

SAFETY UPDATE

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ACCREDITATION IS ONLY ONE WAY TO COMPETENCE

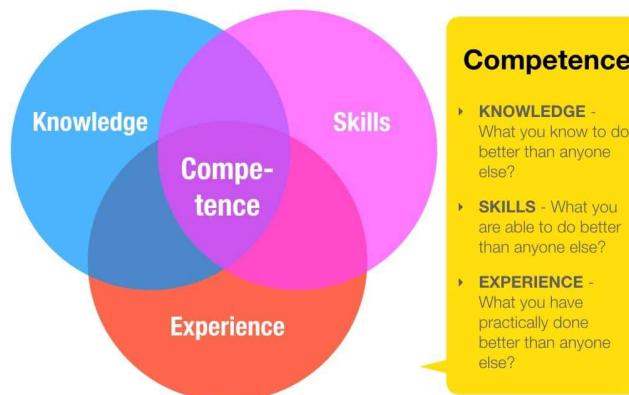
HSE publishes guidance on demonstrating CDM 2015 competence

The HSE website now contains [advice on accreditation](#) schemes used to demonstrate of competence (skills, knowledge, experience and organisation capability) in health and safety matters.

The regulator points out that accreditation by a third party is just “one way” to demonstrate competence and that the law “does not require accreditation”. The HSE advise goes on to add:

“For construction work, being certificated against a scheme is not proof that an organisation can properly manage the risks presented by the work on site.

So, buyers will also need to check a supplier can meet project-specific site requirements. Before asking a supplier to start work, check their skills and track record, too.”



Mutual recognition

Safety Schemes in Procurement (SSIP) enables mutual recognition between health and safety assessment schemes, particularly within the construction industry.

SSIP member schemes apply core criteria which describe what it means for a construction business to comply with basic health and safety law.

Mutual recognition should lead to savings for buyers and suppliers and help deliver more proportionate implementation of accreditation.

NEW CPA CRANE SAFETY GUIDANCE ISSUED

Guide covers use of mobile lifting appliances beside railways

The Construction Plant-hire Association (CPA) Crane Interest Group has launched a new publication entitled *Good Practice Guide: Requirements for Mobile Cranes Alongside Railways Controlled by Network Rail*.

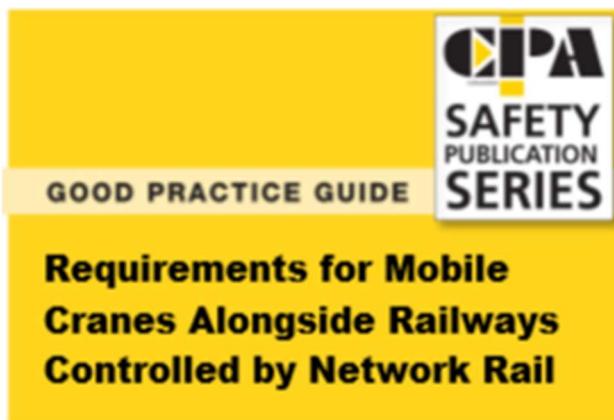
The 29-page publication has been produced in close co-operation with Network Rail and is free to [download](#) from the CPA website.

Mobile cranes and other mobile lifting equipment may present a significant risk to railway operations during activities such as rigging, use, maintenance and de-rigging and both Network Rail and crane users have a duty to ensure the safety of the railway.

Catastrophic potential

The CPA stress:

"If the crane or its load falls onto the track, this could lead to a catastrophic accident. It is therefore essential that best practice is followed to eliminate or reduce this risk to as low as reasonably practicable. In doing so, the crane user will be able to demonstrate to Network Rail and other regulators that adequate measures have been put in place. The Good Practice Guide includes topics such as a hierarchy of risk elimination and reduction; detailed requirements for crane configuration and setting up; and lift planning – all with the emphasis on the additional risks of operating in close proximity to the railway. It also includes sample documents such as a foundation pre-rigging inspection report form."



SCAFFOLDING AWARENESS TRAINING FOR ALL

CISRS set to target painters, bricklayers, electricians and plumbers

Tradesmen and other construction workers will soon be able to undertake a one-day scaffolding awareness course at a range of training centres across the country.

It will provide attendees with a greater understanding and appreciation of the potential dangers of working at height on scaffolds and enable them to identify the core components of a safe scaffold.

Basic understanding of what compliant scaffold looks like

Delegates will be issued with a CISRS Scaffolding Awareness certificate upon successful completion of the course.

