



The Safety Observer



Monthly Newsletter of the National Irish Safety Organisation

May 2012 - Issue 2

New

Welcome to the second issue of the new look monthly newsletter of the National Irish Safety Organisation. The SAFETY OBSERVER is exclusive to NISO Members and contains information that is current, informative and useful to members. Each month we will keep you up to date on what is happening in occupational safety and health. NISO UPDATE, the quarterly magazine, will continue to be published with the Spring edition last circulated on 20 April 2012.

May 2012

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6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		



2012 Annual Occupational Safety Awards

Reminder: Less than a week to go for entries to the All Ireland Safety Awards organised by the National Irish Safety Organisation and the Northern Ireland Safety Group. Closing date: 3 May 2012. *Additional time may be granted if contacted prior to 3 May 2012. A late entry fee may apply.*

Tips for a Good Entry

- Present your information clearly and concisely
- Append bulk information [if required]
- Divide your folder into the ten sections clearly marked
- Show evidence, not intentions

Full details on entering at <http://safetyawards.ie>

Abbott Ireland Diagnostics Division achieve the double in All Ireland Safety Quiz Finals

Abbott Ireland Diagnostics Division from Sligo won both the Previous Entrants and Novices' categories of the All Ireland Safety Quiz Finals which was held in Athlone on Saturday, 21 April 2012.

[Read more](#)

World Day For Safety And Health At Work Marked

Marking World Day for Safety and Health at Work (28 April), Minister for Jobs, Enterprise and Innovation, Richard Bruton, T.D., urged all employers and employees alike to take the opportunity of this day to reflect on how workplaces could be made safer to avoid injuries and fatalities.

Workers' Memorial Day was started by the Canadian Union of Public Employees (CUPE) in 1984. April 28 is recognised by the International Labour Organisation (ILO) and the International Trade Union Confederation (ITUC) as International Workers' Memorial Day.

[Read more](#)

UN urges better safety standards for workers

With two million people dying every year from work-related accidents and diseases, the United Nations has stressed the need for protecting the safety and health of workers across the world as part of transitioning into a green economy.

[Read more](#)

BeSMART breakfast briefings for Dublin and Cork

The Health and Safety Authority is running BeSMART breakfast briefings for small business owner/managers in Dublin and Cork in May. These briefings will provide an opportunity for attendees to see the benefits of BeSMART as well as to learn about a range of other important workplace health and safety topics.

[Read more](#)

New Healthy Workplaces Campaign

The European Agency for Safety and Health at Work (EU-OSHA) has launched its new two-year Healthy Workplaces Campaign on "Working Together for Risk Prevention". European Week is Week 43 of the calendar year [which appears to be 22 - 28 October 2012].

[Read more](#)

Safety Alert - Slurry Tank Instability

The HSENI has issued a safety alert to farmers, farm contractors and tyre fitters over the risk of a slurry tank overturning when changing a wheel.

[Read more](#)

Stress in the workplace to rise, say 8 out of 10

Job-related stress is a concern for the large majority of the European workforce, concludes EU-OSHA's 2nd European Opinion Poll on Occupational Safety and Health.

[Read more](#)

HSE changes rules on reporting workplace accidents

From 6 April 2012, British employers no longer have to report injuries which keep workers off normal duties for seven or fewer days.

[Read more](#)

New Carriage of Dangerous Goods Regulations for Northern Ireland

On 22 April 2010 the Carriage of Dangerous Goods and Use of Transportable Pressure Equipment Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2010 were made. They regulate the carriage of dangerous goods by road and rail in Northern Ireland and, to a limited extent, the carriage of dangerous goods by inland waterway.

[Read more](#)

Chronic Lack of Sleep effects one in three British workers

One in three British workers suffers from poor sleep, research shows, with stress, computers and taking work home blamed for the lack of quality slumber.

[Read more](#)

Red Meat Health Risks

A diet high in red meat can shorten life expectancy, according to researchers at Harvard Medical School.

[Read more](#)

EU-OSHA's Facebook Page

EU-OSHA has a brand new Facebook page

[Read more](#)

Eurofound's Fifth European Working Conditions Survey 2010

European workers remain as exposed to physical hazards as they did 20 years ago and work intensity remains at a high level, while there has been little or no increase in the intellectual challenges that work poses. Physical hazards and repetitive hand/arm movements are a feature for more Europeans than ten years ago.

