Safety Award Winners 2015

Special 6-page Safety Awards Feature
52nd Annual NISO Conference 2015 Feature
NISO President Reflects on 2015 Conference and Awards

National Irish Safety Organisation held its 52nd Annual Safety Conference and Awards Presentation Gala Dinner on 2 October last, hosted by our Western Region in the Radisson Blu Hotel & Spa, Galway.

NISO wishes to acknowledge those who participated in and attended our conference. The feedback from the conference evaluation forms has been very positive indicating that the panel of speakers was well received by those in attendance.

Safety Awards
Submissions to the 24th NISO/NISG All Ireland Safety Awards improved in quality on previous years and the number of organisations attending the Gala Dinner have increased. The awards were co-presented by Martin O’Halloran, CEO, Health and Safety Authority (HSA); Keith Morrison, CEO, Health and Safety Executive Northern Ireland (HSENI); Pauric Corrigan, President, National Irish Safety Organisation (NISO); Jimmy Fenton, Chairperson, Northern Ireland Safety Group (NISG); Dermot Carey, Head of Safety Services, Construction Industry Federation (CIF).

Supreme Safety Award Winner
Congratulations to Sierra Support Services Group, this year’s winner of the Supreme Safety Award, sponsored by Phillips 66. Sierra Support Services Group showed consistently good and continuously improving health and safety performance over a number of years through their awards submission.

Superior Performance Award
This year saw the introduction of the Superior Performance Award, sponsored by Anderco. This award was won by Lagan Construction Group who demonstrated superior performance in their approach to the management of safety within their organisation.

Occupational Health Award
The occupational health award was won by Eli Lilly S.A. – Ireland Branch, for demonstrating the best overall proactive approach to the management of employees’ health. This award is jointly sponsored by the HSA and the HSENI.

Safety Innovation Award
I would like to congratulate Dublin-based SNPS Ltd. on winning the Small/Sub Contractor Safety Innovation Award, in association with Construction Safety Partnership.

Safety Rep of The Year Award
Finally, I would like to congratulate Pauline Byrne, Ballina Beverages, on winning the Safety Representative of the Year award 2015, in association with Nifast.

Thank you to all the companies and organisations who made submissions to our awards; they should each be extremely proud of what they have achieved and NISO looks forward to receiving their submissions in 2016. Please do share your success in your place of work as this is an award that reflects on the whole of the organisation that made the submission.

As president, on behalf of NISO, fellow officers, executive committee members, NISG, staff at head office and all who helped in the successful running of our Annual Conference and All Ireland Safety Awards 2015, I would like to extend my sincere gratitude.

Pauric Corrigan,
NISO President.
The Road Safety Authority (RSA) has called for nominations in their annual “Leading Lights in Road Safety” Awards. Now in its eighth year, the awards recognise and honour the contribution made by people nationwide to reducing deaths and serious injuries on our roads. The RSA is calling on communities all over Ireland to once again nominate their “Leading Lights” in road safety – whether it be a group or an individual who campaigns, educates and is committed to improving road safety in their community.

Nominations are now open for the Road Safety Authority Leading Lights awards to recognise the work of committed volunteers, businesses and organisations.

Details of how to enter your nomination in the “Leading Lights in Road Safety” Awards are available on www.rsa.ie/leadinglights. You may enter your nomination online, by e-mail or by post.

The closing date for entries is Tuesday, 27 October.

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National Irish Safety Organisation (NISO) has expressed its concern over figures recently published by the Injuries Board in its mid-year review. The Injuries Board reports that 17,132 new claims have been made in the first six months of 2015 representing a 7% increase on the 15,987 new claims received in the same six-month period in 2014. The mid-year review also reveals that workplace claims are up 8.5%, accidents in public places are up by almost 9% and motor claims are up 6%. The average compensation award for the first six months of 2015 is €22,375, compared to an average award of €22,082 in the same period last year.

Commenting on the six month figures, Mr. Maurice Priestley, Interim CEO at the Injuries Board, stated: “It is not surprising that there has been a modest increase in claims volumes year to date given the general economic upturn with more people at work and a lot more vehicles on the road. Greater economic activity would be expected to generate greater numbers of policies and premium income for insurers.”

In response, NISO President, Pauric Corrigan, has stated that “While National Irish Safety Organisation welcomes the recent upturn in the economy and the volumes returning to work, it is now more important than ever for employers and employees to keep health and safety awareness at the forefront. With more and more people joining the workforce, health and safety must be the top priority to help prevent the continuation of this upward trend in accidents and claims.”

Key Statistics:
New claims (applications to the Board):
• New claim applications to the Injuries Board during the six months to June increased by 7% year-on-year to 17,132.
• Accidents in public places and workplace accidents are the main drivers of the 7% increase in new claims. During the first six months of 2015, public liability claims are up by almost 9%, employer liability claims are up by 8.5% while new motor claims are up 6%.

Awards for compensation (completed claims):
• The Board made 5,741 awards for compensation to the value of €128.45 million.
• The average award of €22,375 was marginally ahead of the average award of €22,082 for the same six-month period in 2014.
• Road traffic accidents represented over three quarters (75.3%) of awards while 16.9% of awards were for accidents in public places with the remaining 7.8% relating to workplace accidents.
• Administrative costs to process awards through the Board’s model have reduced to 6.6% compared to an average of 58% for cases dealt with through litigation.
• At an administrative cost of 6.6%, the cost of processing a claim through the Injuries Board is at historically low levels; €600 for those responding to a claim (typically insurers) and a refundable application fee of €45 for claimants.
• Awards were processed in an average time of 7 months in the period.
• Direct savings of €35.48 million to the end of June 2014 were achieved. Annual savings are in the region of €100 million.
Teagasc to hold Farm Safety Code of Practice Training Courses

The Health and Safety Authority has issued an urgent warning to owners and operators of Tipper trucks used for transportation of construction materials, following an incident involving the failure of the pivot bar for the tipper section.

