Cancer: An occupational health challenge in the past, present and future?

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What I’ll do…..

• What’s the problem ?..........

• What priorities are HSE (and IOSH !) taking forward....

• What’s next ?????
Together, we can make a difference
Every week...
From construction related ill-health......
Will die.
Burden of occupational cancer

Lesley Rushton et al
Imperial College
London:

http://www.nature.com/bjc/journal/v107/n1s/index.html
# Top 10 causes of cancer registrations attributable to occupational carcinogens (Rushton/HSE)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rank</th>
<th>Agent/activity</th>
<th>Number of Registrations/year</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Asbestos</td>
<td>4216</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Shiftwork</td>
<td>1957</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Mineral oils</td>
<td>1730</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Solar radiation</td>
<td>1541</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Silica</td>
<td>907</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Diesel engine exhaust</td>
<td>801</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Coal tars and pitches</td>
<td>545</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Painters</td>
<td>359</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Tertachlorodibenzodioxin</td>
<td>316</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Tobacco</td>
<td>284</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Where’s the problem…?
What’s causing the problem?

![Bar chart showing numbers affected by different factors.]

- Asbestos
- DEE
- Lead
- PAHs
- Painters
- Silica
- Solar Radiation
- Wood dust
- Other

Numbers affected:
- Total Registrations
- Construction Registrations
- Construction Deaths
Silica
In Practice

industry adopted controls
Is there still a problem?:
2014 Health Initiative

- 13 Prohibition Notices;
- 108 Improvement Notices
- 267 Notices of Contravention issued at 146 sites
Is there still a problem? 2014 Refurbishment Initiative

- Health and Safety Inspection of smaller refurb sites:
  - 537 Notices (including 2 ELCI)
  - 314 PNs (including 46 on health)
  - 221 INs (including 92 on health)
Diesel Engine Exhaust Emissions

Is there still a problem?

• Tight emission standards
• Better technology / fuel

But:

• More diesel plant in use
• Work conditions – location, engine power and use
DEEEs: Filling the Knowledge Gap

• General Research into:
  1. Engine and fuel technology
  2. Occupational exposures
  3. Health outcomes
  4. Exposure monitoring markers
  5. Undertake on-site monitoring

• Construction Specific
UK National Atmospheric Emissions Inventory (NAEI):

- ‘mobile combustion in manufacturing industries and construction’ using ‘red diesel’ (Gas Oil)
DEEEEs: Next Steps

- Control principles remain the same – COSHH Hierarchy
- Finalise research
- Industry engagement
What to do .....?

Occupational Risks v Lifestyle Issues
What to do .....?

Surveillance/Monitoring?                  Risk Control?
HSE website guidance: How healthy is your business?

http://www.hse.gov.uk/construction/healthrisks/index.htm
IOSH: campaign on occupational cancer
IOSH - No time to lose ....

- 50+ work-related carcinogens – focusing on:
  - Diesel engine exhaust
  - Solar radiation
  - Silica
  - Shiftwork
  - Asbestos
IOSH - No time to lose ....
www.notimetolose.org.uk
What’s next?

Think Health!

—Greater focus on health, not just by HSE…
Thank you for listening

any questions?

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