



National Irish Safety Organisation

UPDATE!

SUMMER
'08



*Work Safe
this
Summer*



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President Pauric Corrigan

When NISO members look behind the recent news stories in the national press concerning NISO, they will find that the Organisation's mission remains unchanged: it is to deliver the health and safety message to the country's workplace.

It must be acknowledged that the Organisation has gone through a period of some turbulence.

The organisation's president George Brett, vice-president Jim Jeffers and secretary Paul O'Sullivan, who between them have given many years of dedicated service to NISO, have resigned, as has the former chief executive of the organisation Pierce Martin. The officers who have resigned have worked hard over many years to promote occupational health and safety and are deserving of the thanks of the entire health and safety community. As the incoming president of the Organisation, I, on NISO's behalf, want to extend to the three former officers the Organisation's appreciation of their services.

Now however it is time to move on.

Following the resignations I was elected as president, Bill Kelly as vice-president and Harry Galvin as secretary. Jim Shaw remains on as national treasurer.

SERVING HEALTH AND SAFETY

NISO was founded in 1963 to promote and foster health and safety in the workplace. That still remains NISO's mission. In those days the focus was on physical safety and the economic structure of the country was fundamentally different to today.

NISO Strategy: delivering the health and safety message

Now the challenge is to reach out to the new small and medium sized enterprises that have grown up in the era of the Celtic Tiger. Our aim now is, by building on the strength of our existing membership base in the public and private sector, to extend NISO's services to Ireland's new SME sector. Now the emphasis is as much on health as it is on physical safety.

This is where the NISO strategy comes in. In 2005 following a report by PricewaterhouseCoopers (PWC), NISO launched a new strategy to broaden its membership base and extend its range of services. Last December a further review was carried out by PWC, which reported that good overall progress had been achieved in delivering on the objectives set in the strategy. However PWC advised that a number of issues still had to be addressed, including the development of systems and supporting processes, strengthening the links to the regional membership base and the generation of regular sources of income.

BUSINESS AS USUAL AND MORE

Your current executive is committed to deliver on these strategic objectives.

Going forward NISO will, as planned be holding Ireland's premier health and safety event, the NISO Annual Conference in October. This year the conference will focus on occupational health issues. Given the recent publication of the HSA's new *Workplace Health and Well-Being Strategy*, this year's conference will be of the utmost relevance.

The conference will, in the NISO tradition, be held in tandem with the NISO and Northern Ireland Safety Group Awards.

Going forward NISO - which organised the NISO Health and Safety Week in the 1990s, that was the forerunner of what became the HSA's Health and Safety Week and ultimately the European Agency for Safety and Health at Work's Safety Week - is currently considering launching a new National Safety Quiz for schools. This quiz, which will be implemented with the assistance of the NISO regions, will cover workplace health and safety issues, road safety, intoxicants (drugs and alcohol) and dietary issues.

NISO will be reaching out and offering to work with and seeking the support of the HSA, the Department of Enterprise, Trade and Employment, the Department of Education and Science and the Irish Insurance Federation, for this initiative.

We have been through turbulent times but as I have already said, it is time to move on. Occupational health and safety is a most important national issue. It is as important today, as it was when the late President of Ireland, Dr Patrick Hillery, when he was Minister for Labour, supported the founding of the National Irish Safety Organisation in 1963. Today, as then, NISO's members throughout Ireland are here to serve the nation, hopefully with the same support as was offered in those now distant days, when the foundations of Ireland's current economic success was laid.

For NISO it will be business as usual: the continuation of tried and tested schemes to promote health and safety and, as in the past with Safety Week, the launching of new initiatives that will reach an ever wider audience.



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HSA says occupational health a significant issue

The chief executive of the HSA Martin O'Halloran has warned that occupational health is emerging a significant issue.

O'Halloran, who was speaking at the launch of the Authority's *Annual Report 2007* and *Summary of Workplace Injury, Illness and Fatality Statistics 2006/2007* report said occupational illness is now superseding accidents as a cause of lost workdays absence.

Central Statistics Office (CSO) figures show that the number of workdays lost in four day plus absences rose from 18,500 cases in 2003 to 27,900 cases in 2006. According to CSO figures a total of 980,200 workdays were lost owing to illness in 2006, while 765,100 were lost due to injury: in total 1,745,300 days were lost through injury and illness. The Occupational Injury Benefit (OIB) scheme figures show that workers claiming benefit lost 502,178 days from work or an average of 36 days per claim.

According to the HSA Statistical Report, since 2004 more workdays have been lost as a result of work-related illness than because of injury.

The headline figures from the reports show:

- 67 people were killed in workplace accidents in 2007
- 7,827 four day plus accidents were reported to the HSA in 2007
- 13,803 OIB claims were admitted in 2007
- 24,100 four day plus injuries were reported to the CSO in 2006
- 27,900 four day plus illness absences were reported to the CSO in 2006
- The HSA carried out 13,631 inspections in 2007
- As a result of inspections 785 prohibition notices, 906 improvement notices, two improvement directions and 4,273 advice notes were issued

- 70% of employers had safety statements prepared, 58% had consultation procedures in place and safety representatives had been appointed in 23% of workplaces
- 31 prosecutions were completed.

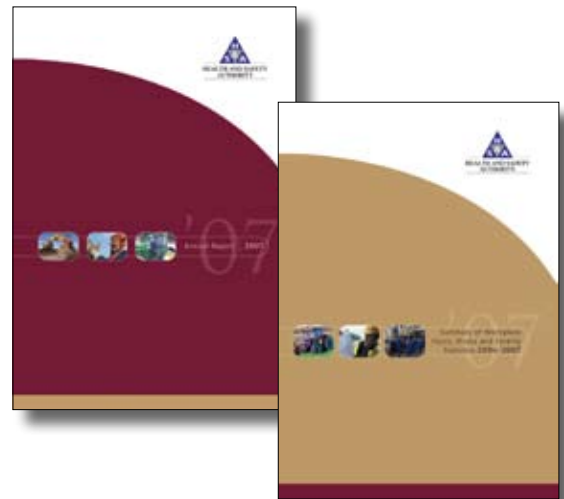
DANGER

Construction, agriculture and fishing are the most dangerous industries. Eighteen people were killed in construction sector accidents, 12 in fishing and 11 in agriculture. However when the fatality figures are measured on the rate per 100,000 workers scale the transport/storage/communications sector appears as the second most dangerous sector, after fishing, with a fatality rate per 100,000 workers of five.

The most common causes of reported accidents are manual handling (34.1%), slips/trips/falls (17.4%), the fall/collapse/breakage of material (6.0%), fall from height (5.8%) and other movement of injured person (5.4%). The parts of the body most often injured were: the back (22.9%); fingers (11.7%), hands ((8.4%), legs (8.3%) and ankles (7.5%). Most reported accidents (27.8%) occurred in industry, followed by construction sites (16.7%) and healthcare establishments (9.0%). Nearly half of all accidents reported (48.7%) were reported by larger employers (employing 500 plus) and 11.7% by employers employing 250 to 499 people. Only 3.3% of accidents were reported by employers with nine or fewer workers.