The pivot bar at the back of the truck that allows the body to lift as the hydraulic ram extends upwards to create the tipping movement, sheared at the left bracket, while the right bracket casing sheared completely allowing the body to slip off the chassis while in the raised position. The body slipped onto a worker nearby causing severe crush injuries.

It appears that the bar and brackets failed due to fatigue arising from inadequate inspection and greasing of safety critical moving parts during the lifetime of the vehicle.

Owners and operators of these vehicles are advised to include the said brackets and pivot bar in their routine servicing and inspection of these vehicles. As part of the maintenance process, the pivot bar and brackets should be inspected and greased on a regular basis and replaced where there is evidence of fatigue/failure.

Please visit www.hsa.ie for more information on safety alerts.

Teagasc plan to hold a series of half-day Farm Safety Code of Practice Training Courses over the winter months.

Teagasc health and safety officer, John McNamara, said that a Teagasc study had shown the farmers who completed half-day safety training found the course highly motivating. Those who attend training identified 40% more controls for implementation. Also, the majority of farmers implement the controls they specified, and had a higher level of farms with satisfactory occupational health and safety standards.

John McNamara reminded farmers that safety training is now mandatory under the recently announced TAMS 2 schemes. To obtain payment under these schemes farmers must have completed the half-day Farm Safety course or the “Green Cert” within the previous five years.

He also called for continuing high farm safety vigilance, as the winter approaches and light fades, to cut the toll of farm deaths and serious injury.

He stated that 11 farm deaths occurred in the last four months of 2014. So far in 2015, fatal farm accident levels are 40% lower than 2014, but that one accident is one too many.

Sixty per cent of deaths in 2014 were associated with getting struck or crushed by a farm vehicle or machines, mainly in, or around the farmyard. Other major causes of accidents include livestock attacks, collapsing objects such as bales, and slurry incidents, including drowning and gassing.

To seek further information on Teagasc Training Courses, contact any Teagasc office or visit the website at www.teagasc.ie.
New Publications

Carriage of Asbestos-Containing Materials by Road

The Carriage of Dangerous Goods by Road and Transportable Pressure Equipment Regulations and the European Agreement Concerning the International Carriage of Dangerous Goods by Road (ADR) provide the legal framework under which all dangerous goods, including asbestos, may be transported by road. This HSA document provides guidance and information to participants who are involved in the carriage of asbestos, mixtures containing asbestos and asbestos waste, which are generally referred to as “Asbestos-Containing Materials (ACMs)”.

Please visit www.hsa.ie to download the guidance document.

Report - EU-OSHA review of successful Occupational Safety and Health benchmarking initiatives

This report documents the collective output of research activities undertaken by the Institute for Employment Studies in response to a request from EU-OSHA to undertake a review of successful OSH benchmarking initiatives. The overarching aim was to review OSH benchmarking schemes that have been set up at sector, Member State or European level in order to assess the benefits that such schemes can deliver, as well as their limitations, and to identify the key factors of and main obstacles to their success.

European Safety Week 19 - 25 October 2015

This year’s European Safety Week takes place week beginning 19 October.

Workplace health and safety is good for business, for workers and for society as a whole. Every year more than 5,000 people lose their lives in the EU as a result of accidents in the workplace according to Eurostat. A great many of these lives could be saved and many thousands of other injuries prevented if risks were anticipated and sensible safety measures implemented.

The theme for 2015 is "Healthy Workplaces Manage Stress".

A positive psychosocial work environment can enhance the health and well-being of workers and stimulate increased productivity. Good business performance with low absenteeism and staff turnover rates can be achieved as a result. This campaign emphasises that managing stress and psychosocial risks at work has significant benefits for workers, employers and the exchequer.

To get involved in European Safety Week 2015 contact the Health and Safety Authority, the national focal point for European Safety Week, on 01 6147125 or visit www.hsa.ie.

NISO Safety Representation Conference (postponed until the New Year)

National Irish Safety Organisation will be hosting a Safety Representation Conference in Dublin early in the New Year. Conference speakers include: Ged Nash, Minister for Business and Employment; Herbert Mulligan, Health and Safety Review Editor and compiler of the new Safety Representatives Resource Book; Representatives from NISO, the HSA, Ibec, Construction Industry Federation and the Irish Congress of Trade Unions; Safety Representatives.

Conference delegates will receive a copy of the Safety Representatives Resource Book, courtesy of the Health and Safety Authority.

Contact NISO on 01 465 9760 or email info@niso.ie for more information.
NISO conference told
good safety is great business

The bar for safety was raised high at the NISO annual conference, the theme for which was *Good Safety is Good Business*, when delegates were told “Good safety is an expectation now days. Great safety is good business”.

The words, which captured the theme of the conference, were delivered by Tony Sheridan, director of HSEQS (health, safety, environment, quality and sustainability) at Sisk. Posing the question, where should safety fit in any enterprise, Mr Sheridan said that in Sisk, “safety is seen as being at the core of what we do”.

Mentioning the business benefits of safety, he said where safety is good, quality and productivity is good. HSEQS is at the core of Sisk’s construction strategies with a relentless drive towards zero accidents through behavioural change. Introducing a telling phrase into the language of health and safety, he said “each business must ask itself about the true safety costs”.

