

Health and Safety Newsletter Issue 6: February 2019

Welcome:

Welcome to our first Newsletter of 2019. We hope that this will be a busy year for everyone and there will be some significant changes to H&S legislation, starting with our topic of the month

Our Mission continues to be one of providing sensible Health and Safety Solutions to businesses

Topic of the Month:

Welding and the New Regulations (COSHH)

This HSE have announced the new guidelines for mild steel welding fumes. With immediate effect, there is a strengthening of HSE's enforcement expectation for all welding fume, including mild steel welding; because general ventilation does not achieve the necessary control.

This will affect all employers and employees who carry out welding activities, including mild steel, in *any industry*.

*The Workplace Health Expert Committee has endorsed the reclassification of mild steel welding fume as a **human carcinogen**, which means general ventilation is no longer sufficient and that additional controls will be required*

Action Required

- Make sure exposure to any welding fume released is adequately controlled using engineering controls (typically LEV).
- Make sure suitable controls are provided for all welding activities, irrelevant of duration. This includes welding outdoors.
- Where engineering controls alone cannot control exposure, then adequate and suitable RPE should be provided to control risk from any residual fume.
- Make sure all engineering controls are correctly used, suitably maintained and are subject to thorough examination and test where required.
- Make sure any RPE is subject to an [RPE Programme](#). An RPE programme encapsulates all the elements of RPE use you need to ensure that your RPE is effective in protecting the wearer



Project/Task Risk Assessments must now reflect the change in the expected control measures, and you need to ensure that welding fumes are covered in the COSHH Risk Assessment.



Useful HSE Guidance and Links:

1. [RPE FAQs](#)
2. [Controlling airborne contaminants at work: A guide to local exhaust ventilation \(LEV\) HSG258](#)
3. [HSE Local Exhaust Ventilation](#)
4. [Respiratory Protective Equipment: A practical guide HSG53](#)
5. [HSE Respiratory Protective Equipment](#)
6. [RPE Programme](#)

Member Contributions

APM Training:

We are a company focused on training young unemployed people and providing them with the skills and knowledge required to gain employment. We have tried various methods of delivering the training to the young people and found that the IOSH Working Safely course being delivered by EC Safety Solutions is just right. The course provides them with a good understanding of the safety requirements and their own responsibility in regard to health safety and welfare for themselves and others. It also highlighted the importance of the need to protect the business.

It is a pleasure to see young people being provided with the knowledge to stay safe and more importantly to us that they come back to the office full of enthusiasm for the subject.

Well done all.

Inga (Training Coordinator APM)

WELCOME:

We would like to welcome the following new clients and look forward to helping them to provide a safe place of work:

1. All Paving Solutions
2. Stage Solutions
3. Samm Wood Carpentry and Construction

Achievements:

The following individuals and companies have achieved accreditations confirming their commitment to the provision of HS and Welfare of Employees and Environmental Management

1. Max McCann has successfully achieved the NEBOSH Certificate in Environmental Management
2. Mainstream Cleaning: Construction Line
3. Alexatech: Safe Contractor
4. WelcomeGate: Safe Contractor

EC Safety Solutions Update:

In the last 7 weeks we have carried out 73 construction site inspections and 12 Office and Workplace compliance audits

We have also carried out the following training for various clients and have similar courses with vacancies for the next 3 months

- 7 x IOSH Working Safely for the CSCS card
- 4 x First Aid at Work, (1 in Holland)
- 2 x Working at Height
- 1 x Manual Handling
- 17 x various eLearning courses

If you want to book a course, follow the link to our home page and select your training: <http://www.ecsafetysolutions.com>

(Remember we also offer e-learning and client discounts)

"WE ARE NOW DELIVERING MENTAL HEALTH FIRST AID TRAINING"

We are proud to be continuing our support to a locally based community project. The Community project helps local young and homeless people and they are intent on fighting poverty, unemployment and disadvantages in Strood and we are continuing to assist a local youth opportunity company by delivering the training for the CSCS card to help them gain work

HSE In the News

1. [Smoking in the workplace including vehicles \(make sure the signs are in place even in your vehicles\)](#)
2. [Change in Enforcement Expectations for Mild Steel Welding Fume](#)
3. [Construction firms fined after worker suffers fatal fall](#)
4. [Company director prosecuted after employee falls six metres onto concrete floor](#)
5. [Director and roofing company sentenced after worker killed](#)
6. [Steel cladding company fined after worker's hand crushed in machinery](#)

DON'T FORGET WE ARE "YOUR" SAFETY ADVISORS AND HERE FOR YOU AT ALL TIMES

www.ecsafetysolutions.com