POLICY GUIDE

Speaking at the launch of the reports, the Authority's assistant chief executive and secretary to the Board, Robert Roe said the reports, which look at the past help "us to decide what we need to do next". The use of the reports as an instrument in the development of HSA policy was reinforced by chief executive Martin O'Halloran who said that from trends identified in the reports the Authority is able to "identify key issues going



forward". From an analysis of the information the Authority has issued a number of risk alerts:

- illness rates continue to rise
- days lost due to injuries and illness are increasing
- young workers (aged 15 to 19) are suffering more injuries.

On the positive side, he noted that measured on the rate per 100,000 scale the trend in accidents is downwards.

POVERTY TRAP

Congratulating the Authority on its achievements during 2007, the Minister for Labour Affairs, Billy Kelleher, T.D., who welcomed the publication of the reports, highlighted the human cost of workplace injuries and fatalities.

We are, he said, talking about the lives of people. There is the human tragedy and for families a financial cost. When people are killed or injured in workplace accidents "families are at a financial disadvantage" and can fall into "the poverty trap".

Warning that we still have unacceptably high levels of injury, speaking in Irish he warned all people in workplaces to "be careful and be ready".

NISO WELCOMES REPORT

Speaking to NISO UPDATE, NISO president Pauric Corrigan said, "NISO welcomes the publication of the reports, which are packed with information". We will, he added, be studying the reports to see how the information can be used by NISO to promote the health and safety message.

New safety plan for the construction industry

The construction industry has a lot to be proud of and has achieved much, the Minister for Labour Affairs, Billy Kelleher, T.D., said when he launched the Construction Safety Partnership Plan 2008-2010.

Noting that there has been huge progress in safety in the construction industry since the first CSP Plan was launched in 1999, the Minister said accidents rates in the industry have been decreasing and this is no small measure due to the fact that "all the stakeholders in the industry have pulled together and come up with a number of initiatives that have helped to reduce accidents on building sites". Since the first plan was launched in 1999 the FAS Safe Pass and Construction Skills Certification Scheme have been introduced and the Safety Representatives Facilitation scheme has been launched.

The Construction Safety Partnership Plan 2008-2010 sets six goals to be achieved over period. The agreed goals are to:

- implement a benchmarking system – the CIF has been assigned lead role in developing this proposal
- implement joint health and safety agreements – implementation is subject to the successful completion of a feasibility study and agreement between the social partners. The ICTU has been assigned the lead role in implementing this project
- address health and safety for smaller contractors and projects – the HSA has been assigned the lead role
- achieve reductions in the high rate of injury for foreign workers – ICTU has been given the lead role
- implement procurement procedures that encourage health and safety performance, in particular for smaller projects – the Local Government

Management Services Board has been assigned the lead role

- maintain core achievements to date of the CSP, which include the Construction Skills Certification training scheme, Safe Pass, the Construction Safety Representation Facilitation Project and safety management systems.

Speaking at the launch of the new plan, the chairman of the CSP, Kevin Kelly said, he is confident that the industry can "continue to keep the downward trend for accidents for the sector".

The launch of the CSP came in the wake of the deferral of the implementation of the Construction Skills Certification Scheme training requirements for workers on mobile tower scaffolds, tower cranes, self erecting tower cranes, mini diggers, signing lighting and guarding at roadworks, locating underground services and shotfiring operations until July 2009.

All-Island conference targets farmer health and safety

The HSA and HSENI recently co-hosted the first All-Island conference on farm safety at which delegates from farming bodies from both sides of the border heard the Minister for Labour Affairs, Billy Kelleher T.D., express his hopes that through sharing ideas and common goals, a reduction in serious and fatal accidents can be achieved.

"I am delighted to meet colleagues from Northern Ireland at this important conference. It is clear from looking at the types of accidents that occur on farms both north and south, that farm safety presents challenges common to the whole island. Occupational safety is a natural field for pragmatic co-operation and we should share our experiences and promote best practice to reduce accidents on farms throughout Ireland," he said.

Speaking about farm safety from a Northern perspective, Tom Elliot MLA, the vice-chairman of the NI Agriculture Committee said, "My own constituency has seen the unfortunate deaths of a number of farmers lately and our sympathies go out to their families. Farmers need and deserve our support and assistance to make their farms safe places to work and live."

So far this year there have been 11 fatal accidents on farms in the Republic of Ireland and 6 on farms in Northern Ireland. The HSA and the HSENI have identified significant similarities in the kind of farming accidents and fatalities they investigate according to Bryan Monson, deputy chief executive of the HSENI. "Both myself and my colleagues in the south are not surprised that we see such similarities in the kinds of accidents occurring on farms. The type of accident and the victims tend to involve the same horrific and heartbreaking stories both north and south, with elderly farmers working with livestock and machinery particularly at risk," he said.

HSA chief executive Martin O'Halloran, told delegates more can be done to influence farmers and their work practices. There are what we call 'key influencers' in the agriculture sector, farming organisations and associations who have regular contact with farmers. "I call on these key influencers today to have a greater influence on farmers regard for their own and their families' safety and health. I would remind all farmers that completion of the Farm Safety Code of Practice is a legal requirement and safety should become a key part of every job on the farm," he stated.

"Teagasc, who we have a joint initiative with, continue to carry out very important research and have identified a number of geographical black spots and at risk age brackets for farm fatalities. This, I hope, will not only provide a focus for action by the Authority, but also for the farming organisations," added O'Halloran.

At the seminar experts from Ireland and from Sweden presented findings from recent studies on strategies to improve the safety and health record of the farming sector.

Quarry safety guide

To help quarry operators and workers implement the new Quarries Regulations 2008, which became law on May 1st, the HSA has published a detailed guide to the regulations.

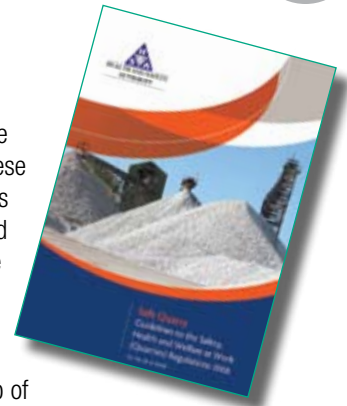
The Guide, which was launched at the National Quarry Safety Seminar, held in the Athlone Institute of Technology recently, provides practical information and

explanations of the implications of the Regulations. The guide examines the requirements of the Regulations, regulation by regulation.

Speaking at the seminar, HSA chief executive, Martin O'Halloran said, "In terms of deaths to numbers employed in the quarrying sector, the fatal accident rate is second only to the fishing sector and that is worrying."

Pat Griffin, senior inspector with the Authority, speaking about the Quarries Regulations 2008 said he is confident the new regulations

will help reduce accidents. "These new regulations were developed with the advice and assistance of a working group made up of experts and representative bodies from the industry. We are confident that they will be well received and ultimately assist in reducing the level of accidents in the quarrying sector".



HSA welcomes fines handed down in Navan school bus tragedy

The Health and Safety Authority HSA welcomed the conclusion of the court case and the judgment handed down by the court in relation to the Navan school bus tragedy in which five young school girls lost their lives.