[Read more](#)

Recent Accidents

Following an incident in Cork on 31 March, a circus worker was taken to hospital after one elephant charged another in a holding area.

[Read more](#)

A man's arm was severed in a workplace accident. A livestock road haulage contractor was loading animal feed from a conveyor machine into a truck when one of his arms was severed from below the elbow at Dan O'Connor Feeds, Ballysimon Road, Limerick, on 3 April 2012.

[Read more](#)

Walter C. Campbell Joinery was fined £2,000 plus costs of £1,750 at Laganside Crown Court on 30 March 2012 after previously pleading guilty to a breach of Article 5 of the Health and Safety at Work Order (NI) 1978. The case arose from a Health and Safety Executive for Northern Ireland (HSENI) investigation into a fatal incident at the firm's joinery workshop at Ballinamallard, Co Fermanagh, on 3rd February 2010.

[Read more](#)

Recent Court Decisions

A stud farm labourer who injured his foot as he got down from a tractor has secured €86,000 damages at the High Court after a judge found he was 50 per cent responsible for the incident.

[Read more](#)

An inquest jury has called on Government agencies to make it compulsory for all heavy goods vehicles regardless of age to be fitted with dedicated safety mirrors to prevent fatalities among cyclists and pedestrians.

[Read more](#)

A 15-year-old student who is registered with a modelling agency was awarded €25,000 damages for a "mildly disfiguring" scar on her foot.

[Read more](#)

Recent Publications and Resources

Definition of Construction Work, Revision 2012. This guide is provided to assist with the understanding of the legal definition of 'construction work' as set out in the Safety, Health and Welfare at Work (Construction) Regulations 2006.

[Read more](#)

Guidance on the Purchase of New Machinery. The purpose of this guidance is to assist those who specify and purchase machinery in relation to the associated safety and health issues which need to be considered.

[Read more](#)

The Health and Safety Authority, Road Safety Authority and An Garda Síochána have developed resources to help employers manage vehicle risks. They include vehicle check posters and check sheets and videos.

[Read more](#)

New Roadsense Guide published. Aviva and the Health and Safety Authority have introduced a guide aimed at reducing the harm caused by vehicles at work by employers better managing work practices.

[Read more](#)

Legionnaire's Disease: A brief guide for dutyholders. This new leaflet produced by the UK Health and Safety Executive is aimed at employers and people in control of premises, e.g. landlords, where man-made water systems are used that could be a potential source for legionella

bacteria growth.

[Read more](#)

Electrical Test Equipment for Use by Electricians. This UK guidance by the HSE is for electrically competent people including electricians, electrical contractors, test supervisors, technicians, managers and/or appliance retailers.

[Read more](#)

Recent Marine Investigations

The Marine Casualty Investigation Board (MCIB) has published its report into the circumstances of an incident involving the "Lady Linda" and separately the MV "Claire Buoyant".

[Read more on the Lady Linda report](#)

[Read more on the MV Claire Buoyant report](#)

Membership Subscriptions

Subscriptions for membership of NISO are now due. Many thanks to all who have paid.

Events

The safety quiz final was held in Athlone on 21 April 2012. See the [report](#) and view the [photographs](#)

[All Ireland Occupational Safety Awards](#). Closing date 3 May 2012. Late entries permitted subject to notification and late entry fee.

[Annual General Meeting](#); was held in the Radisson Blu Hotel, Athlone; 12 noon, Saturday, 21 April 2012.

Annual Conference: Safety and Health is our Wealth; Radisson Blu Hotel, Sligo; Friday, 5 October 2012.

Training

[Safe Pass Course](#); Friday, 11 or 25 May 2012.

[Manual Handling Instructors Course](#) FETAC Level 6, commences June 2012.

[Health and Safety Representation Course](#) FETAC Level 5, commences 18 June 2012.

[Basic Manual Handling Course](#); 23 May 2012.

[VDU/DSE Assessors Course](#); 28 May 2012.

[Safety and Health at Work Course](#) FETAC Level 5, commences 9 October 2012.

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