

Summary of HSC/HSE News Releases 5th August to 21st September 2005

Date

- 05/08/05** HSE publishes “**The Findings of NII’s Assessment of the UKAEA’s Site-Wide Periodic Safety Review for Harwell (August 2005)**”. Available on HSE’s website at: www.hse.gov.uk?nuclear/harwellpsr.pdf
- 08/08/05** HSE issues statement following an explosion at the Corus Steelworks at Port Talbot, Wales on 8th November 2001. The investigation will take several months.
- 08/08/05** HSC announce that as from the 10th October 2005 Eddie Moorland will succeed David Buchanan as Chief Executive of the Health and Safety Laboratory.
- 15/08/05** HSE issues policy statement “**HSE Criterion for Delicensing Nuclear Sites**” Can be accessed on HSE’s website at www.hse.gov.uk?nuclear/delicensing.pdf or in Welsh on:- www.hse.gov.uk/nuclear/delicensingwelsh.pdf
- 16/08/05** HSE publishes “**Offshore Safety Statistics Bulletin 2004/2005**” Can be viewed on HSE’s website at www.hse.gov.uk/offshore/statistics/stat0405.htm Encouraging signs but pace of improvements must increase.
- 18/08/05** HSE publishes Inspector Training Pack to train HSE and Local Authority Inspectors in enforcing the Work at Height Regulations 2005 on its website at <http://www.hse.gov.uk/falls/downloads/> HSE’s open policy in publishing is on website <http://hse.gov.uk/foi/openess.pdf>
- 22/08/05** HSE issues Clarifying Guidance Note for Managing Health and Safety in Public Paddling pools, tidal pools and segregated areas of rivers, lakes and the sea. This can be downloaded on HSE’s website at <http://www.hse.gov.uk/entertainment/swim pools.htm>
- 23/08/05** HSE has issued advice to Parents when taking their children when visiting funfairs and theme parks. Amongst the recommendations are to check that the ride displays a sticker “**Amusement Devices Inspection procedure Scheme**” which confirms it has been inspected for safety.
- 25/08/05** HSE publishes “**Occupational Health Statistics Bulletin 2004/2005**” Can be accessed on HSE’s website at www.hse.gov.uk/statistics/overall/ohsb0405.pdf They include for the first time contributing factors involved in cases of musculoskeletal disorders & mental ill health.
- 25/08/05** HSE reports that Transco PLC was today found guilty at the High Court of Justiciary in Edinburgh under section 3 of the Health and Safety etc. Act 1974 and fined £15m following a six month trial. On 22nd December 1999 a massive explosion destroyed a house at Larkhill killing all the four occupants. A faulty gas main caused the explosion.
- 26/08/05** HSE successfully prosecuted Sarah Jane Earney, a Sales Agent, for producing a false “certificate of packaging performance” for plastic bags used to carry asbestos waste contrary to Section 33 (1)(m) of the Health and Safety at Work Act 1974. Mrs. Earney was selling plastic Bags on behalf of Regal Polythene Ltd. who also face charges. Mrs. Earney was fined £2,500 with £1,432-45 costs at Southampton Magistrates Court on 24th August 2005.
- 30/08/05** HSE has recently investigated complaints relating to flame failure devices on gas forges used primarily by farriers. It emphasises the key issues are the purchase of suitable equipment and safe operation of the forge.
- 30/08/05** HSE publishes revised Guidance “**Personal Protective Equipment at Work Regulations 1992 (as amended).**” ISBN 0-7176-6139-3 price £8-95 from HSE Books. Also “A Short Guide to the Personnel Protective Equipment Regulations” INDG174 can be downloaded on HSE website at www.hse.gov.uk/pubns/indg174.pdf
- 01/09/05** HSE issue photo call for official launch of the 2005 Working Well Together Roadshow on 5th September 2005 at Bathgate, West Lothian, Scotland 9.30 for 10am.

- 01/09/05** The Construction Industry Advisory Committee announce visits to sites in the Working Well Together roadshows. 5-9 Sept & 12-16 Sept Scotland & N England; 26-30 Sept SE England; 10-14 Oct & 17-21 Oct Wales, Midlands and SW England. Enquiries to HSE InfoLine at 0845 345 0055 or visit www.hse.gov.uk/contact
- 05/09/05** Health and Safety Commissioner, Danny Carrigan launches the first Roadshow in Scotland. See details in two previous items.
- 05/09/05** Lord Hunt, Parliamentary Under Secretary for Health and Safety will launch the joint HSE/Step Change in Safety stand at the Offshore Europe Exhibition & Conference tomorrow in Aberdeen. He will congratulate the Manual Handling Initiatives.
- 06/09/05** HSE join forces with Dulux Decorator Centres to promote safe working at height practises to painters and decorators.
- 08/09/05** HSE warned the Offshore Oil & Gas Industries at the Offshore Europe Exhibition in Aberdeen to increase its efforts to meet the 2010 target of safest sector in the world as set by the industry with its Step Change in Safety Initiative.
- 09/09/05** HSE's revised Workers' WebPages will be launched on 13th September 2005 by Lord Hunt of Kings Heath. They can be downloaded on www.hse.gov.uk/workers/index.htm from 12th Sept 05.
- 12/09/05** HSE's Ian Greenwood spoke to BBC's Newsnight on 9th September on Ladder Safety to dispel the idea that window cleaners are banned from using ladders by the Work at Height Regulations. Ladders should be used sensibly understanding the risks involved.
- 14/09/05** HSE's Nuclear Safety Directorate publishes "**Statement of Nuclear Incidents at Nuclear Installations: Second Quarter 2005**" One incident at Sellafield on 20th April 2005 – a leak within the THORP Head End Feed Clarification Cell . Improvement notice served.
- 15/09/05** Following a court case which convicted Company Director Paul White of Drayton of causing the death of an employee Kevin Arup, the Norwich Crown Court passed a custodial sentence of twelve months, whilst his Company M.W.White Ltd of Kettering were fined £30,000 with costs of £55,000.
- 16/09/05** HSE successfully prosecuted Michael Mills trading as MB Mills General Contractors of Cambridge following an investigation when 3 employees stripped tiles off a roof without secured ladder access to the pitched roof and no risk assessment undertaken beforehand. At Bedford Magistrates Court on 15th Sept. 2005 a fine was imposed of £3,000 with costs of £3,517.
- 19/09/05** HSE announce that **Stephen Williams** commences his duties today as **Chief Inspector of Construction**.
- 21/09/05** HSE issue an invitation to the 2005 Working Together Roadshow on Monday 26th September 2005 9.45 for 10am at Bovis Lend Lease, 123 Bankside Project, Gate C, Sumner Street, SE1.

Note: HSE Books, PO Box 1999, Sudbury, Suffolk, CO10 2WA. Tel: 01787 881165 or Fax 01787 313995. HSE Books ordering on line is at www.hsebooks.co.uk
 Further details from Gordon Hicks at Tel & Fax 01344 622311 or e-mail Gordon.Hicks@care4free.net
 The above News Releases are available on HSE website www.hse.gov.uk