Fines totaling €2.2m were imposed on Bus Eireann (€2m), Meath County Council (€100,000) and Keltank Ltd (€100,000), after the companies pleaded guilty to

breaches of health and safety law. Charges against another company, McArdules Test Centre Ltd, were dismissed.

Speaking after the judgment was delivered, HSA Chief Executive Martin O'Halloran stated, "The judgment handed down today marks the end of a lengthy and detailed investigation by the HSA and the Gardai. May I at this stage extend again my deepest condolences to the family and friends of those who lost their lives in this terrible accident. I hope that the efforts of the HSA in fully investigating the accident and the subsequent legal proceedings may be of

some help to those who suffered a terrible loss in May 2005."

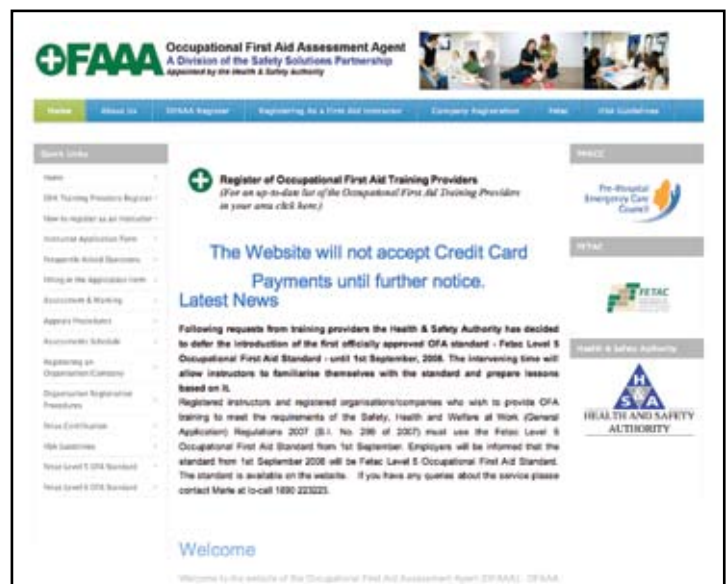
He added, "I sincerely hope that the outcome of this case will cause all those involved in the transport industry to re-examine the systems they have in place to ensure that vehicles are maintained to the highest standards of safety. Nothing less is acceptable. The size of the fines handed down today sends a clear signal to all industry, but especially to those in the transport sector, that health and safety cannot be compromised under any circumstances."

First Aid: new training era

After three years of solid hard work by the HSA the new FETAC first aid training standards era is about to dawn.

From September 1st onwards all new occupational first aiders and current occupational first aiders who are due to renew their qualifications will have to achieve the new FETAC Level 5 standard, while from the beginning of June all occupational first aid instructors who are renewing their qualifications or becoming instructors for the first time will have to hold the new FETAC Level 6 standard.

Towards the end of May the HSA published new Guidelines on First Aid at Places of Work and the agent appointed by the Authority to manage the register of occupational first aid training providers, Safety Solutions Skillnets, launched its website, www.ofaaa.ie.



Communicating with and protecting foreign employees

It is estimated that over 10% of Ireland's two million workers are non-Irish nationals. NISO associate Mary Darlington looks at how employers should communicate with workers whose first language is not English, so that their safety, health and welfare is protected.

Ireland has 200,000 workplaces employing over two million people. There is approximately one HSA inspector for every 25,000 employees.

Central Statistics Office figures provide us with some statistics regarding the numbers of foreign nationals who were registered in Ireland at the time of 2006 Census and there were approximately 63,000 Polish, 24,000 Lithuanians and 14,000 Latvians. Many of these are of working age – between 18 and 60.

In their Programme of Work 2008, the Health and Safety Authority has clearly stated that they will prioritise inspections during this year in the following high risk areas:

- Agriculture
- Construction
- Mines and quarries
- Health services
- Local authorities and
- Chemical process industries

We know that many foreign workers are employed in agriculture, construction (where they represent 10% of the workforce), health services and the hospitality sector, so it is fair to assume that the areas with foreign workers are highly likely to be inspected. Specifically, the HSA have indicated that they intend to carry out 1,000 service-based inspections in hotels

and restaurants, focusing on the safety and health protection of foreign workers.

WHAT IS THE ISSUE?

We know from statistics that foreign workers have a higher rate of injury than Irish workers and the HSA, in the press release launching their Programme of Work 2008, indicated that they intend to commission “a research programme investigating the reasons for higher rates of injury amongst non-Irish national workers who consistently display higher rates of injury than Irish workers... Following on from this the Authority will target sectors employing large numbers of non-Irish national workers for intervention”.

So are Irish employers effectively managing the safety, health and welfare of foreign workers in 2008? The answer is yes and no, depending on the employer and the sector.

LEGAL OBLIGATIONS AND CHALLENGES FACING EMPLOYERS

In all cases, regardless of nationality, employers have a duty of care for all employees under common law. Sections 9, 10 and 20 of Safety, Health and Welfare at Work Act 2005 require employers to

communicate in a form, manner and language likely to be understood by the employee, as detailed below:

SECTION 9 - INFORMATION FOR EMPLOYEES

Information is to be given in a form, manner and, as appropriate, language that is reasonably likely to be understood by the employee. Information includes:

- hazards to safety, health and welfare at work and the risks identified by the risk assessment
- the protective and preventive measures to be taken concerning safety, health and welfare under the relevant statutory provisions in respect of the place of work and each specific task to be performed there
- names of safety representatives and persons designated to prevention

SECTION 10 - INSTRUCTION, TRAINING & SUPERVISION

Instruction, training and supervision is to be given in a form, manner and, as appropriate, language that is reasonably likely to be understood by the employee

SECTION 20 - THE SAFETY STATEMENT

Every employer shall prepare/have prepared a written safety statement based on hazard identification and risk assessment, specifying how the safety, health and welfare at work of employees shall be secured and managed. Employers shall ensure that the safety statement specifies:

- (a) hazards identified and risks assessed;
- (b) protective/preventive measures taken, and resources provided for protecting safety, health and welfare at work;
- (c) the plans and procedures to be followed in the event of an emergency or serious and imminent danger;
- (d) the duties of employees re safety,



health and welfare at work, including the duty to co-operate with the employer and any other persons who have responsibilities under relevant statutory provisions in relation to health, safety and welfare.

- (e) names and titles of persons responsible for performing tasks assigned to them in the safety statement
- (f) arrangements regarding the appointment of safety representatives and consultation with, and participation by employees and safety representatives, in compliance with Sections 25 and 26 of this Act, including the names of Safety representatives and of the safety committee, if appointed.

The employer shall bring the safety statement, in a form, manner and, as appropriate, language that is reasonably likely to be understood, to the attention of:

- (a) his/her employees at least annually, or if it has been amended
- (b) newly recruited employees on starting work
- (c) other persons at the place of work, exposed to specific risks to which the safety statement applies

In addition, we also need to take account of the literacy, numeracy and cultural differences that this group of employees may have.

EFFECTIVE COMMUNICATIONS

The key issue here is effective communications. If employers knowingly hire a foreign worker who does not have English as a first language, then there is a duty on them to determine the level of English held by that new employee, so that he or she can be hired, inducted and trained in order to safeguard him or her at work.

