removal, then the lead will become airborne in a finely divided state, potentially becoming concentrated during the process and become fine enough to be respirable and consequently be considered as 'significant' exposure under Control of Lead At Work Regulations.

Removal of paints with a lead content of less than 1%, are not liable to be considered significant exposure, **provided good control measures are employed.**

The HSE have produced a leaflet entitled "Old Lead Paint – What you need to know as a busy builder" providing a guide for procedures to be followed. <http://www.hse.gov.uk/pubns/cis79.pdf>

**K.S.Safety Ltd regularly undertake lead in paint surveys for architects in advance of refurbishment projects. Individual samples may also be handed to K.S.Safety Ltd for laboratory analysis.**

## **Hazardous Materials Of Concern:**

- Asbestos
- Silica
- Lead
- Iso-cyanates
- Cement
- Wood Dust
- Welding Fume
- Glass Fibre
- Paints and Adhesive
- Micro-Organisms Under The Control Of The Employer

K.S.Safety Ltd are able to assist with the implementation of control measures, monitoring, training and production of appropriate risk assessments and method statements.

**Telephone Karen for further assistance (01501) 744 400**

## **COSHH: Exposure To Hazardous Materials:**

The Control of Substances Hazardous to Health Regulations (COSHH), require employers to prevent employees from being exposed to hazardous materials. Where prevention is not possible, an employer must ensure that adequate controls are introduced to ensure that exposure is reduced as far as is reasonably practicable and in any case below the assigned 'Workplace Exposure Limit (WEL)' for that substance.

A WEL is the maximum concentration of an airborne substance averaged over a reference period, to which employees may be exposed by inhalation. WEL's should not be considered a hard and fast line between safe and unsafe.

K.S.Safety Ltd regularly undertake airborne measurement exposures in a variety of working environments including welding fume, wood dust, paints and adhesives, silica etc following methods approved by the Health and Safety Commission, for comparison with the WELs detailed within the publication "EH40 Workplace Exposure Limits 2005" as updated from time to time.

"Effects of exposure to substances hazardous to health vary considerably depending on the nature of the substances and the pattern of exposure. Some effects require prolonged or accumulated exposure.

**The Long-term (8-hr-TWA)** exposure limit is intended to control such effects by restricting the total intake by inhalation over one or more work-shifts. Other effects may be seen after brief exposures. **Short-term exposure limits (usually 15minutes)** may be applied to control these effects.

**Telephone Karen to arrange your annual airborne monitoring evaluation programme. (01501) 744 400**

## **LEV Testing And Examination**

Employers should ensure that alternative control measures are introduced prior to the issue of Respiratory Protective Equipment. An effective control measure is the installation/use of Local Exhaust Ventilation (LEV) systems. LEV systems are subject to a Statutory Thorough Test and Examination over a period not exceeding 14 monthly intervals.

**K.S.Safety Ltd are able to make provision of the 14 Monthly Thorough Test and Examination.**  
**Telephone Karen (01501) 744 400**

## **Noise And Vibration**

Industry bodies, specifically in the sectors of energy, extraction, manufacturing and construction along with HSE have formed a Noise and Vibration Partnership Group. This industry led group will work together, long term, to increase awareness of the risks associated with noise and vibration in the workplace and promote effective management and control.

### Purpose

- To reduce the incidence of noise induced hearing loss and hand-arm vibration syndrome in workers by further raising awareness, using pictorial images i.e. posters, calendar and a brochure, of the risks of exposure to noise and vibration in the workplace.
- To improve workers' knowledge concerning exposure to noise and vibration in the workplace.
- To share, promote and encourage good control practices in the workplace ultimately to bring about a change in attitudes and behaviour to workplace noise and vibration.

The British Safety Industry Federation are promoting the “**Listen Today, Hear Tomorrow**” campaign, providing the following advice for employers to be relayed to employees accordingly:

- Hearing protection is a last resort but must be used until noise risks are under control.
- Choose the correct and most suitable level of protection.
- Make sure the hearing protection is suitable for the user and their work activities, and that they can use it comfortably with any other Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) or equipment they have to wear or use.
- Ensure the user wears it at all times within the noisy area. If the hearing protection is removed, even briefly, the employee will have wasted most of the time they have spent wearing it.  
For example, removing protection for just 5 minutes during one hour will reduce the protection achieved by more than half.

The BSIF campaign brochure can be downloaded from the following link and may be a useful leaflet for use during tool-box talks regarding the wearing of hearing protection. Some browsers may require you to type this into the address bar of your browser.