Saying that good safety is not just good business, it is everyone’s business, Ruairi Connor, director of group operational risk with Rexam, talked about professionals and their management teams spending too much time nose down in the tactics and not enough on developing a clear strategy to ensure all stakeholders are fully engaged. He urged delegates to lift their heads up from the tactics to ensure the strategy is in place that is going to deliver the right environment for all stakeholders.

Speaking about the importance of creating the right environment and conditions, Mr Connor said engagement, personal ownership and creativity is vital for the success of safety professionals. He said communications strategy is important. Safety must not be seen as a “show stopper”, it should be seen as an “enabler”. Leaders, he said, set the environment.

Mark Paradies, the president of US-based company, Systems Improvements, presented a history of the invention of process safety by Admiral Rickover of the American Navy.

With Sheridan and Connor addressing the theme of good safety is good business directly, the elements that make for good safety – a healthy workplace, managing beyond compliance, process safety, road safety and ergonomics – were addressed by a panel of expert speakers.

**Healthy workplaces**

Three aspects of a healthy workplace were explored.

Delivering the first presentation of the day, Joe Doddy, EAP Manager with Vhi Corporate Solutions, presented a picture of what the work environment today looks like. He spoke about 24x7 global connectivity, constant interruptions by mobile phones and workers availability outside core working hours. “The overwhelmed employee is a concern”. Saying we are suffering from information overload, he said “we check out mobile devices up to 150 times a day”. Employees are more fatigued, more forgetful, affected by mood contagion and are absent more.

His colleague, Lorraine Begley, an occupational health manager with Vhi
Corporate Solutions, spoke about building a more resilient workforce. There are, she said, five key steps to a healthier workplace: the physical workplace; personal health resources; involvement; the psychosocial work environment and leadership, with leadership being “the most important”.

Dr Kate O’Flaherty, director of the Department of Health’s health and wellbeing programme, spoke about the Government’s Healthy Ireland Framework. The vision is of an Ireland “where wellbeing is valued and supported at every level of society and is everyone’s responsibility”. Explaining that the workplace is important, Dr O’Flaherty said World Health Organisation studies show workplaces are a “best buy” for prevention and control of chronic disease and mental health issues. Healthy Ireland has, she said set up a cross-sectoral group to oversee the development of a healthy workplace framework. Before the end of the year, Healthy Ireland will be holding a public consultation on the concept of a healthy workplace.

Speaking about good ergonomic principles for health and safety, Katherine Metters, a chartered physiotherapist and a senior consultant with Posturite, said the hot topics of office ergonomics are agile work, hot desking and the sit-stand debate. She added “Work is changing”.

When you are carrying out DSE assessments “You have to understand the full range of the person’s activities”. You have to watch the person work. She has, she said, noticed a shift from repetitive strain injuries to postural injuries. Stressing the importance of good seating, Ms Metters cited a study which shows good seating increases productivity by 8%.

Beyond compliance
Speaking about taking health and safety performance beyond compliance, Dr Peter J Claffey explained what compliance means to the Health and Safety Authority. It means complying with the general duties of employers, providing information and training, having plans for emergencies, taking care for persons who are not employees, persons in control of places of work complying with their duties, identifying hazards and carrying out risk assessments and consulting with employees. For us, he said, it means complying with section 8, 10, 12, 15, 19, 20, 23 and 26 of the SHWW Act 2005. He stressed that compliance with these requirements is mandatory and is often just done to the minimum standard.

We are, he said, best known for checking compliance with the law. The results of inspections are that in only 10% of cases do we take enforcement action and serve notices. In 90% of cases we help organisations to improve and go beyond minimum standards.

Driving for work safely
Speaking about driving for work safety, Moyagh Murdock, the chief executive of the Road Safety Authority (RSA), citing provisional figures from the RSA Collision Database for 2014, said 12% of drivers who suffered injuries and 9% of those killed were driving for work. Nine percent of those injured were commuting to or from work, while 8% of those killed were commuting. Ms Murdock said a study of pre-crash behaviour over the five-year period, 2008–2012, found that one in six of drivers involved in fatal collisions were driving for work.

When questioned about employers’ driving for work policies for a survey carried out for the RSA, Ms Murdock said 57% of drivers said their employer had a policy, while 37% said the employer did not have a policy. The survey found that drivers who were driving for work were more likely to admit exceeding the speed limit. She added that the survey also found those who drove for work were more likely to fall asleep at the wheel: 18% compared to 11% for all drivers.

Communications
Bringing the conference to a close, Eddie Shaw, a legendary figure in the broader safety world and now PR director at Carr Communications, highlighted some of the dangers of social media. He said:

• We no longer have time to think
• We are losing touch with people
• Our brains can no longer cope with the scale of technology
• We no longer know what are the facts
• We no longer go back to primary sources.

Conference Sponsors:

Awards Supported by:
AWARDS FEATURE

Safety Award Winners 2015

The National Irish Safety Organisation (NISO) wishes to congratulate all organisations who received a Safety Award this year for their achievements in the area of health and safety.

Sierra Support Services Group was presented with the highest honour, the Supreme Safety Award

L to R: Keith Morrison, CEO, HSENI; Jimmy Fenton, chairperson, NISG; Grace Kelly, SHEQ manager, Sierra Support Services Group; Mike King, commercial manager, Phillips 66; Willie Ryan, SHEQ director, Sierra Support Services Group; Pauric Corrigan, president, NISO; Martin O’Halloran, CEO, HSA.

John Sisk & Son (Holdings) Ltd. winner of the Gold Award

L to R: Keith Morrison, CEO, HSENI; Jimmy Fenton, chairperson, NISG; Kevin Cummins, BU HSE manager east & civils, John Sisk & Son (Holdings) Ltd.; Pauric Corrigan, president, NISO; Martin O’Halloran, CEO, HSA.