The course has been welcomed by the National Access & Scaffolding Confederation (NASC). Stephen Allen-Tidy, NASC Health and Safety Advisor, said:



"Through the introduction of the scaffolding awareness training course the scope of safety training efforts is being extended beyond scaffolding operatives, helping to ensure that all workers who set foot on a scaffold can carry out the tasks they require safely."

CASES

PRECAUTIONS ON PAPER LACKING IN PRACTICE

Fatal fall through opening in concrete slab during work with breaker

A London-based construction company has been fined £300,000 for safety breaches after a workman died on an Acton construction project in November 2015.

Westminster Magistrates heard how the employee was using a concrete breaker to make an opening for a stairwell when he fell 7.5 m to the floor below sustaining fatal head injuries.

WORKMAN FELL FROM UNSECURED LADDER

Industrial cladding company failed to assess and control WAH

The defendant was sentenced for safety breaches after a worker shattered his elbow in a fall from height in February 2017.

Sheffield Magistrates heard how the workman was using a ladder to access a flat roof to fit the capping on a security office gatehouse at a poultry processing factory in Thorne, Doncaster.

Ladder not tied or footed

HSE investigators found that a ladder was being used as access to stand on the roof of the security gatehouse. The ladder was resting against wet metal wall cladding and was not tied or being footed.

The workman climbed the ladder to fix some capping. As he neared the top of the ladder the ladder slipped, and he fell approximately 3m to the ground below.

The company from Doncaster pleaded guilty to breaching Regulation 4 (1) of the Work at Height Regulations 2005 and was fined £10,000 with £1,238 costs.

After the hearing, HSE inspector Trisha Elvy commented:



"This case highlights the importance of proper planning and supervision of work at height."

"This incident could so easily have been avoided by simply carrying out correct control measures and safe working practices."

Control measures "virtually absent"

HSE investigators found the work was not properly planned, adequately supervised or carried out in a safe manner when the incident occurred.

The company of Hackney Road, London, pleaded guilty to breaching Section 2 (1) of the Health & Safety at Work etc. Act 1974 and was fined £300,000 and ordered to pay £17,528 in costs.

Speaking after the hearing, HSE inspector Kevin Smith said:



"This was a tragic and wholly avoidable incident, caused by the failure of the company to implement suitable and sufficient measures to prevent falls."

"While, on paper, the defendant had identified control measures which could have prevented this incident from occurring; in practice, these safeguards were virtually absent."

"Ultimately, the company failed to control the risk on site and as a result one of its workers fell to his death."

ARM DRAGGED INTO CONVEYOR BELT DANGER

Workman seriously injured on first day at work in quarry

A quarry operator has been fined after failing to keep fixed guards in place on moving machinery, causing serious injuries to the arm of an employee in December 2016.

Telford Magistrates' Court heard how the new employee was injured on his first day working at the quarry. His arm became caught and dragged into the 'nip point' between the conveyor belt and rotating tail drum.

The injuries suffered resulted in the need for multiple skin graft operations and has left him with permanent scarring on his arm.

Risk identified months before incident

HSE investigators found the company failed to ensure that the fixed guards were effective to prevent access to dangerous parts of machinery, despite this risk having been identified several months before the incident.

The company from Shropshire pleaded guilty to breaching Section 2(1) of the Health and Safety Executive etc Act 1974 and was fined £44,000.

Speaking after the hearing, HSE inspector Simon Edwards said

"This could have easily been prevented and the risk should have been identified."



Entanglement in conveyor systems is a significant cause of serious incidents in the quarry industry. Quarry operators should make sure they properly assess and apply effective control measures to minimise the risk from dangerous parts of machiner. "

DIRECTOR JAILED OVER PAINT STRIPPER ILLEGAL SALE

Banned and restricted chemicals sold contrary to legal requirements

A company director has been sentenced to 10 months in prison for the online sale of products containing [prohibited](#) substances in 2014.

Warwick Crown Court heard that the company was selling a plant protection product containing Sodium Chlorate, a prohibited substance.

HSE investigators also found the company was selling paint stripper containing dichloromethane (DCM), which is restricted under [REACH](#)

The company failed to check at the point of sale the paint stripper containing DCM was either being sold for use in industrial installations (post October 2016) to appropriately certificated professionals, which is a condition of sale.

HSE enforcement notices ignored

HSE worked with online platforms to have the advertisements for these products taken down and served enforcement notices to prohibit further supply which were ignored.

The director of Nuneaton pleaded guilty to breaching regulations 9 and 18 of The Plant Protection Products Regulations 2011 and regulation 10 of The REACH Enforcement Regulations 2008, and was given a 10-month custodial sentence.