<http://www.bsif.co.uk/app/images/atmosphere/Listen-Today-Hear-Tomorrow-Brochure.pdf>

**K.S.Safety Ltd are able to undertake Workplace Noise Assessments and through our Professional Associate Management Team are able to assist with Vibration Measurements and Assessments.**

**Telephone Karen for further assistance: (01501) 744 400**

3M E.A.R. Ultra-fit Ear-Plugs  
available from K.S.Safety Ltd

£ 1.75 (+ vat) per pack





Karen S W Wilson

## Karen, May I Ask You A Question?

K.S.Safety Group Members have access to professional health and safety advice.

Here are a selection of some of the questions raised over the past couple of months – along with the appropriate responses.

**(01506) 744 400 or (07810) 375773**

Q. When is a project subject to HSE Notification under the new CDM 2015 Regulations?

Answer

From 6<sup>th</sup> April 2015, an HSE F10 Notification form will need to be completed and submitted, if the project will last longer than 500 person days OR 30 working days (with MORE than 20 people working at the SAME time).

Q. Which type of respirator do we need to protect from exposure to respirable crystalline silica? Where can we get the right ones? Do we need to be face-fit tested? What if the employee has a beard?

Answer

Respirable Crystalline Silica is a fibre. The correct grade of respirator for protecting your lungs against fibres is the FFP3 respirator. You will need to be face-fit tested for this to ensure that you have the correct fit. K.S.Safety Ltd:

- Stock the disposable JSP Martcare valved respirator, with adjustable face straps. There are many other manufacturers FFP3 models available but they are all slightly different in design and don't all have adjustable face straps.
- Are able to source discounted Sundstrom SR100 ori-nasal respirators and supply the appropriate cartridge for the hazard identified. The cartridge for the Sundstrom SR100 providing protection of exposure to silica is the P3 filter with the SR221 pre-filter.
- Provide a face-fit testing service. This is a qualitative test and requires the individual to be clean shaven. N.B. A moustache is acceptable provided that this can be completely located within the respirator. The test takes approximately 20 minutes.

Many individuals choose to have a beard either for religious reasons or for personal preference. An employee cannot be forced to remove their beard. An employers responsibility remains to protect the individual from exposure to harmful materials. In such circumstance, where a respirator is deemed necessary, an alternative respirator perhaps with integrated helmet should be worn.



Q. How many employees do you need to have before it is compulsory to have someone fully trained in First Aid?

Answer

The requirements for first aid provision are no longer based on the number of employees within an organization but are now 'risk related'.

The HSE advise:

"First aid provision must be 'adequate and appropriate in the circumstances'. This means that you must provide sufficient first aid equipment (first aid kit), facilities and personnel at all times. In order to decide what provision you need to make you should undertake a first-aid needs assessment. This assessment should consider the circumstances of your workplace, workforce and the hazards and risks that may be present. The findings will help you decide what first-aid arrangements you need to put in place.

In assessing your first-aid needs, you should consider:

- the nature of the work you do
- workplace hazards and risks (including specific hazards requiring special arrangements)
- the nature and size of your workforce
- the work patterns of your staff
- holiday and other absences of those who will be first-aiders and appointed persons
- your organization's history of accidents

You may also need to consider:

- the needs of travelling, remote and lone workers
- the distribution of your workforce
- the remoteness of any of your sites from emergency medical services
- whether your employees work on shared or multi-occupancy sites first-aid provision for non-employees (e.g. members of the public).

You do not need to record the findings of your needs assessment, but you may find it useful to do so, as it will demonstrate how you have decided on the first-aid provision that you make.

The minimum requirement in terms of personnel is to appoint a person to take charge of first-aid arrangements. The roles of this appointed person include looking after the first-aid equipment and facilities and calling the emergency services when required. The appointed person can also provide emergency cover, within their role and competence, where a first-aid is absent due to unforeseen circumstances. An appointed person is not required to have any formal training.

If your workplace has more significant health and safety risks, for example you use machinery or hazardous materials, then you are more likely to need a trained first-aid.

There are no hard and fast rules on exact numbers, and you will need to take into account all the relevant circumstances of your particular workplace.

K.S.Safety Ltd are able to make provision for both Emergency First Aid Training Courses and Full First Aider Training Courses in conjunction with our Professional Associates Management Team. Telephone (01501) 744 400 for assistance

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Q. Which asbestos products are included within non-licensed works with asbestos?  
Is it true that some non-licensed works must be notified to the HSE in advance?  
Do you know anyone who can provide the appropriate training course?  
Is this Category A,B,C or 1,2,3 training?

Answer

Work with designated 'firmly-linked' asbestos containing materials is classed as Non-Licensed Works with Asbestos. If the material is in a poor degraded or delaminated condition the work will be classed as Notifiable Non-Licensed Works (NNLW) with asbestos and the HSE must be informed by an electronic form in advance of the works. Unlike licensed removal work there is no designated time period for the submission of the notification form in advance of job commencement.