Walls Construction Limited winner of the Silver Award

L to R: Keith Morrison, CEO, HSENI; Jimmy Fenton, chairperson, NISG; Gerry Keane, EHSQ manager, Walls Construction Limited; Pauric Corrigan, president, NISO; Martin O’Halloran, CEO, HSA.

Lagan Construction Group winner of the Bronze Award

L to R: Keith Morrison, CEO, HSENI; Jimmy Fenton, chairperson, NISG; Nicola McCracken, health and safety manager, Lagan Construction Group; Pauric Corrigan, president, NISO; Martin O’Halloran, CEO, HSA.
Longford County Council, winner of the President’s Award: New Entrant

L to R: Keith Morrison, CEO, HSENI; Jimmy Fenton, chairperson, NISG; Mary Gouldsberry, health and safety officer, Longford County Council; Pauric Corrigan, president, NISO; Martin O’Halloran, CEO, HSA.

The Lisheen Mine, winner of the President’s Award: Overall Regional Award

L to R: Keith Morrison, CEO, HSENI; Jimmy Fenton, chairperson, NISG; Stephen Wheston, SHE manager, The Lisheen Mine; Pauric Corrigan, president, NISO; Martin O’Halloran, CEO, HSA.

Lagan Construction Group, winner of the Superior Performance Award, sponsored by Anderco

L to R: Keith Morrison, CEO, HSENI; Jimmy Fenton, chairperson, NISG; Nicola McCracken, health and safety manager, Lagan Construction Group; Alan Bruce, managing director, Anderco; Pauric Corrigan, president, NISO; Martin O’Halloran, CEO, HSA.

Eli Lilly S.A. - Ireland Branch, winner of the Occupational Health Award, supported by the HSA and HSENI

L to R: Keith Morrison, CEO, HSENI; Jimmy Fenton, chairperson, NISG; Una Feeney, occupational health and wellness consultant, Eli Lilly S.A. - Ireland Branch; Pauric Corrigan, president, NISO; Martin O’Halloran, CEO, HSA.

SNPS Ltd., winner of the NISO Small / Sub Contractor Safety Innovation Awards 2015 in association with Construction Safety Partnership

L to R: Keith Morrison, CEO, HSENI; Jimmy Fenton, chairperson, NISG; Noeleen Downes, business development manager, SNPS Ltd.; Pauric Corrigan, president, NISO; Martin O’Halloran, CEO, HSA.

Pauline Walsh, Ballina Beverages, winner of the NISO Safety Representative of the Year Award 2015, in association with Nifast

L to R: Keith Morrison, CEO, HSENI; Jimmy Fenton, chairperson, NISG; Pauline Walsh, safety representative, Ballina Beverages; Pauric Corrigan, president, NISO; Martin O’Halloran, CEO, HSA; Conor Loughran, operations manager, Nifast.
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<th>Organisation</th>
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<td>Supreme Award</td>
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<td>Gold Award</td>
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<td>Lagan Construction Group</td>
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<td>MJ Conroy Construction</td>
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<td>Honeywell Aerospace Ireland Limited</td>
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<td>Merit Medical Ireland Ltd.</td>
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<td>KD Group Mechanical Engineers</td>
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<td>Global Rail Services Ltd.</td>
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<td>K Leisure</td>
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<td>Cork City Council</td>
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<td>EMR Integrated Solutions</td>
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<td>Sky Handling Partner Ltd.</td>
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<td>Towercom Limited</td>
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<td>Alkermes Pharma Ireland Ltd.</td>
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<td>Roadbridge Corrib On-Shore Pipeline Project</td>
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<td>Mercury Engineering</td>
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<td>Hertel (Ireland) Ltd.</td>
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<td>EU Power &amp; Energy Ltd.</td>
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<td>Acacia Facilities Management Ltd.</td>
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<td>Ballina Beverages</td>
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<td>BioMarin International Limited</td>
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<td>KN Group</td>
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<td>Wexford County Council</td>
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<td>Honeywell Transportation Ireland Ltd.</td>
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<td>Bon Secours Hospital Galway</td>
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<td>Jones Engineering Group Heavy Lift and Rigging Division</td>
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<td>John Cradock Ltd.</td>
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<td>Roanakabin Manufacturing Ltd.</td>
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<td>Aura Sport &amp; Leisure Management Ltd.</td>
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<td>Bon Secours Hospital Dublin</td>
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<td>Xerox Technology</td>
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<td>Intel Ireland Ltd. in conjunction with DPS Engineering</td>
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<td>PM Group</td>
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<td>Cold Chon (Galway) Ltd., Sligo</td>
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<td>Road Safety Operations Ireland</td>
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<tr>
<td>Element Six (Family of De Beers and Anglo American)</td>
<td>Highly Commended</td>
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<td>Maveric Contractors</td>
<td>Highly Commended</td>
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<td>Office Depot (Ireland) Ltd.</td>
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<td>MMD Construction</td>
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<td>UPC Ireland Ltd.</td>
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<td>The Commission for Communications Regulations (COMREG)</td>
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<td>ISS Facility Services</td>
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<td>McAleer &amp; Teague Ltd.</td>
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<td>Rosderra Irish Meats</td>
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The NISO/NISG Occupational Health Award supported by the Health and Safety Authority (HSA) and the Health Services Executive for Northern Ireland (HSENI) was won by Eli Lilly S.A. – Ireland Branch.

The inaugural Anderco Superior Performance Award was won by Lagan Construction Group.

The Small / Sub Contractor, Safety Innovation Award 2015, in association with the Construction Safety Partnership (CSP), was awarded to SNPS Ltd.

