

# Health and Safety Newsletter Issue 2: June 2018

### Welcome:

To our 2<sup>nd</sup> newsletter. Edition one was well received, and we had some good positive feedback. We are keen to keep pushing this as we believe that a healthy, safe working environment is a productive one in which both employees and employers benefit from the actions taken

### **Member Contributions**

This month's contribution is from Sandra Empty. Sandra is the Office Manager at OTCX trading in London. Sandra's commitment to providing a healthy, safe place of work for her staff is second to none. For a small company she has pulled out all of the stops. Read her small but informed review of safety within the office environment. Remember your comments and thoughts are important. Between us we can improve our safety records and working environments.

## The Importance and benefits of providing a safe place of work

As an office manager I have been involved with health and safety now for over 9 years and in this time, I have seen the benefits, both financially to the business and to the wellbeing of the staff. With the minimal of effort and resources we have implemented a robust and well-practiced safety regime, one with which all our staff have come to respect and importantly expect. Under the expert guidance and advice from EC Safety Solutions we carry out DSE self assessments followed by 1-2-1 assessments where required. We have implemented office safety risk and fire assessments with inspections and compliance audits being carried out by EC Safety Solutions which provide us with an action plan for the year. Because of this we have been able to put forward sound reasons to our senior management for requesting more funding for our new initiatives.



# The benefits of a safe place of work are simple:

- · Minimal lost time
- No accidents or incidents
- Minimising the possibility of prosecution or claims against the company
- · A happy healthy safe team

I intend to take this forward into the next year with the aim of achieving the International Safety Award

# Sandra Empty: Office Manager

EC Safety Solutions carried out the following training for various clients in May 2018

- 1. 4 x IOSH Working Safely for the CSCS card
- 2. 1 x IOSH Managing Safely
- 3. 4 x First Aid at Work
- 4. 2 x Working at Height
- 5. 1 x Manual Handling
- 6. 1 x SSSTS Refresher Course 1 x SMSTS Course

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

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

### Topic of the Month

#### Risk Assessments

The effective identification of hazards and the production of a Risk Assessment is the cornerstone of any effective **safety management system**. A Safety Statement is a description of the company's manner for securing safety and records in detail the risk assessments carried out.

While both the **risk assessment** and **safety statement** are legally required, from an ethical perspective, the main reason for carrying out a risk assessment and preparing a safety statement is to make sure that no one is killed, injured or becomes ill at your place of work. Carrying out risk assessments and preparing a safety statement will not in themselves **prevent accidents** and **ill health** but they will play a crucial part in reducing their likelihood and importantly assist in your defence should you need it



### As a Reminder:

- Step 1: Identify hazards, i.e. anything that may cause harm.
- Step 2: Decide who may be harmed, and how.
- Step 3: Assess the risks and take the required action
- Step 4: Make a record of the findings.
- Step 5: Review the risk assessment when required
- a. New works process/pro
- b. Change of regulations
- c. After an accident or incident

### **Example of a Risk Matrix**

		Potential severity of harm		
		Slightly Harmful	Harmful	Extremely Harmful
		1	2	3
	Highly unlikely	Trivial	Tolerable	Moderate
	1	1	2	3
Likelihood of	Unlikely	Tolerable	Moderate	Substantial
harm occurring	2	2	4	6
	Likely	Moderate	Substantial	Intolerable
	3	3	6	9

### In the News

# Asbestos Exposure Sentencing

Contractor sentenced after householder exposed to asbestos Worker injured by dumper truck results in prosecution

Chalmers and Co (Sussex) Limited has today been sentenced after an untrained operator was injured when a six-tonne dumper fell on top of him.

# Company and director fined after worker injured

A Newhaven Waste Management Company and its Directors have been fined after an employee got his arm caught in a conveyor at a material recycling plant.

# Building contractor jailed after house collapse in Brighton

A building contractor has been sentenced following an incident in February 2015 in which a house in Brighton partially collapsed (please note that the links above lead to the HSE website)

**Congratulations** to the following companies for achieving H&S Excellence.

Quad Contracts: Awarded Safe Contractor