If employers do not have the expertise or competence to fulfil these obligations themselves, then they should utilize the services of internal or external interpreters or foreign language trainers to assist them. Relying on foreign employees nodding at the right time during a training session will not suffice.

EMPLOYERS NEED TO REVIEW THEIR POLICIES

In order to protect this vulnerable group, as far as is reasonably practicable, employers need to critically examine how they implement the following:

- Recruitment policies
- Induction of new employees
- Communications with this group of employees
- Initial training of this group of employees
- Ongoing training of these employees
- Encouraging these employees to learn English through formal classes
- Performance management issues

And they need to ensure that they blend health and safety into all of the above.

Some employers will argue that the level of English spoken and understood is less important when employing staff who will not be required to interact with customers or suppliers.

In this argument they forget that all employees, whether meeting customers or not, have rights to information, instruction, training and supervision relevant to their job. They have the right to receive information, when they join the organisation firstly, then to be trained to do the job adequately and safely (if they are not already competent) and to know how to raise concerns about the job with their supervisor, knowing that they will not be penalised for doing so.

TRAINING

All training, including induction and other training, whether delivered by internal company trainers or outside trainers, must take into account the need to communicate in a language that all trainees can understand through the use of some or all of the following:

- Use of foreign spoken trainers
- Use of other employees who will act as translators
- Use of official external translators
- Having the relevant documentation translated in advance
- Using pictures, video or non-language signs and symbols

EVALUATING TRAINING

Providing training is absolutely a legal requirement, but evaluating the effectiveness of training delivered is as important. This will determine if the required information and skills have been transferred to the employees. At the end of all training sessions, the employer should check for understanding by using some or all of the following (as previous outlined):

- (i) asking questions of the employee
- (ii) asking another employee with good English to establish what they have understood
- (iii) asking the employee to explain what has been said back to the instructor or supervisor, even if in incomplete/incorrect English.
- (iv) or by asking the employee to demonstrate the key task that has been shown to them by an instructor or supervisor

RESPONSIBILITIES

Within each organisation, management needs to ensure that appropriate arrangements are put in place to communicate, train and seek feedback from employees who may not have English as their first language.

Chief executives may, in this regard, delegate specific communications and training duties to individual departmental heads and others, as appropriate. They should also actively encourage and facilitate foreign employees attending formal English classes locally and should consider assisting them with the cost of such classes.

Ultimately, employers should not ask any foreign employees to carry out any task unless they can establish that they fully understand what they are being asked to do, particularly the health and safety aspects of it



(Mary Darlington, B.ScOccS&H, CIOHS, FCIPD, is the principal of Darlington Consulting and a NISO associate, providing health and safety advice to NISO members.)

REACH: the impact on downstream users

The impact of the REACH Regulation is now beginning to be felt by all organisations, including those classified as downstream users. Mary Darlington explains how the Regulation on the Registration, Evaluation and Authorisation of Chemicals impacts downstream users.

WHAT SUBSTANCES WILL REACH APPLY TO?

REACH will apply to most of the substances that you use today. As REACH is implemented, you will only be able to continue to use these substances if the manufacturer or importer registers them. This applies both to the substances you use on their own and to those you use in preparations or in articles. For certain substances, a chemical safety report needs to be compiled and, for the uses that are identified, suppliers must communicate specific information on the safe use of the substance to downstream users.

HOW IS A DOWNSTREAM USER DEFINED?

A downstream user is someone who uses a substance, either on its own or in a preparation, in the course of his industrial or professional activities. Many different types of companies can be downstream users, including formulators of preparations, producers of articles, craftsmen, workshops, service providers or re-fillers.

IF NOT REGISTERED – DO NOT USE

Under REACH, downstream users must not place on the market or use any substances which are not registered in accordance with the European Chemicals Agency. Downstream users will receive information on dangerous substances and preparations, including risks from their use and measures to control these risks, in safety data sheets. Some safety data sheets will have an annex, called an exposure scenario. This exposure scenario will give more specific information on how to use the substance or preparation safely and how you

can protect yourself, your customers and the environment from risks.

COMMUNICATE WITH YOUR SUPPLIER

Downstream users will not be required to pre-register or subsequently register the substances that they use. However, downstream users should now start communicating with their suppliers and check that the substances they receive are phase-in substances, whether the supplier plans to pre-register and then register the substances, if a chemical safety report will be required, and if so, if the use of the chemical downstream will be included. Contacting the suppliers before registration can help to ensure that the use of the downstream user, and the risk management measures that he has in place, are taken account of in the registration.

IF YOU ARE NOT COVERED BY SDS?

If a downstream user finds he is not covered by his supplier's safety data sheet and

exposure scenario, he has a number of options available to him:

(a) The downstream user will be able to make his use of the chemical substance known to his manufacturer/importer, with the aim of having the manufacturer/importer address it as an 'identified use' and incorporate it in the chemical safety assessment which the manufacturer/importer will be required to do as part of his registration requirements.

(b) The downstream user may change to a supplier who has an exposure scenario which covers his use.

(c) If he cannot source an alternative supplier, and he chooses not inform his supplier of his use, perhaps for confidential business reasons, then he will have to notify the European Chemicals Agency (ECHA) and may have to prepare his own chemical safety assessment, in accordance with Annex XII of the Regulation.





A downstream user may also need to inform his supplier of any new information on the hazardous properties of the chemical he uses and also of information regarding the appropriateness of the recommended risk management measures.

There is a possibility in the future that if a downstream user uses substances of very high concern, such as carcinogens, mutagens, reproductive toxins (CMRs), PBT and vPvB substances, they may be phased out by the authorisation system under REACH. If such substances are currently used by a downstream user, every effort should be made to source safer alternative substances.

WHAT ABOUT CONFIDENTIAL BUSINESS INFORMATION?

You may be concerned that providing information to suppliers may risk the loss of confidential business information. There are a number of ways to overcome this problem. One is to use a general description of conditions of use and risk management measures in your sector.

NORMAL RISK ASSESSMENT AND CONTROL MEASURES

In normal health and safety legislation, employers are required to identify hazards, assess risks and put in appropriate control measures to protect workers from all hazards - and that would include chemical hazards. REACH builds upon this basic duty of care and requires downstream users to communicate, report, keep and update information on what they are using.

DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THE SAFETY DATA SHEET AND EXPOSURE SCENARIO

A Safety Data Sheet (SDS) communicates hazards and risks downstream while an Exposure Scenario (ES) communicates use and risk management conditions downstream to allow adequate control.

There will be a slight change in the format of SDS, in that sections 2 and 3 will be swapped around and there will be a requirement for manufacturers to provide an email address, as well as other contact information in the event of an emergency with the chemical or substance.

Where a substance or a preparation is classified as dangerous in accordance with Directives 67/548/EEC or 1999/45/EC, or the substance is a PBT or a vPvB, then the supplier of that substance or preparation must provide the recipient with a safety data sheet. The SDS must be prepared in accordance with Annex II of the Regulation. The SDS will be the main tool for communication down the supply chain. Any person who is required to carry out a chemical safety assessment (CSA) will need to ensure that the information in both the SDS and the CSA are consistent with each other.

