

Innovative Safety Solutions Newsletter

September 2012

Edition No. 28

In This Issue

- Ladder Exchange
- Good Practise Awards
- Asbestos Regs 2012

Upcoming Training Dates

Emergency First Aid at Work

Monday 22nd Oct

Tuesday 27th Nov

Food Safety in Catering L2

Monday 8th Oct

Tuesday 13th Nov

Food Safety in Catering L3

15th / 16th / 17th Oct

6th / 13th / 20th Nov

IOSH Managing Safely

Starting Monday 19th Nov

NEBOSH General Certificate

Starting Friday 5th April
2013

This newsletter is provided for guidance and is not intended to provide a definitive analysis of health and safety legislation. We hope you find this newsletter useful. Do feel free to contact us should you wish to discuss any issues raised. You should take professional advice about any specific issue.



Around 2 million ladders are used every day in the UK, and despite a steady reduction, falls from height remain the most common kind of workplace fatality. In 2010/11, 38 workers died, 4,327 suffered a major injury and 10,232 suffered an 'over 3 day' injury when falling from ladders. Many of these incidents could have been avoided by people with the right training using the correct equipment that had been properly inspected and maintained.

A few years back, rumours started circulating that the HSE had banned ladders, but this is entirely untrue. There are some situations when ladders are great:

- Short duration – job only going to take 15 minutes? Go for it.
- Light load – not carrying more than a 'bucket of'? Go for it.
- Good access – no side on work? Nice stable floor? Nothing overhead? Go for it.
- Dressed appropriately – good footwear, no stilettos? Go for it.

Just bear in mind, ladders aren't always best for the job, and if you're only using them because you've got one to hand, maybe you're not keeping safe. Once you've decided to use a ladder, make sure it's in good condition. It might not always be easy to tell if your ladder is in a fit state to work with, both the Ladder Exchange and the HSE have guidance on their websites.

The Ladder Exchange has been running for 6 years, and in that time it has removed over 10,000 broken, bent or damaged ladders from the workplace. With the message '**Don't let a dodgy ladder shatter your life**' it provides all businesses with the opportunity to exchange broken, bent or damaged ladders for safe, new ones at a discounted price. To find your nearest exchange partner at www.ladderexchange.org.uk/findapartner.htm

The Ladder Exchange runs from 1st September 2012 – 30th November 2012

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Contact Us

Tel:
0151 420 5465
Email:
info@innovativesafety.co.uk
Post:

Innovative Safety Solutions
St Michael's House
Hale Road
Widnes
Cheshire
WA8 8XL

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Good Practise Awards

The Healthy Workplaces Campaign 2012–13 '*Working together for risk prevention*' encourages managers, workers and other stakeholders to join forces to improve safety and health. The European Good Practice Awards is one of the key events throughout the year and aims to demonstrate the benefits of following good safety and health practices.

The Campaign is co-ordinated by the European Agency for Safety and Health at Work (EU-OSHA), but each country has a body that runs its own programme, in our case it's the HSE. Each country will identify 2 national winners. These will then be nominated to take part in the pan-European competition.

Judges will only consider real-life working examples of good practices that promote occupational safety and health through managers and employees working together. They will be looking for genuine, effective leadership and worker participation; full support of senior management; successful implementation; real and demonstrable improvements in safety and health; account being taken of workforce diversity; sustainability over time and transferability to other workplaces.

If you think you have something to share, more details are available at <http://www.hse.gov.uk/campaigns/european/good-practice-awards.htm>



Changes to the Control of Asbestos Regulations

The new Control of Asbestos Regulations came into force on 6th April 2012. In theory the changes are fairly limited, unless of course you're the bloke that's got to update all the paperwork! In reality it means that some non-licensed work with asbestos now have additional requirements

- Some types of work need to be notified, where they didn't before
- Brief written records should be kept of non-licensed work which has to be notified (copy of the notification, a list of people on the job & likely level of exposure)
- All workers / self employed doing notifiable non-licensed work must be under health surveillance by a doctor

There have also been some changes in the language used to match other legislation, but everything else remains the same. If you've got any questions, you can always contact us, or there are more details on the HSE's website at: www.hse.gov.uk/asbestos/regulations.htm

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