Speaking after the hearing, HSE inspector Sarah Dutton said:

REACH – Restrictions

This leaflet provides a brief introduction to the REACH restriction provisions.

The leaflet is in two parts. In Part 1, we look at what restrictions are and what they could mean for companies within the EU. In Part 2, we look at how a substance becomes subject to restriction and the processes involved.

Part 1

What is restriction?

Restriction is one way REACH operates to reduce the risks posed by hazardous substances. Under restriction, the manufacture, import, placing on the market or use of a substance can be made subject to certain conditions, going as far as prohibition in some circumstances.

A restriction can apply to a substance on its own or in a mixture, or to an article containing the substance. It can apply to any substance, including those that do not require registration. There are no tonnage thresholds for restrictions. The substances to which restrictions apply and the terms of those restrictions are listed in Annex XVII of the REACH Regulation.

"Chemicals are carefully regulated to protect human health and the environment. Sodium Chlorate is not approved for use in weed killers, as a safe level of use was not established for operators. Dichloromethane (DCM) has been restricted in paint strippers due to concerns for human health during its use – it has caused fatalities when not used properly."

SCAFFOLDER FELL THROUGH FRAGILE ROOFLIGHT

Fall through roof leaves workman with life-changing injuries

A scaffolding contractor from Poole in Dorset has been sentenced after a worker sustained serious, life changing injuries after falling 5m through a skylight in April 2017.

Poole Magistrates heard the workman was involved in the erection of an access tower and guard rails around the roof of industrial units in Christchurch.

He was assisting colleagues with the guard rails and was gaining access to this work via the roof when he fell through an in plane rooflight. He suffered numerous fractures and remained in hospital for three weeks and is now registered as disabled.

Insufficient measures prevent fall through roof

HSE investigators found that the employer failed to ensure the work at height was properly planned, supervised and carried out safely. Insufficient measures were taken to prevent a fall through the fragile roof.

The scaffolding contractor pleaded guilty to breaching Regulation 4(1) of the Work at Height Regulations 2005. They have been fined £10,000 and ordered to pay costs of £3666.80.

Speaking after the hearing HSE inspector Caroline Penwill said:



"Mr Norris's injuries were life changing for both him and his family. He could have easily been killed. This serious incident could have been avoided if the work had been properly planned to reduce risk"

£1MILLION FINE OVER VEHICLE RISK MANAGEMENT

Death of workman exposed uncontrolled vehicle manoeuvring

A major UK company has been fined £1m after a workman died when he was struck by a reversing vehicle in October 2013.

Canterbury Crown Court heard how employee John Head suffered fatal injuries when he was run over by the reversing refuse collection vehicle (RCV) at a Waste Transfer Station in Folkestone.

Recognised control measures not implemented

HSE investigators found that multiple vehicles, including RCVs and articulated lorries, were manoeuvring in the workplace with no specific controls to prevent injury.

The company failed to adequately assess the risks and did not implement industry recognised control measures to protect employees.

The business of Pentonville Road, London has been found guilty after a trial of breaching Section 2(1) of the Health and Safety at Work Act 1974. The company was fined £1 million and ordered to pay prosecution costs of £130,000.

HSE inspector Kevin Golding said:

"This should be a reminder to all industries, but in particular, the waste industry, to appropriately assess the risks and implement widely recognised control measures to adequately control manoeuvring vehicles, in particular reversing vehicles and restrict pedestrian movements around vehicles."

PUBLICATIONS

What most concerns continuity and resilience professionals this year? Discover future threats, alongside previous disruptions, in this years' BCI Horizon Scan Report.

https://page.bsigroup.com/e/73472/l-73472-2019-02-19-hcqsfr/hhmppy/647560762?h=RrAjlg-pQZQcKsIMR1bM-uxNCjaqUNZt6lotUeo6d_I

December 2018 - PPE: A Year in Review BSI blog

https://www.bsigroup.com/en-GB/blog/Personal-Protective-Equipment-Blog/december-2018-ppe-a-year-in-review/?utm_source=pardot&utm_medium=email&utm_term=newsletter&utm_content=healthandsafety2&utm_campaign=GL-NEWS-Dynamic+newsletter-1902

BS 8599-1:2019 Workplace first aid kits. Specification for the contents of workplace first aid kits
From the BSI shop

https://shop.bsigroup.com/ProductDetail?pid=00000000030368062&utm_source=pardot&utm_medium=email&utm_term=newsletter&utm_content=healthandsafety3&utm_campaign=GL-NEWS-Dynamic+newsletter-1902