When preparing a chemical safety report, the person preparing the report should annex the exposure scenarios to the SDS, covering all identified uses. These can then be used by downstream users when deciding on and implementing their risk management measures, or when compiling their own SDSs for identified uses.

COMPLY WITH SAFETY PRECAUTIONS

The downstream user must comply with the safety precautions recommended in his supplier's safety data sheet. For substances which are manufactured or imported in quantities of greater than 10 tonnes per annum, the SDS should have one or more exposure scenarios attached. The downstream user must ensure that his use of the substance is covered by one of these exposure scenarios and that he is applying the recommended operational conditions and risk management measures.

WHAT ARE THE MAIN OBLIGATIONS OF A DOWNSTREAM USER UNDER REACH?

1. Follow the instructions in the SDS you receive and in the exposure scenarios which will be attached to some safety data sheets. If your use is not covered by an exposure scenario, you can communicate with your supplier, with the aim of having your use covered by an exposure scenario - or you may need to develop your own chemical safety report.
2. Contact your suppliers if you have new information on the hazard of the substance or preparation, or if you believe that the risk management measures are not appropriate.

3. Provide your customers with information on hazards, safe conditions of use and appropriate risk management advice for your preparations, if the content of certain very dangerous substances, which are candidates for authorisation, exceeds a concentration of 0.1 % w/w in the articles you produce.

CONSEQUENCES OF REGISTRATION FOR DOWNSTREAM USERS

Downstream users are not required to register the substances that you use, but the registration of these substances by their manufacturers and importers will affect them in a number of ways:

- Substances which are not registered will no longer be available on the EU market.
- The classification and labelling of some substances may change and, if you are a formulator using such substances, you will need to review the classification of your products and their SDS accordingly. SDS will also be updated or extended with information generated through the registration process. If you receive an exposure scenario attached to a safety data sheet, this will trigger additional obligations for you.

Title V of the REACH Regulation is in force since 1st June 2008. Downstream users now have the right to identify their use in writing to their suppliers and to ask them to address this as an identified use in their registration and chemical safety report (where this is required).

PARTICIPATION IN SUBSTANCE INFORMATION EXCHANGE FORUM

Downstream users can participate in the substance information exchange forums (SIEFs) that may be formed for a pre-registered substance that they use. In order to participate in the SIEFs, downstream users will need to have relevant data that is required within the SIEF to complete the registration.

Article 28(7) of the REACH Regulation states that downstream users and third parties holding information may submit the information to the European Chemicals

Agency (ECHA) for those substances, with the intention of being part of the SIEF. Downstream users may be in possession of large sets of data and so, may have a lot to contribute in the collection of data to be used for registration, such as that for classification and labelling, exposure and estimation of risks.

Therefore, downstream users are considered a category of 'data holders'. They will need to identify themselves and lodge a request to the European Chemicals Agency (ECHA), with a view to participating in a SIEF for a particular substance for which they hold data (e.g. data regarding safety, hazard data and uses). This will be completed through REACH IT. Such information from downstream users may, for example, help potential registrants to waive certain tests based on lack of exposure.

WHAT IF A DOWNSTREAM USER USES THE CHEMICAL OUTSIDE THE EXPOSURE SCENARIO DESCRIBED IN SDS?

They have several options in this situation:

- he may make his use known to his supplier so he can prepare an ES, covering the use conditions becoming an 'identified use'
- he may change his conditions of use so they comply with the supplier's ES
- he may find another supplier who provides an ES covering his conditions of use
- he may prepare his own ES and associated chemical safety report
- finally the downstream user can find a safe/safer alternative and stop using the substance/preparation altogether.

THE CONSEQUENCES OF FAILING TO PREPARE FOR REACH

Failing to prepare for REACH could mean that the substances you use, on their own or in preparations, are not registered or that your use is not covered in the supplier's registration dossier or exposure scenario.

In summary these are the key actions downstream users should be taking now:

- Identify all chemicals/substances/preparations used in the business
- Determine the current tonnage levels per year and anticipate future levels, if possible
- Determine your status for each substance on the database - are you

the manufacturer, the importer, the downstream user, the distributor etc.

- Identify the substances that may be of high concern (CMR, PBT, vPvB, N; R50-53 or endocrine disrupting)
- Write down how each is actually used in the business
- Assess the hazards and risks of each chemical/substance/preparation and ensure that workers are being protected by consulting with SDS supplied by the manufacturer, which will detail the safe Exposure Scenario (ES), together with any additional information supplied by them.
- Identify an appropriate contact person for REACH in your organisation and make them the focus for communications with suppliers and customers
- Measure, if appropriate, the exposure levels that workers are exposed to and ensure that exposures are reduced to acceptable levels.
- Identify the suppliers of each chemical
- Contact the suppliers to discuss two things: do they plan to register this chemical as part of REACH and will there be a continuity of supply?
- Inform them of the various ways you use the chemical, so that information can be included in their registration document. If they do not know anything about REACH, then move up the supply chain to the manufacturer and discuss these issues with them.
- Communicate with your downstream users (if you have any)
- Watch REACH developments as they affect your business.

KEY DATES RELATING TO REACH

REACH came into force on 1st June 2007. The new European Chemicals Agency is up and running and is based in Helsinki. This is the administrative body for the Regulation.

In addition to this, before REACH is fully operational, the introduction of many of the requirements is also staggered, so that the key deadlines are:

- June 1 2007** – REACH came into force (SDS requirements etc.)
- June 1 2008** – European Chemicals Agency operational

- June 1 2008** – "New" substance registration
- June – Nov 2008** re-registration for phase-in substances
- June 1 2009** – Restrictions in force
- June 1 2009** – first priority list for authorisation
- Nov 2010** – first registration deadline for "phase-in substances that are: considered as Carcinogens, Mutagens or Reproductive toxins (Categories 1 and 2) over 1 tonne per manufacturer or importer per year; greater than 1,000 tonnes per manufacturer or importer per year; considered classified as very toxic to aquatic organisms which may cause long-term adverse effects in the aquatic environment (R50-53) and greater than 100 tonnes per year per manufacturer/importer second registration deadline for phase-in substances that are: greater than 100 tonnes per manufacturer/importer per year
- June 2013** – third registration deadline for phase-in substances that are: greater than one tonne per manufacturer/importer per year.

DETAILED GUIDANCE AVAILABLE

The Health & Safety Authority has been designated as the National Competent Authority for the administration and enforcement of the EU Chemicals Regulation in Ireland. For general queries on REACH, contact the Health and Safety Authority Helpdesk on:



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Health and safety education for engineers: NISO leads

NISO, which way back in the 1980s pioneered health and safety education with the NISO Foundation Certificate, continues its pioneering role with the development of the NISO Certificate in Occupational Health and Safety for engineers.

The specially-designed certificate course, which was developed to meet the health and safety education needs of consulting engineers Roughan & O'Donovan, will now be available to other consulting engineering practices throughout the country.

ROUGHAN & O'DONOVAN: THE VISION

Founded in 1974 by Joe O'Donovan and Dermot Roughan, Roughan & O'Donovan has grown to become one of the country's leading consulting engineering practices, employing a staff of over 150. It has been involved in landmark projects such as the Boyne Bridge on the M1 Motorway and the LUAS Bridge in Dundrum in Dublin. The firm has a vision, which emphasises the importance of safety, quality and the environment, allied to the ongoing professional development of staff.