In brief:

Work Requiring A Licence From HSE	Work Which Does Not Usually Require A Licence From HSE
Removing sprayed coating (limpet asbestos)	Small, short duration maintenance tasks where the control limits will not be exceeded
Removal or other work which may disturb pipe lagging	Removing decorative coatings by any suitable dust-reducing method
Any work involving loose fill insulation	Cleaning up small quantities of loose/fine debris containing (ACM)* dust (where the work is sporadic and of low intensity, the control limit will not be exceeded and it is short duration work)
Work on millboard	Work on asbestos cement products or other materials containing asbestos (such as paints, bitumen, resins, rubber etc) where the fibres are bound in a matrix which prevents most of them being released (this includes, typically, aged/weathered Asbestos Cement (AC))
Cleaning up significant quantities of loose/fine debris containing (ACM)* dust (where the work is not sporadic and of low intensity, the control limit will be exceeded or it is not short duration work)	Work associated with collecting and analyzing samples to identify the presence of asbestos
Work on Asbestos Insulation Board (AIB), where the risk assessment indicates that it will not be of short duration	(ACM)* = Asbestos Containing Material



Category A, B, C, and Category 1, 2, 3 are designated by independent training bodies UKATA, IATP and others to define different levels of asbestos training.

The Control of Asbestos Regulations 2012 reference neither A,B,C nor 1,2,3 but instead clearly designate training levels as:

### **Asbestos Awareness Training**

### **Non-Licensed Works With Asbestos**

### **Notifiable Non-Licensed Works With Asbestos**

Licensed Works With Asbestos

**K.S.Safety Ltd regularly deliver training for the high-lighted courses. We do not have the facilities to be able to deliver training for Licensed Works With Asbestos.**

**Contact Karen for further assistance: (01501) 744 400**

Q. What is the difference between an Asbestos Management Survey Report and an Asbestos Refurbishment and Demolition Report?

#### Answer

An Asbestos Management Survey Report will have involved the investigation of accessible surfaces for the potential presence of asbestos containing materials. An Asbestos Refurbishment & Demolition Survey Report is a more in depth of survey, which investigates floor voids, ceiling voids and other areas beyond the accessible surfaces. This type of survey is normally undertaken in advance of refurbishment or demolition contracts.

**K.S.Safety Ltd works closely with architects, contractors and property owners to undertake asbestos surveys and lead in paint surveys prior to refurbishment of properties. We also undertake work on behalf of domestic clients in advance of change of occupant.**

**Contact Karen to make arrangements for a Management Survey, Refurbishment & Demolition Survey, or an Annual Asbestos Condition Survey: (01501) 744 400**

## **Recent Health & Safety Prosecutions**

### **Roofer Falls 4.5 m**

Renewable energy installer Clean Earth Energy has been fined £20,000 for breaching Regulation 4(1) of the Work at Height Regulations. A roofer was installing solar panels at a garden centre on 15 August last year when the cement fibre sheeting he was walking on collapsed. He fell 4.5m and sustained spinal injuries.

### **Badly Designed Gate**

Merthyr Tydfil-based Advanced Gate must pay £25,000 after part of a powered gate it installed fell on and injured a man, tearing muscles and nerves in his leg, when he tried to close it manually. The mechanism failed due to inadequate design, assessment and control measures.

### **Poor COSHH Assessment**

A Welsh insulation company specializing in wool and hemp-based construction products was fined £30,000 and ordered to pay costs of £59,000 for failing to properly assess its control of hazardous substances. The company admitted to breaches under the Provision and Use of Work Equipment and the Control of Substances Hazardous to Health Regulations.

### **Construction Company Fined After Worker Injured Falling Through Void**

A construction company based in Derbyshire has been fined after a worker was seriously injured when he fell through a void.

Edinburgh Sheriff Court heard how a worker employed by a sub-contractor working for Bowmer and Kirkland Limited, was contracted to pour concrete onto the first floor of a building that was under construction at Fort Kinnaird Retail Park, Edinburgh.

The employee was walking across a floor that was under construction when his boot caught and he tripped. He dislodged an unsecured wooden board which had been placed over the void and exposed an opening of 2 x 1 metres.

He fell approximately 4.5metres through a void in the first floor and sustained serious injuries to his back as well as a broken foot. He was off work for twenty-two weeks and suffers continuing pain. He has reduced mobility, finding it difficult to walk or sit for long periods.

An investigation by the Health and Safety Executive (HSE) into the incident which occurred on 16 May 2014 found that the company failed to take suitable and sufficient measures by not fixing the wooden panels placed on the void to prevent a fall.

Bowmer and Kirkland Limited, of High Edge Court, Church Street, Heage, Belper, Derbyshire, pleaded guilty to breaching Regulation 6(3) of the Work at Height Regulation 2005 and was fined £6,600.

