



The Institution of Occupational
Safety and Health

East Anglia Branch



Newsletter

Issue 41 – January 2009

Welcome

Your committee is busy working on the 2009-2010 calendar. We are always on the look-out for interesting speakers and topics that you want to hear about. Do let us know of anything that you want us to cover, or if you know a really inspiring speaker.

Keep an eye on our website, <http://www.iosheastanglia.co.uk/> for information about any additional events, such as workshops.

CPD Workshop

Contributed by Andy Bagworth

36 members attended a Continuing Professional Development (CPD) workshop at Abington near Cambridge in November.

Fiona Gelling from IOSH, explained to small groups how CPD worked and took delegates through a practical demonstration of how to enter CPD information into the web based 'MyCPD'

Some delegates then took the opportunity to log into their own 'MyCPD' with help on hand to get them started.

There was very positive feedback on the event and another similar workshop can be arranged if there is sufficient demand.

Please email Andy Bagworth on abagworth@anglianwater.co.uk if you are interested.



Please remember that CPD is mandatory for all members except affiliates – have you started yours yet?

Networks Conference

Contributed by Denis Hands, Branch Procedures Co-ordinator

Some members of the Branch committee attended a two-day conference in Leicester during November 2008 to hear of changes that the Institution is proposing to make that will affect how Branches and Districts are financed and governed. 'Networks' is the new phrase being used by IOSH to encompass all Branches, Districts and Specialist Groups

Finance

At present the funding for each Branch is based upon its number of members with funding being received in grants from The Grange throughout the year. It is proposed that in future each Branch will receive funding based upon a 'business plan' which outlines the following year's planned activities plus a further 'lump sum' as a contingency fund. The practical effect of this is that each year's programme of Branch meetings, seminar, workshops etc. will have to be planned that much earlier to enable the business plan to be submitted to The Grange for approval. Consequently the Branch committee has already outlined the 2009/2010 programme of events and is to hold an additional committee meeting in January 2009, to 'put some flesh on the bone'.

Hopefully, you the members will notice no difference in that each year you will still receive an excellent programme of events, including the nice little extras such as a buffet lunch at Branch

meetings. Early indications from the Grange are that "no bid for reasonable expenses will be rejected."

Governance

The conference also revealed that The Grange is of the opinion that an extra link is needed in the chain of communication between it and the various Branch / District committees. It is proposed that a Branch Liaison Committee is established through which all Branches / Districts will be represented, either directly or indirectly. It is proposed that this new committee will have no more than 12 members whereas at present there are 44 Branches and Districts.

The mechanism which will ensure that all Branches and Districts have an effective voice on this committee is still being debated, as is the question of who will be entitled to vote in any election that may be necessary. Systems of regional or cyclical representation have been suggested but we will have to wait and see.

Again, the members of the Branch should not notice any difference in the way that the Branch operates, other than perhaps, being asked participate in an election process at some time next year.

Branch Meeting 12th December 2008: Waste Management Duty of Care,

Contributed by Barbara Back

At the Branch Meeting in December we were please to welcome two speakers.

Steve Hegerty came to us from Augean PLC, Specialists in Waste Management.

Steve divided his talk into several topic areas which he discussed in depth. In brief these areas are as follows:

What is waste?

Covered by the Waste Management Licensing Regulations

Defined as any substance or object which is required to be discarded. There are exclusions

which can be found in the European Framework Directive. A company can be a "Producer" of waste or a "Holder" of waste. A "Holder" of waste is the legally recognised person in possession of waste i.e. carrier.

What is the Duty of Care?

Under the Environmental Protection Act 1990 Section 34 the following key steps must be applied to meet the Duty of Care:

- a) Prevent the escape of waste in storage
- b) Only pass waste to authorised persons
- c) Describe waste so can comply with DOC
- d) Keep records and documents

Waste Management Duty of Care, continued

The purpose is to protect human health and prevent environmental pollution

What types of waste are there?

Controlled waste is defined as:

Household waste – Domestic properties

Commercial waste – Trade premises

Industrial waste - Factories & Industry

Clinical waste – Hospitals & Surgeries

The above are then sub-divided into Hazardous and Non-Hazardous waste as appropriate to ensure correct disposal methods.

What is Hazardous Waste?

Hazardous waste is described as waste which may cause harm to human health or pollution to the environment. There are 14 listed categories published by the EA in Document WM2.

If a company produces more than 250 kg of hazardous waste per year then they must register as a waste producer. There are some, but few, exemptions to this rule.

Questions to ask Waste Contractors

To ensure that your waste contractors meet their Duty Of Care the following Questions may help.