Spurred by the provisions of the Safety, Health and Welfare at Work Act 2005 (SHWW Act

2005) and the Construction Regulations 2006, which imposed new duties on those involved in construction work, particularly those involved in designing projects, the firm approached NISO to develop a programme that would meet its need for staff to be competent in health and safety matters.

The result is the new NISO Certificate in Occupational Health and Safety for the Consulting Engineering Profession.

THE NEW CERTIFICATE COURSE

The objective of the NISO OHS Certificate Course for Consulting Engineers is, as NISO's training manager Liz Doyle Fleming explains, to educate engineers and designers so that they have sufficient knowledge of health and safety legislation, codes of practices and guidance to enable them to comply with the duties placed on them by health and safety legislation.

The course has, she explains, been developed "to comply with the competency requirements of the SHWW Act 2005". The aim is to ensure that the engineers and designers who attend the course understand not just legislation but also the practicalities and concepts of health and safety management, such as hazard identification and risk assessment, with particular emphasis on how these skills can be applied to design and build projects.

Explaining how the course was developed, Liz Doyle Fleming recalls that NISO undertook a

pre-course audit of Roughan & O'Donovan's documentation and procedures. The resulting feedback was integrated into the final course materials and assignments.

While tailored to the specific needs of the consulting engineering profession and Roughan & O'Donovan in particular, the course was constructed on the model of NISO's long established and highly regarded Certificate in OSH.

The course includes modules on legislation, risk and safety management, fire and emergency procedures, chemical safety, physical hazards, ergonomics, human factor hazards, occupational health and accident causation and investigation. Also, the course includes a module on construction safety, which as well as covering the main hazards and risks of the industry, specifically explores the roles and duties and responsibilities of the project supervisors design process (PSDP) and project supervisors construction stage (PSCS).

The course was, Liz Doyle Fleming says, "delivered to Roughan & O'Donovan in multiple modular format over a period of five weeks".

A COURSE FOR CONSTRUCTION PROFESSIONALS

While the new NISO OSH Certificate has been specifically developed to meet the requirements of Roughan & O'Donovan, Liz Doyle Fleming says NISO will now be offering the course to firms in the consulting engineering profession.

And given NISO's expertise in developing pioneering educational and training courses, she envisages NISO developing the consulting engineers certificate course for other professions in the construction industry.

Speaking to NISO UPDATE about the course, Liz Doyle Fleming thanked Roughan & O'Donovan for partnering NISO in the pilot course. "The part Roughan & O'Donovan played contributed to the successful development of the course."



Richard Power, Liz Doyle Fleming, Billy Kelleher Minister for Labour Affairs, Mark Kilcullen

Occupational hygiene: preventing ill-health

“Occupational hygiene is all about preventing ill-health.” With that neat phrase, Loretta Mathews, the president of the Occupational Hygiene Society of Ireland (OHSI), captures the essence of what occupational hygiene is all about.

She adds: “Our job is to look out for the hazards which will cause illness.” The illnesses occupational hygienists are concerned to prevent include cancers, skin diseases and respiratory diseases such as asthma and emphysema.

Mathews, who started out her career as an environmental scientist, says she “more or less took on the role of occupational hygienist”. Her statement is reflective of how many people become health and safety advisors. This makes sense, given that the OHSI describes occupational hygiene as a specialised discipline within the broad area of occupational safety and health.

CAREERS IN OCCUPATIONAL HYGIENE

It also makes sense because there are “no occupational hygiene primary degree courses”. There are, Mathews explains, some primary and masters degree courses that have occupational hygiene as a module. The normal route of entry to the profession is through taking the courses accredited by the British Occupational Hygiene Society (BOHS).

The BOHS currently offers six types of examinations, 14 proficiency modules and a number of other options. Many people who become occupational hygienists hold primary science or engineering degrees, Mathews says. To become an occupational hygienist, Mathews explains, one has to do a written examination in six out of the 14 modules on offer and then partake in an oral examination which covers all 14 modules.

Occupational hygiene modules are included in degree courses at NUI Galway, the University of Limerick and the Institute of Technology

Sligo BOHS courses are run on a regular basis in NUI Galway.

Discussing the career options for occupational hygienists, Mathews notes that apart from the posts recently advertised by the HSA, which employs a number of occupational hygienists, many work in the pharmaceutical industry - like Mathews herself, who works for Janssen Pharmaceuticals. The other industrial sector offering employment opportunities is the electronics industry.

But, as Mathews stresses, the need for occupational hygiene is not limited to large scale industry. She points out that occupational hygienists are needed to advise on dusts and emissions in a wide range of workplaces, including joinery factories and garages. Quite a number of occupational hygienists work in “private professional practices”.

OHSI

The OHSI was founded in 1986, with the objective of providing all those with an interest occupational hygiene (not just professional occupational hygienists) with a forum to exchange information. Mathews explains that membership of the OHSI “is open to people who have an interest in the field”.

She believes that membership enables those with that interest to keep up-to-date by attending the Society’s seminars and workshops. Seminars and workshops are designed to meet the needs of both the broad membership, who require information, and of the professionals, who need information on specific topics. The Society holds its annual seminar in February and the papers delivered at the seminar are published on the Society’s website: www.ohireland.org.

Currently the Society has about 80 members. Membership costs €30 per annum for individuals and €150 for organisations.

CURRENT ISSUES

A very valuable perk of membership of the OHSI are the regular emails members receive.

Anyone concerned with REACH will have welcomed the regular messages from the Society, notifying them of developments on the implementation of the Regulation.

The OHSI involvement with the HSA on REACH is a prime example of how the Authority can work in partnership with the voluntary bodies in the health and safety field. The OHSI is a member of the HSA’s REACH Stakeholders Forum, which also includes NISO. Membership of the Forum gives members of OHSI a chance to influence the HSA’s thinking on REACH.

Another time the OHSI was pleased to be able to offer views, Mathews says, was when they were presented with a draft of the HSA’s proposed occupational health strategy (since published: see News pages).

The other big issue coming down the line for occupational hygienists is the Globally Harmonised System (GHS) for chemicals. Mathew expects the GHS will become law in January 2009, with countries having until December 2010 to comply with the provisions of the GHS. *(For more information on the OHSI visit the Society’s website www.ohireland.org)*





Answers to Questions

Question 1

Where to start in health and safety?

I am looking at a complete change of career and want to get into health and safety. Can anyone advise where I should start... what course I should do... what are the best routes?

Answer 1

Many people believe they would like a career in health and safety but some who begin a course of study begin to dislike it and drop out. The study can be tedious, very technical in parts and legalistic when studying law and regulations. So on that basis, it is best, I feel, to start with a certificate course, ideally the NISO FETAC Certificate. Then, if you enjoy that, then consider moving on to a diploma.

There is a range of certificate, diploma, degree and masters courses available and like all other careers, you need to begin one step at a time. Some colleges will not consider you for a diploma course unless you have successfully completed a certificate for two very good reasons: (1) then you have a basic understanding of health and safety principles and terms before proceeding to diploma level and (2) they need to know that you have a genuine interest in the subject and a willingness to stick with the study, which can be very tough at times.

