

Workplace Health Expert Committee Open Meeting – Glasgow University, 10 Oct 2017

Name Workplace Health Expert Committee
This Community has been established to provide a work space for the WHEC, which is visible to, and accessible by, all of HSE's stakeholders.

Privacy The community is visible to anyone.

Managers whec-manager@webcommunities.hse.gov.uk

Recruitment of trainee health and safety inspectors awareness event

HSE is running a number of awareness events in June. Find out about what it takes to become a trainee inspector – come and meet some of our current inspectors and recruitment colleagues between 11.00am and 4.00pm at the locations below;

Dates and locations

Introduction

Our inspectors are the frontline of HSE's life saving work. Whether on a construction site, a farm or at a manufacturing plant, millions of workers come home safe and well because of the difference our regulators make.

From inspecting workplaces to investigating incidents, our people do some of the most important and rewarding work in government. You will play a big part in helping employers manage risk sensibly and proportionately, and Great Britain to work well.

As a health and safety inspector, no two days are the same – and every workplace you visit will be different, as will the people you'll meet.

Your workplace could be in the office, out on site or in court presenting evidence. And because the work is so important, we make a big investment in developing your regulatory skills, knowledge and abilities.

Our two year [trainee regulatory programme](#) is unique to HSE, resulting in a post graduate qualification and a substantial pay increase as a qualified

health and safety regulator.

You can make a difference to how Britain works with HSE.

Who should attend?

The events are aimed at people interested in a job with real-world impact that makes workplaces safer and improves the health and well-being of the people who work there. We're interested in speaking with degree qualified (2:1 or higher) individuals who will enjoy the variety and challenge of this rewarding role.

Cost

Free.

For more information, please visit careers.hse.gov.uk.

HSL: Display Screen Equipment (DSE) Risk Management – Buxton, 6 Sept 2017

Book Course

HSL is to run a 1 day course on Display Screen Equipment (DSE) Risk Management.

6 September 2017

HSL is to run a 1 day course on DSE management (including office risk assessment and risk management of mobile device).

Introduction

Display screen technology, such as computers, laptops, smartphones and tablet PCs are common in all aspects of our lives. Our exposure to these devices continues to increase, with reported levels of up to 9 hours per day spent consuming media on a display screen device. While the musculoskeletal (MSD) risks from such device are relatively low, the increased exposure does mean that the effects of preventable risks such as poor or fixed postures can accumulate and lead to problems. HSE statistics (2014/15) indicate that 44% of cases of work related illness involves MSDs, which result in 40% of working days lost. Data from the general practitioners scheme (THOR-GP) suggests that "keyboard work" are significant contributors to both lower back and upper limb disorders.

This course, delivered by experienced HSL ergonomists, will provide you with an understanding of DSE risks and approach to risk management and with the documentation to provide your employer with risk assessments. The course covers the key elements for office DSE risk assessment and management and provides the information and techniques required to enable anyone to become a DSE assessor. We also discuss risk management for less common DSE issues such as hot-desking and dual screens, and mobile technology such as tablet pcs, smartphones and laptops. Guidance on how to set up a computer workstation in the office is mirrored for home activity or when you are on the move with DSE.



The course will cover:

- Why DSE? Legal, moral, financial reasons
- How do we get injured
- What's the best posture
- Achieving good posture at the workstation
- Alternative pointing device
- Practical assessment
- Break requirements from DSE
- Mobile DSE risks and risk management

Who should attend?

The course will be most beneficial for health and safety providers, with limited knowledge / experience of DSE risk management who wish to become a DSE assessor. However, it will also be relevant to those who wish to update or consolidate their knowledge and experience as a DSE assessor.

Venue

The course will be run at the HSL laboratory in the spa town of Buxton. Buxton is in the heart of the Peak District and has good links to mainline train stations and Manchester International Airport.

Details of hotels in the Buxton area can be found at www.visitbuxton.co.uk

Cost

The cost of this course is £450 per person (includes course notes, lunch and refreshments).