The Safety Representative of the Year Award 2015, in association with Nfast, was awarded to Pauline Walsh, Ballina Beverages.

The award winners above are sorted randomly within their respective award categories.
AWARDS FEATURE

Intel Ireland Ltd., winner of the Information Technology and Computer Services Award

L to R: Keith Morrison, CEO, HSENI; Jimmy Fenton, chairperson, NISG; Niall Gallagher, EHS manager, Intel Ireland Ltd.; Pauric Corrigan, president, NISO; Martin O’Halloran, CEO, HSA.

Central Bank of Ireland, winner of the Financial / Insurance Award

L to R: Keith Morrison, CEO, HSENI; Jimmy Fenton, chairperson, NISG; Liam McMunn, EHS officer, Central Bank of Ireland; Pauric Corrigan, president, NISO; Martin O’Halloran, CEO, HSA.

Mardyke Arena UCC, winner of the Sport / Leisure Award

L to R: Keith Morrison, CEO, HSENI; Jimmy Fenton, chairperson, NISG; Keith Walsh, health and safety manager, Mardyke Arena UCC; Pauric Corrigan, president, NISO; Martin O’Halloran, CEO, HSA.

Kilcawley Construction, winner of the Construction: Industrial / Commercial Award

L to R: Keith Morrison, CEO, HSENI; Jimmy Fenton, chairperson, NISG; Lisa O’Donnell, health, safety and environmental manager, Kilcawley Construction; Dermot Carey, head of safety services, Construction Industry Federation; Pauric Corrigan, president, NISO; Martin O’Halloran, CEO, HSA.

TLI Group, winner of the Construction: Utility Services Award

L to R: Keith Morrison, CEO, HSENI; Jimmy Fenton, chairperson, NISG; Brendan O’Driscoll, EHS manager, TLI Group; Demot Carey, head of safety services, Construction Industry Federation; Pauric Corrigan, president, NISO; Martin O’Halloran, CEO, HSA.

Musgrave Wholesale Partners, winner of the Retail / Wholesale Award

L to R: Keith Morrison, CEO, HSENI; Jimmy Fenton, chairperson, NISG; Mark Dunne, company health and safety manager, Musgrave Wholesale Partners; Pauric Corrigan, president, NISO; Martin O’Halloran, CEO, HSA.
Bon Secours Hospital Tralee, winner of the Regional Award (South)
L to R: Keith Morrison, CEO, HSENI; Jimmy Fenton, chairperson, NISG; Breda Doyle, best practice manager, Bon Secours Hospital Tralee; Pauric Corrigan, president, NISO; Martin O’Halloran, CEO, HSA.

Global Rail Services Ltd. was awarded with a Distinction
L to R: Keith Morrison, CEO, HSENI; Jimmy Fenton, chairperson, NISG; Ciaran Kelly, QSE Adviser, Global Rail Services Ltd.; Pauric Corrigan, president, NISO; Martin O’Halloran, CEO, HSA.

BH Tree Services, winner of the Best New Entry: Small Sized Organisation Award
L to R: Keith Morrison, CEO, HSENI; Jimmy Fenton, chairperson, NISG; Liam Barry, director, BH Tree Services; Pauric Corrigan, president, NISO; Martin O’Halloran, CEO, HSA.

Walsh Mechanical Engineering Ltd. was awarded with a Distinction
L to R: Keith Morrison, CEO, HSENI; Jimmy Fenton, chairperson, NISG; Lisa McGowan, safety officer, Walsh Mechanical Engineering Ltd.; Pauric Corrigan, president, NISO; Martin O’Halloran, CEO, HSA.

Baxter Healthcare - Irish Manufacturing Operations, was awarded with a Distinction
L to R: Keith Morrison, CEO, HSENI; Jimmy Fenton, chairperson, NISG; Caithiona Gannon, EHS manager, Baxter Healthcare, Irish Manufacturing Operations; Pauric Corrigan, president, NISO; Martin O’Halloran, CEO, HSA.

ISS Facility Services was Commended
L to R: Keith Morrison, CEO, HSENI; Jimmy Fenton, chairperson, NISG; Maeve O’Higgins, EHS manager, ISS Facility Services; Pauric Corrigan, president, NISO; Martin O’Halloran, CEO, HSA.
NISO Welcomes New Members

National Irish Safety Organisation would like to welcome all of the organisations that have joined us in recent months. As a not for profit organisation with charitable status, your membership of NISO supports our endeavours to promote occupational health and safety awareness in Irish workplaces.

Membership of NISO clearly demonstrates your ongoing commitment to improving health and safety standards in your workplace. We value your support and look forward to your interaction with NISO in 2016.

Contact NISO on 01 465 9760 or email info@niso.ie for more information on NISO membership or to receive a Membership Brochure.

New Members
Organisations to recently join NISO include:

- AIB
- BH Tree Services Ltd.
- Carrack na Brack Developments Ltd.
- Corrib Training
- Eco Mechanical Solutions
- E&M Security Ltd.
- Goodman Medical Ireland Limited
- Lifting Equipment Engineers
- Pat Smith Engineering Ltd.
- Sean Ahern Ltd.
- SQT Training
- Vistec Ltd.

Featured Members

SQT Training
SQT Training, established in 1989, is one of Ireland’s leading providers of health and safety training courses.

SQT Training offers a range of over 30 occupational health and safety courses, available on both a public and in-house basis. Various courses are available with NEBOSH, IRCA and QQI Accreditation. Full details are available on www.sqt-training.com.

Lifting Equipment Engineers
Lifting Equipment Engineers have over 20 years’ experience in certification and inspection of all types of lifting equipment.