- Where do they take the waste?
- Is the facility authorised to receive it?
- What is done with your waste? (Some waste requires pre-treatment before landfill)
- What authorisations do they or their sub contractors hold
- Who is their carrier (may be sub contractor) and are they authorised?
- Who prepares the documents?
- Who has assessed the waste to ensure it is adequately described?
- Do they allow monitoring visits by their customers?
- What arrangements do they have for repeat collection of non-hazardous waste?

Role of EA

To monitor and enforce. Similar powers as HSE.

WEEE (Waste Electronic and Electrical Equipment)

Probably best known part of waste management as affects all companies.

Ultimately the manufacturers of WEEE are responsible for ensuring and paying for the effective disposal of the end product when discarded.

Advice

If you are responsible for waste management it is essential that you undergo appropriate training. This is available from Institute of Waste Management

Contact

stevehegerty@augeanplc.com

The second speaker was Alder Tye, Norwich City Council – Environmental Business Advisor

Not managing waste can cost a company 4% of its annual turnover. The drivers for change are:

1. Cost savings
2. Pressures from external bodies
 - Government – legislation & best practice
 - Customers
 - Supply Chain

Change adopts the following principles

- Eliminate
- Reduce
- Reuse
- Recycle
- Disposal

If you wish for help contact the following agencies:

Alder Tye- Environmental Business Advisor

01603-223002 alder.tye@norfolk.gov.uk

Envirowise – www.envirowise.gov.uk

Eastex – (materials exchange group – the home of one man's rubbish is another's treasure!)

www.eastex.org.uk

The Carbon Trust

Worker Engagement – November 7th 2008

Reported by Jane Blunt

We welcomed Gordon Crick to the November IOSH meeting. Worker engagement is a construction skills funded project, whose aim is to improve decision making in the control of risk by improving consultation and in so-doing to reduce accidents and ill health.

The modern workforce is not strongly unionised; this initiative is employer-led. There is a massive issue between expected behaviour and actual behaviour – only the workers know the actual behaviours.

How does the initiative prevent accidents & ill-health? By

- Engagement in risk assessment
- Improved communication of safe and healthy methods of work
- Briefing workers each day and checking understanding
- Learning from each other.

There are three key indicators:

1. Tangible commitment by managers to worker engagement
2. Adoption of various strategies & mechanisms to make consultation happen

3. Evidence that the workforce is being involved and that their views are being taken into account.

Involving the workforce is the heart of sensible H&S management. It is an essential element of CDM2007.

The priorities were

- A 'Stop work' procedure
- Training for managers and supervisors
- Influence directors and senior managers
- Encourage safety reps and champions, giving formal mechanisms for consultation.

A major piece of research by HSL has clarified the link between Worker Engagement and Behavioural Safety.

The results are tangible; one employer has seen a 54% reduction in RIDDOR reportables. The project has been instrumental in making a lasting change to one of Highways Agency's specification.

Forthcoming Branch Events

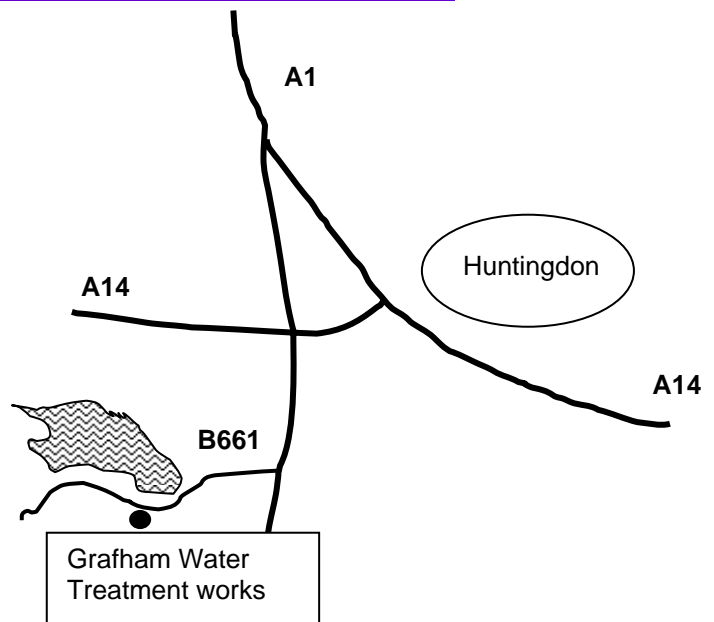
The next Branch meeting is February 6th

at The Cedars, Needham Road, Stowmarket, IP14 2AJ

There will be a number of speakers illustrating the practical application of dynamic risk assessment to a diverse range of problems.

The following meeting will be on March 6th

at Grafham Water Treatment Works, Perry Road, Perry, Cambs, PE28 0BW. The topic will be Nanotechnology, with a speaker who is an occupational health specialist.



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