Question 2

Advice for Employees about having a safe holiday?

I am the safety advisor in a medium sized company in Ireland and we are due to shut down our business for two weeks for holidays. We want to educate our employees about health and safety on their holidays, so I was wondering if you could help us with useful information.

Answer 2

There are many health and safety issues to consider before going off on holiday. Some

action needs to be taken before they go and others while they are away. All are considered to be sensible steps in ensuring that the whole family has a restful, safe holiday and that everyone comes home safely afterwards. Holidays are times to relax, get away from the humdrum of work and daily life, see interesting places, have fun and hopefully come back relaxed and refreshed. Sadly however, many serious accidents and fatalities occur, both in Ireland and abroad. Some key issues to consider:

Protect your home while you are away

Cancel the milk and ask the post office to hold your post.

Holiday Insurance

Covering illness, accident, hospitalisation, being brought back home by air ambulance and sadly, bringing a body back home for burial, should all be covered. Also, get your European Health Insurance Card for cover abroad – see: www.ehic.ie

Vaccinations

Depending on where you are going, you may need to be vaccinated. Some vaccinations need to be done months before you travel, so talk to your local doctor who will advise you on the necessary vaccinations you need.

First Aid Kit

Always bring a first aid kit, even if travelling by air.

Your own regular medicines

Make sure that you have enough of your usual medication for the whole trip. It is also a good idea to also take the name of your medicine and your doctor's instructions with you.

Travelling by Car

Well in advance of your planned holiday, get the car serviced fully before you go. Check the spare tyre, bring basic tools and strongly consider rescue insurance.

Travelling by Sea

Always take seasickness tablets. For long ferry journeys, seriously consider booking a cabin.

Travelling by Air

Try to arrange flight times that allow you to arrive at a reasonable hour.

Deep Vein Thrombosis - Predisposing Factors

Those with the following conditions may be at greater risk of DVT and should be assessed by their General Practitioner before they travel: a history of DVT within the last 5 years or if the likely reason for this DVT is still present; malignant disease or chronic debilitating illness, especially those causing mobility problems; recent surgery or deep injuries (e.g. hip fractures); age over 60 years; pregnancy or less than 2 months after delivery; cardio-respiratory disease; oestrogen or raloxifene or tamoxifen therapy; varicose veins; obesity.

Preliminary advice for those at low risk

include stretching and exercising the legs when possible, keep well-hydrated, avoid excess alcohol and limit caffeine consumption.

Holiday accommodation

Whether it is a hotel, apartment, villa or chateau you choose to stay in, the need for safe evacuation in an emergency should be uppermost in your mind. Check if there are smoke detectors, fire alarms and unobstructed evacuation routes. Take the time to walk your evacuation route to the final exit and see if it takes you (as it should) to the open air. Check balconies (if there is one). Check gas installations.

Luggage

If you have a choice, use luggage that has wheels. This takes the strain off you and the wheels take the weight.

Sun Protection

Enjoy the sun in a safe, healthy way. The rule is simple: always use a sunscreen with a high protection factor (SPF 20) or more and apply

it every hour. Cover up with loose cool clothing, a hat and sunglasses.

Sunburn

If someone gets sunburnt, bathe the affected area with cool water or cold compresses. Apply calamine lotion and administer an analgesic. Medical advice should be sought.

Swimming safety

Never swim alone, after a heavy meal or after drinking alcohol. Always check depth of swimming pools before diving in to determine if there are any underwater hazards such as concrete supports, pumps etc.

Pool and beach rules regarding children

The accepted belief that a child can drown in a couple of inches of water is wisdom indeed. Even if the pool at your hotel has a lifeguard (and most don't), you should still remain vigilant. Don't assume someone else is keeping an eye on your children. Set some basic ground rules with them on your first day.

Driving on holiday

Get relevant information from your travel agent or insurance company about the rules covering driving in the countries you plan to visit.

Mishaps in cars

Bring plenty of tissues and wet wipes, especially if you have young children. They

may wish to eat and drink in the car with the possibility of spillage, they may not tell you in time that they need a loo stop and they may feel unwell if they suffer from travel sickness. It may be necessary to break up the journey into several chunks of 4 -6 hours each over two days rather than one twelve hour trip. An overnight stop may be the best option, so the driver and the rest of the family are well rested before continuing.

Valuables in Cars

Never leave valuables visible inside a car - not even for a minute while you get petrol or buy a soft drink. Lock your car every time you leave it and place all luggage and valuables, including shopping, in the boot.

Food and Drink issues

Unless you are in Ireland or the UK, don't drink tap water or even brush your teeth in it. Buy bottled water. Use a filter if you have one.

Carrying Cash

Leave excess cash and other valuables in the safe in your apartment or hotel. Wear a bun bag at the front rather than a wallet in a back pocket. If you are in a very crowded place, transfer the money to your shoe or sock.

Personal Security

If you are mugged, hand over your money, camera, etc., as they can all be replaced.

Putting up a struggle is not advisable, as thieves may be carrying weapons and may turn violent. Always report the mugging to the local police and to your tour guide/operator. Take care where you go both day and night.

Safety of Children

Never ever leave children unattended. Small children should be supervised and accompanied everywhere they go.

Play Areas for Children

Check that play schools/groups provided at your hotel or area complex are clean and are staffed by trained persons. Research has shown that 60-70% of children who fall from playground equipment land on the ground, so it is important to check that there is a soft landing surface.

Alcohol

Enjoy a drink if you must, but be sensible about it. Never drink and drive. Do not go for midnight swims while drunk. If someone picks a fight with you, walk away. Do not argue back as it will inflame the situation.

(Mary Darlington, B.ScOccS&H, CFIOSH, FCIPD, is a NISO associate, providing health and safety advice to NISO members. Mary can be contacted by email at info@darlington.ie)

NISO Shop

The NISO shop allows people to search through all upcoming NISO training courses, seminars and workshops online and to proceed through to online booking and paying for the required number of places.

Safety products, including training props and CDs on up-to-date safety legislation are also available to purchase.

Check it out at www.niso.ie



NISO delivering the safety message from abattoirs to zoos

When he says that National Irish Safety Organisation's role is to deliver the health and safety message to all workplaces, from A to Z, from abattoirs to zoos, Nicholas Murray, who chairs the Organisation's Southern Region Committee, captures the essence of what NISO has been all about since it was founded way back in the 1960s.

Founded as an organisation dedicated to raising awareness of and promoting occupational health and safety, NISO has in the intervening years grown to be the largest voluntary non-professional health and safety body in the country.

When Nicholas Murray, who has been a member of the Organisation since the late 1990s and chair of the Southern Region since last November, speaks about the Organisation, his words spark a cord that captures the vision of the founders. Murray paints a picture of volunteer members of the Organisation helping one another by sharing information and spreading the safety message among a wider audience through the NISO Certificate in Occupational Safety and Health and seminars held throughout the Southern Region.

Drawing on his experience in the Southern Region, he explains that as NISO's volunteers play an active role in the Organisation and give of their time freely, NISO spreads the safety message in a cost effective manner. As Murray puts it, "Keeping the cost down is vital".