Working with Lifting Equipment Engineers will ensure that you receive top customer service and always remain compliant.

Lifting Equipment Engineers provide inspection and load testing for all mobile construction equipment, including:

- Telehandlers
- Forklifts
- Excavators
- Truck Mounted Cranes
- Site Dumpers
- Articulated Dump Trucks
- Loading Shovels
- Tractor and Trailer Reports
- Quarry brake testing
- Lifting accessories

They will issue a GA1 certification for lifting equipment. For all other qualifying equipment they will provide a report of thorough examination, which will help you meet your obligations and comply with current legislation, and guidelines. Please visit www.leeng.ie or contact info@leeng.ie for further information.
The Business Case for Managing Work Related Road Risk

Noel Lacey, inspector with the transport safety unit of the Health and Safety Authority, writes about the management of work-related road risk.

Using the road for business is the leading cause of work-related deaths and injuries in Ireland. Therefore, Work-Related Road Risk Management (WRRRM) should also be a priority for businesses and organisations for legal, ethical, moral, societal, reputational and financial reasons.

Work-Related Road Safety (WRRS) is a priority program area for the Health and Safety Authority (HSA). The HSA works closely with An Garda Síochána and the Road Safety Authority to influence improvements in work-related road safety in Ireland. The Work-Related Road Safety program aims to influence improvements in work-related road risk management, particularly in the areas of:

- driving for work,
- working on or near the road, and
- load securing for road transport.

To date, a range of resources have been jointly developed to help employers understand and manage work-related road risk including: Guidelines for Employers on Managing Driving for Work; Safe Driving for Work Driver Handbook; Driver Health Guidelines; Driving for Work Risk Assessment Checklist; Driving for Work Company Case Studies; Daily Vehicle Pre-Check instructional videos and fact sheets. These resources and many others can be downloaded for free from www.vehiclesatwork.ie.

The Authority is working closely with a range of stakeholder groups representing employers, employees, educators and business sectors such as agriculture, construction and transport to influence the uptake and integration of the Work-Related Road Risk Management message.

Does my organisation need to manage work related road risk?

Think about the following questions and if the answer is “yes” to any of them then senior management in your organisation have a responsibility to ensure that appropriate WRRRM systems and controls are in place and operating effectively:

- Do we operate vehicles for work?
- Do our employees drive for work purposes?
- Do employees or others drive on our premises?
- Do we provide employees with personal vehicles?
- Do we operate mopeds, motorcycles or bicycles?
- Do we employ/contract transport services?

The management of work-related road risk is not just for organisations with large fleets and lots of drivers, it applies to small businesses with one or two drivers. Regardless of the size of organisation or number of drivers, key risk factors to manage include speed, driving under the influence of alcohol or drugs, fatigue, stress and distraction.

Business Case for Managing Road Risk

The management of work-related road risk is centred on preventing harm to people and protecting property and the environment. It involves managing road safety in a proactive way for financial, moral and legal reasons with the aim of achieving safe drivers, journeys and vehicles. Effective management of road safety provides an opportunity to reduce costs in lots of ways. For example:

- Reduced running costs such as fuel consumption and vehicle maintenance/repairs through better driving standards.
- Fewer working days lost to injuries.
- Less time needed for investigations and paperwork.
- Fewer missed orders and business opportunities.
- Lower insurance premiums.

Managing Young Drivers at Work

Young people continue to face a disproportionately high risk on the road, especially young males. Evidence shows that young people have the highest collision involvement of any road user group. Young drivers are not just a danger to themselves; they also pose a greater risk to their passengers and other road users.

Organisations are becoming increasingly aware of the business case for introducing road safety management programmes tailored for younger drivers. If your organisation employs younger drivers you need to consider their particular needs. The key risk factors highlighted above are even more relevant because of their age and lack of experience.

Further Information

For further information on managing work-related road risk or to download the free driving for work resources, visit the “vehicles at work” section of the HSA’s website at www.hsa.ie or telephone 1890 289389. For European information visit the European Transport Safety Council at www.etsc.eu.

HEALTH AND SAFETY AUTHORITY
IOSH branches join forces to promote farm safety across Ireland and Northern Ireland

Agriculture continues to be one of the most hazardous industries in which to work.

In Ireland alone, 41 people have died working in the agricultural sector since the start of 2014, while a further 33 farm workers were also killed across the UK in 2014–15.

In most instances, the tragedies were as a result of incidents which involved tractors or other farm vehicles and machinery. Other cases involved handling livestock or were caused by a worker becoming trapped or crushed, drowning, suffocating or falling from height.

There have been other incidents in which people have been seriously hurt while working on farms – in many cases suffering life-altering injuries.

All of the regulators and other relevant organisations are working to promote farm safety across the UK and Ireland to make the sector safer for all.

One of the key focuses has been to encourage farm workers to try new working routines, techniques and behaviours. In many cases farm workers have been found to be employing practices which may have been used by many generations of farming families, but that are now outdated for modern-day farming.

It is against this backdrop that the Institution of Occupational Safety and Health (IOSH) prepare to host a farm and farmer safety event for workers throughout Ireland and Northern Ireland.

IOSH Ireland and Northern Ireland branches, supported by the Ireland Branch’s Rural Industries Section, are to explore six scenarios which have been found to be the most common causes of injuries or fatalities in UK and Irish agriculture – chainsaws, tractors, use of chemicals, animal management, farm building construction and electricity, and slurry management.

Each will be focussed on in-depth during a series of workshops due to take place at Teagasc’s Ballyhaise Agricultural College in Co Cavan on 11 November.