## **Other Health & Safety News**

### **ISO 45001**

ISO 45001 is an as yet unpublished Occupational Health & Safety Management Standard, set to replace OHSAS 18001. ISO 45001 is to be published in October 2016 and it is hoped that it will receive international recognition. The ISO 45001 standard will use the same common structure, definitions and core text being used for the present revisions of ISO 14001 and ISO 9001, the environmental and quality management system standards.

Once ISO 45001 has been accepted as an official standard, those organizations certified to OHSAS 18001, which will be withdrawn, will have to make a separate application to obtain a certification to ISO 45001, to ILO-OSH or to other accepted standards after expiration of their existing certification. The decision of an organization for a given standard usually is based e.g. on its own policy, on customer requirement etc.

### **Site And Transport Safety – Health & Safety Laboratory (HSL) 1 Day Training Event, 16<sup>th</sup> June 2016**

#### **Introduction**

Vehicle movements and loading and unloading vehicles can be some of the most dangerous activities carried out on a worksite.

This course will help you understand the legal requirements of both Road Traffic Law and Workplace Safety Law, how and why things go wrong, and how you can take practicable steps to reduce risk in your business.

#### **The Course includes:**

- Background for load securing.
- Legal principles and UK and European requirements.
- Use of the vehicle structure for load securing.
- Lashing loads for safe road transport.
- Responsibility and communication in the transport chain.
- Working at height and fall prevention.
- Vehicle/pedestrian separation and preventing incidents.
- Risk assessment and systems of work for loading and transport. E

#### **Who should attend?**

Site managers and transport managers working in general haulage, retail, warehousing and distribution

Event details and booking form are available at the following link:

<http://www.hsl.gov.uk/health-and-safety-training-courses/site-and-transport-safety>

### **Personal Protective Equipment**

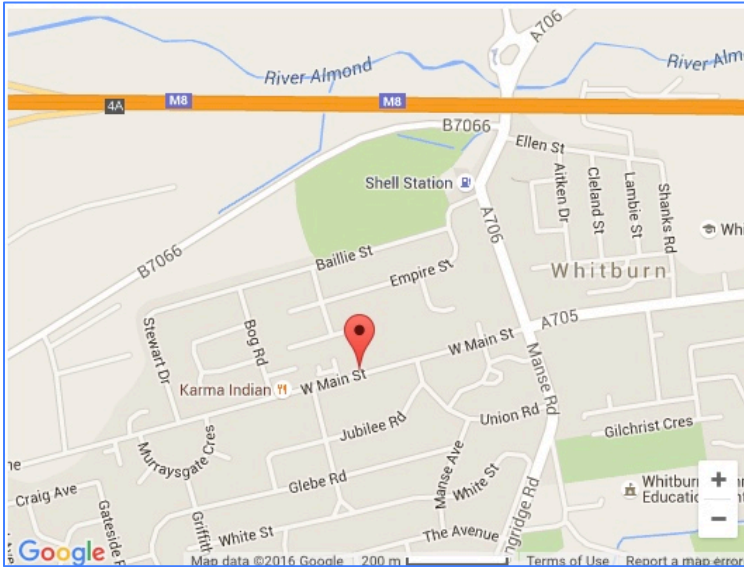
The Personal Protective Equipment Directive (now over 20 years old), is being superseded by a new PPE Regulation (EU) 2016/425 which was adopted on 12<sup>th</sup> February, 2016. A two year transition period has now commenced during which EU Member States shall prepare for the introduction of the new Regulation.

The BSI have produced an information leaflet providing further detail and the HSE on the 1<sup>st</sup> April, 2016, published a new 'Tool Box Talk', simply entitled 'Personal Protective Equipment'

<http://www.bsigroup.com/Documents/BSI-PPE-Whitepaper-UK-EN.pdf>

<http://www.hse.gov.uk/toolbox/ppe.htm>

## **K.S.Safety Ltd Have Re-Located**



Visit our new website at

<http://www.ks-safety.com>

**K.S.Safety Ltd have relocated to Whitburn in West Lothian.**

[The move was necessary following the closure of the property we occupied in Livingston.]

We have retained our meeting space for training courses and, in addition to our specialist health and safety services, we are also expanding to offer safety equipment and personal protective equipment via our retail shop front.

Our new address is

94D West Main Street, Whitburn, West Lothian, EH47 0QU

### ***K. S. Safety Group Membership***

Become a Member of the K.S.Safety Group, for an affordable £1 per day and appoint Karen Wilson as your Professional Health and Safety Advisor.

As a business owner, if you employ four or more people (workforce total 5), you must appoint someone competent to help you meet your health and safety duties.

Contact us to discover the benefits of Membership. We are here to help.



For professional health & safety advice

Please Contact **Karen Wilson**

[Karen@ks-safety.com](mailto:Karen@ks-safety.com)