[Book Course](#)

Please note the invoice option is not available within 4 weeks of the course date, or for overseas customers. If you are selecting the invoice option for payment, it will be mandatory to input a purchase order/reference number as

we are unable to process booking forms without this.

For further dates and additional information email: training@hsl.gsi.gov.uk or contact the Training & Conferences Unit at HSL directly on +44 (0)1298 218806.

[Back to Health & Safety Training Courses](#)

Tata Steel UK Limited fined after uncontrolled release of toxic substances

A steel company has today been fined after the release of toxic and flammable substances from its site in Scunthorpe.

Hull Crown Court heard on 17 June 2011 a large quantity of Benzole was released at an open site glass in Tata Steel's Scunthorpe Steel Works. The release resulted in a large flammable vapour cloud that exposed five workers to the risk of serious injury of death had the cloud ignited. Two of the workers were exposed to the chemical and suffered coughing and breathing difficulties. They were sent to hospital and were discharged the next day.

An investigation by the Health and Safety Executive (HSE) found Tata Steel failed to take the appropriate safety measures to prevent the release of the toxic and flammable chemical. It was found the company failed to address the risks which had previously been identified and the incident could have been entirely avoided if the company addressed these concerns.

The site in Scunthorpe is a top tier Control of Major Accidents Hazards site due to the large amounts of highly flammable and toxic chemicals stored on the site.

Tata Steel UK Limited of Millbank, London has pleaded guilty to breaching Sections 2 (1) and 3 (1) of the Health and Safety at Work Act 1974.

The company has today been fined £930,000 and ordered to pay costs of £70,000.

Speaking after the hearing HSE inspector Stephen Hargreaves said: "It was extremely fortunate no one was seriously affected by this incident. Had the flammable vapour cloud ignited this could have resulted in multiple fatalities.

"This incident highlights the need for all duty holders to implement and address all concerns and potential risks which have been identified. Tata's

failure to do so in this case put a number of workers at risk of serious harm.”

Notes to Editors:

1. The Health and Safety Executive (HSE) is Britain’s national regulator for workplace health and safety. It aims to reduce work-related death, injury and ill health. It does so through research, information and advice, promoting training; new or revised regulations and codes of practice, and working with local authority partners by inspection, investigation and enforcement. www.hse.gov.uk^[1]
2. More about the legislation referred to in this case can be found at: www.legislation.gov.uk ^[2]
3. HSE news releases are available at <http://press.hse.gov.uk>

Journalists should approach HSE press office with any queries on regional press releases.

Company fined after scaffold collapse

A Dorset based company has been fined after a scaffold collapsed at an industrial unit in Wallisdown, Poole.

Poole Magistrates’ Court heard how Swanage and Dorset Scaffolding and Roofing Limited (SDSRL) had been contracted to erect scaffolding at the industrial unit in Alder Hills Business Park, Wallisdown, Poole to provide edge protection for work to be carried out on the roof.

The scaffolding collapsed on 14 September 2015 narrowly avoiding an office worker as they exited the building but resulting in serious damage to parked cars.

An investigation by the Health and Safety Executive (HSE) found, the company failed to ensure the scaffolding provided was suitably designed and installed to prevent collapse during use. The company failed to ensure the scaffolding was suitably attached to the building to withstand foreseeable wind loads.

Swanage and Dorset Scaffolding and Roofing Limited of Romany Centre Business Park, Wareham Road, Poole pleaded guilty to breaching Regulation 19 (2) of the Construction Design and Management Regulations 2015.

The company has been fined £27,000 and ordered to pay costs of £4051

Speaking after the hearing HSE Principal Inspector Helena Tinton said: “The company failed to ensure the scaffolding was properly secured to the building to avoid it putting workers and members of the public at risk of it collapsing in high winds.

“It is very lucky nobody was injured as result of this incident. All duty holders have the responsibility to ensure all scaffolding work is properly designed and installed by competent workers.”

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