Instructors from the college will join experts from Coillte and farm building management company Kilmoon Trading in leading the demonstrations, with representatives from the Health and Safety Executive Northern Ireland (HSENI) also highlighting new and emerging trends in farm safety.

Liam Howe, Chair of IOSH Ireland Branch, said: “All six are issues regularly faced by farm workers but it is not just farmers who are getting injured and killed. Their wives and children, as well as members of the general public, are also at risk.

“Agriculture currently has the highest number of accident and deaths per year in Ireland. Education around improving farm and farmer safety is therefore a major priority.

“Through this event we want to support and build on the good work of the HSA, HSENI and other health services and organisations that are promoting initiatives to improve farm safety. We also recognise that IOSH, with nearly 2,000 members in Ireland, has a role to play in supporting farmers to work safely in an ever-changing and demanding profession.

“We thank Ballyhaise Agricultural College for their kind permission to utilise their facilities and expertise in order to stage this important event.”

IOSH Northern Ireland has been actively supporting HSENI and its Farm Safety Action Plan. The strategy, which runs until March 2017, outlines the regulator’s plans to support the local farming community promote safe working and good practice.
There were 67 work-related fatalities in Northern Ireland’s farming sector between 2004 and 2013. Among those killed were five children aged under 11.

Richard McIvor, Chair of IOSH Northern Ireland Branch, said members will continue to work with and support the HSENI’s initiative to help reduce injuries and deaths in the farming industry.

He said: “Farm safety is an issue with relevance in both Northern Ireland and Ireland. We hope this joint event and the safety demonstrations will drive home simple and easy steps that all people involved in agriculture can take in order to make it a safer and healthier profession for all.”

Áine English, Chair of IOSH Ireland Branch’s Rural Industries Section, also urged farmers and anyone who promotes safety and health in the agriculture sector in Ireland or Northern Ireland, to attend.

“It is an opportunity to see highly trained specialists using safe working practices at first-hand, and to also discuss with them any challenges workers may be experiencing,” she said.

The free-to-attend session will be the first that the IOSH Ireland and Northern Ireland branches have jointly held on the issue of farm safety.

Its staging also follows a number of other events that IOSH branches and districts throughout Ireland have held this year on the topic.

The IOSH Ireland Branch’s Western and North Western Districts and Rural Industries Section combined to host an event in March to highlight ways of improving safety on and around farms in the west of Ireland.

Members of IOSH Ireland’s North Western District also discussed the dangers of farm machinery at a meeting in July.

Anyone interested in attending the farm and farm safety event at Ballyhaise Agricultural College in November can email the IOSH Bookings Team at bookings@iosh.co.uk.

Further details are also available within the Events section at www.iosh.co.uk, or via the Branch News section at www.iosh.ie.
Help on fire safety and the duties of the fire warden

NISO team answers members’ queries.

QUESTION
(a) What are the duties of a fire warden?
(b) How many fire warden do I need in a building?

ANSWER
(a) What are the duties of a fire warden?
Fire warden can have as broad or as narrow a role as you see fit, depending on various factors, such as your organisation, your fire risk, your fire prevention programme, the number of employees or even the number of floors in the building. So the role they undertake will vary from organisation to organisation. Generally they have the following role: In a non-emergency situation, they could be involved in carrying out safety checks of fire exits, fire evacuation routes, visual inspections of fire extinguishers (to ensure that they are in place and have not been tampered with etc.), water hoses, fire hydrants outside, training of other employees in fire safety awareness etc.

They will also need to be de-briefed after any emergency. In an emergency situation/fire drill they are generally assigned to a floor, department or small building and their key role is to sweep that floor/department/building and “sweep all persons, employees and others, towards the relevant exits” so that they can declare that that floor/department/building is entirely empty. They will accompany their people to their final Assembly Point outside and check in with the evacuation co-ordinator to declare that their area is empty.

A Fire Warden should always be clearly identified and may be required to wear a hi-viz jacket with “Fire Warden” on the back, so that they are clearly seen by everyone else. When they begin their sweep they should start at the point of greatest danger and sweep away from that point. They should not enter smoky areas, as they may be overcome by smoke. They should also close all doors after them once the area is empty. They should never endanger themselves, should never open doors that are hot to the touch or spend time arguing with persons who refuse to leave – they should note who and where they are and move on.

They should then pass this information on the evacuation co-ordinator. One of the key issues to be taken into account during their “sweep” is that they must check all rooms in their area, toilets, showers, store rooms, stationery stores, chemical stores etc., not just open offices or factory floors. If they come across injured persons, they should make contact with the evacuation co-ordinator to get medical help.

Generally they do not have fire fighting roles, this is undertaken by the separate but linked emergency response team. Companies may appoint fire warden to carry out specific duties, such as a stair fire warden.

If you are planning to appoint fire warden, they will need specific training, which would include awareness of key fire safety duties under the law (Fire Services Act 1981 and Regulation 13 within Chapter 1 of Part 2 of the General Application Regulations 2007 – dealing with Workplace).

A training programme would typically equip them to do the following:

- Understand the emergency plan for the organisation
- Understand their own role and be competent to carry it out
- Understand and recognise habitual human behaviour in a fire situation
- Understand the basic principles of fire risk assessment
- Be aware of how to prevent fires or limit their impact
- Be aware of specific evacuation routes, exits, those with special needs who may need specific assistance in any evacuation, buddy arrangements etc. for their area
- Become familiar with areas of refuge available on their floor, if they exist
- Recognise the need for fire drills and pre-planning for fire and their role in them
- Recognise active and passive fire safety measures and facilities
- Offer assistance to anyone who may need it.

(b) How many fire warden are required?
It all depends on your organisation, your fire risk, your fire prevention programme, the number of employees, the number of floors in the building etc. There are no hard and fast rules about the number required.