REACHING THE WORKPLACE

If the founders of NISO were visionaries, many of the members of NISO today could be described as missionaries. Murray catches that zeal when he says, "The idea is that we spread the news".

One way NISO spreads the news is through the NISO OSH Certificate. Every year in the Southern Region, certificate courses are held in the Cork Institute of Technology and in the Institute of Technology Tralee. The courses, which last for 13 weeks, are run in the spring and autumn, with those attending taking an examination at the end.

The mix of students is eclectic. Students, who are both male and female and range in age from their 20s to 50s and even 60s, are drawn from a wide spread of organisations and occupations. Murray reckons that "At least 50% of all students who participate in the Certificate course are from small and medium organisations". Many of them come from workplaces that go on to become members of NISO. At an individual level they keep in contact with others who have done the course with them and with the lecturers and course co-ordinators. The certificate course is the bait "that gets in new members".

The course co-ordinators – in Cork Michael O'Neill and in Kerry John Daly – work closely with NISO head office and in Cork with the CIT Adult Education office and with the Institute of Technology in Tralee, whose support is invaluable.

Every year the Southern Region Committee organises two or three half-day conferences health and safety topics. Recent conferences have dealt with new regulations and fire evacuation, especially from nursing homes.

Drawing on his experience with the Southern Region Committee, Murray says he notices that "more people are becoming more aware of safety". In the Southern Region

the experience is that there has been "an increase in enquiries" about issues ranging from manual handling to safety statement.

SUPPORT FROM BUSINESS

The good relationships that NISO at regional level has with local businesses is highlighted by Murray. In the Southern Region he mentions the support Janssen Pharmaceutical gives to the NISO Annual Health and Safety Quiz. And he also is thankful to the directors of DPS Engineering, where he works, for the support they give NISO.

The support local companies give comes in many ways. It can, like Janssen manifest itself in support for the Quiz or take the form of support for seminars and conferences. It also manifests itself in the time organisations allow people like Murray himself, to participate in NISO activities. And people like health and safety consultant Cecilia Healy, who is vice-chair of the Regional committee and John Collins from the HSE who is treasurer. Looking at the Regional Committee, Murray marvels at the skills of the members, who between them "have 425 years work experience"

Murray says no review of the NISO Southern Region's activities would be complete without mention the marvellous work of Mary Keane, Catherine McMullen and their team in organising the annual conference in Killarney last year.



NATIONAL IRISH SAFETY ORGANISATION - UPCOMING EVENTS – www.niso.ie**Noise Measurement Course**

Course Length: 4 days (2 days on week 1 and 2 days on week 2)
September 29th, 30th and October 6th & 7th
Location: NISO, Ballymount, Dublin 12
To book: www.niso.ie Email: info@niso.ie Tel: 01 465 9760

Safety Representative Course

Course Length: 3 days August 20th, 21st, 22th
Location: NISO, Ballymount, Dublin 12
To book: www.niso.ie Email: info@niso.ie Tel: 01 465 9760

Seminar - Health & Safety for Directors & Senior Managers

Course Length: Half day (0830-1230) August 6th
Location: NISO, Ballymount, D12
To book: www.niso.ie Email: info@niso.ie Tel: 01 465 9760

Health & Safety for the Non-Safety Specialist Course

Course Length: 2 days (0900-1600 hrs) July 1st & 8th
Location: Marino Institute of Education, Dublin 9
To book: www.niso.ie Email: info@niso.ie Tel: 01 465 9760

VDU/DSE Assessors Course

Course Length: 2 days
July 7th & 8th, September 8th & 9th -
Location: NISO, Ballymount, Dublin 12
To book: www.niso.ie Email: info@niso.ie Tel: 01 465 9760

Safe Pass Training Programme - English Course

Course Length: 1 day (Every other Wednesday),
next date July 2nd Marino Institute of Education, Dublin 9
Location: Every Friday: NISO, Ballymount, Dublin 12
To book: www.niso.ie Email: info@niso.ie Tel: 01 465 9760

Manual Handling Instructor & Assessor Course

Course Length: 5 days (3 days week 1 and 2 days week 2)
July 21st, 22nd, 23rd, 28th and 29th -
Location: Marino Institute of Education, Dublin 9
Course Length: 5 days: August 11th, 12th, 13th, 18th & 19th
Location: NISO, Ballymount, Dublin 12
To book: www.niso.ie Email: info@niso.ie Tel: 01 465 9760

Manual Handling Instructor & Assessor Refresher Course

Course Length: 2 days: July 22nd & 23rd
Location: Marino Institute of Education, Dublin 9
Course Length: 2 days: August 12th & 13th
Location: NISO, Ballymount, Dublin 12
To book: www.niso.ie Email: info@niso.ie Tel: 01 465 9760

Occupational First Aid Course:

Course Length: 3 days July 15th, 16th, 17th
Location: NISO, Ballymount, Dublin 12
To book: www.niso.ie Email: info@niso.ie Tel: 01 465 9760

Occupational First Aid Refresher/ Re-Certification Course:

Course Length: 1 day July 17th
Location: NISO, Ballymount, Dublin 12.
To book: www.niso.ie Email: info@niso.ie Tel: 01 465 9760

Seminar - Workings of PIAB and the Civil Liability and Courts Act 2004

Autumn 2008
Speakers: PIAB Speaker on the Workings of PIAB.
Lennon Header Solicitors speaker on the Civil Liability and Courts Act 2004
Location: Dublin.
To book: www.niso.ie

NISO Occupational Safety & Health Certificate

Course Length: 8 weeks (one day per week)
Starting September 1st - Marino Institute of Education, Dublin 9
Starting October 7th - NISO, Ballymount, Dublin 12
To book: www.niso.ie Email: info@niso.ie Tel: 01 465 9760

NISO Occupational Safety and Health Certificate

commencing 17 September 2008 for 12 weeks
Location: Institute of Technology, Tralee
To book: www.niso.ie Email: info@niso.ie Tel: 01 465 9760

NISO Occupational Safety and Health Certificate

commencing 18 September 2008 for 12 weeks
Location: Institute of Technology, Cork
To book: www.niso.ie Email: info@niso.ie Tel: 01 465 9760

NISO Occupational Safety and Health Certificate

commencing 23 September 2008 from 19:00 to 21:00 for 12 weeks
Location: GMIT, Galway
To book: www.niso.ie Email: info@niso.ie Tel: 01 465 9760

NISO National First Aid Competition

(in conjunction with the Civil Defence)
National competition, plus special competition for voluntary organisations
27th September 2008 at 09:00
Location: Dublin
To book: www.niso.ie or james@nationalsafetycentre.com

NISO Annual Conference, Safety Exhibition & Awards Presentation Dinner*Risky Business: Your employees' health*

17 October 2008

Location: Knightsbrook Hotel, Trim, Co Meath**To book:** www.niso.ie Email: info@niso.ie

Tel: 01 465 9760

All NISO courses and services may be tailored to your specific organisations requirements and delivered in company. Please email your requirements to nathaliedelmotte@niso.ie or visit our website www.niso.ie to record your interest

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