In trying to determine how many you need, your fire risk assessments will be a major determining factor and you should try to appoint and train up deputy fire wardens to cover during holiday and sickness absences.
Legislation

European Union (System for the Identification and Traceability of Explosives for Civil SES) (Amendment) Regulations [S.I. No. 201 of 2015]
This Regulation amends the European Communities (System for Identification and Traceability of Explosives for Civil Uses) Regulations 2009 (S.I. No. 133 of 2009). It clarifies the offence of persons acquiring or supplying explosives manufactured in another Member State which are not marked with a unique identification in accordance with the Commission Directive, and the enforcement measures available to an authorised officer in relation to such explosives. It also includes some minor technical amendments.

European Union (Properties of Waste which Render it Hazardous) Regulations 2015 [S.I. No. 233/2015]

Building Control (Amendment) Regulations 2015 [S.I. No. 243/2015]
The above Regulations provide for a revision in certain cases of the fee specified in Part A of the Fifth Schedule to the Principal Regulations in respect of an application for a Disability Access Certificate or a Revised Disability Access Certificate.

While the standard fee for an application for a Disability Access Certificate or a Revised Disability Access Certificate shall continue to be €500, a reduced fee of €300 shall apply where the application is made prior to the commencement of works and coincides with an application for a fire safety certificate, where relevant.

Clause 2(e) of Part B of the Fifth Schedule to the Principal Regulations has also been revised to clarify that where a building control authority makes a refund in respect of an application for a Disability Access Certificate or a Revised Disability Access Certificate the refund shall not reduce the balance of the fee paid in respect of such application to less than €300.

European Union (Railway Safety) Regulations 2013 (Amendment) Regulations 2015 [S.I. No. 280/2015]

S.I. No. 288/2015 - European Communities (Carriage of Dangerous Goods by Road and Use of Transportable Pressure Equipment) (Amendment) (No. 2) Regulations 2015.


European Communities (Environmental Liability) (Amendment) Regulations 2015 [S.I. No. 293/2015]
Article 38 of Directive 2013/30/EU requires that the definition of water damage in Directive 2004/35/EC be replaced so that the definition is extended to include damage that significantly adversely affects the environmental status of marine waters as defined in Directive 2008/56/EC establishing a framework for community action in the field of marine environmental policy (the Marine Strategy Framework Directive).

Fatal workplace injuries by economic sector 2008-2015 (NACE Revision 2)

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<td>I Accommodation and food service activities</td>
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<td>M Professional, scientific and technical activities</td>
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<td>N Administrative and support service activities</td>
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<td>O Public administration and defence; compulsory social security</td>
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<td>Q Human health and social work activities</td>
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<td>R Arts, entertainment and recreation</td>
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<td>S Other service activities</td>
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(Updated 7th October 2015)
National Irish Safety Organisation
Events Diary

Please keep an eye on our website: www.niso.ie for forthcoming courses in 2015/2016.

1. NISO Training Centre:

Safe Pass
Course Length: 1 day
16, 19 & 30 October

Occupational First Aid
Re-Certification, QQI Level 5
Course length: 1 day
19 October

Manual Handling Instructor & Assessor Course,
QQI Level 6
Course length: 5 days; 3 days
week 1 & 2 days week 2
November 2015 (TBC)

VDU / DSE Assessors Course
Course Length: 1 day
December 2015 (TBC)

MID WEST REGION
Annual General Meeting
Date: 2 December
Venue: Limerick

Safety Quiz
Date: 6 April 2016
Venue: Limerick

Course: NISO Introduction to
Occupational Health and Safety
Limerick Institute of
Technology
Course length: 13 weeks, 2 hrs
p/wk
Commencing: Spring 2016
Contact: FLlimerick@lit.ie

NORTH EAST REGION
Annual General Meeting
Date: 8 December
Venue: Dundalk

Safety Quiz
Date: 9 March 2016
Venue: Dundalk

NORTH WEST REGION
Annual General Meeting
Date: 16 November
Venue: Donegal

Safety Quiz
Date: 10 March 2016
Venue: Sligo

SOUTH EAST REGION
Training: Safe Pass
Date: 4 November
Venue: Springhill Court Hotel,
Kilkenny
Course length: 1 day

Training: Safe Pass
Date: 11 November
Venue: Clonmel Park Hotel,
Poppyfields, Clonmel, Tipperary
Course length: 1 day

Annual General Meeting
Date and Venue: TBC

Safety Quiz
Date and Venue TBC

2. Courses and events in the regions

EAST REGION
Annual General Meeting
Date: 19 November
Venue: Dublin

Safety Quiz
Date: 26 February 2016
Venue: Dublin

MIDLAND REGION
Annual General Meeting
Date: 9 December
Venue: Tullamore

Safety Quiz
Date: 8 March 2016
Venue: Tullamore

Course: NISO Introduction to
Occupational Health and Safety
Athlone Institute of Technology
Course length: 13 weeks, 2 hrs
p/wk
Commencing: Spring 2016
Contact: midland@niso.ie

SOUTH REGION
Training: Safe Pass
Date: 28 October
Venue: Clayton Hotel Silver
Springs, Cork
Course length: 1 day

Annual General Meeting
Date: 1 December
Venue: Cork

3. National/All Ireland Events

NISO Safety Representation
Conference
Date: January 2015
Venue: Dublin.

National Annual General
Meeting
Date: 16 April 2016
Venue: Radisson Blu Hotel,
Athlone, Co. Westmeath

All Ireland Safety Quiz Finals
Date: 16 April 2016
Venue: Radisson Blu Hotel,
Athlone, Co. Westmeath