



## Controlling Hazards At Source (Procurement)

Many construction hazards can be controlled at the procurement stage of the contract.

Often, company buyers do not understand the Health and Safety implications of various items of plant or equipment and do not know that ancillary equipment designed to control risk is available for the equipment, often at a negligible hire rate.

The photos on the right show some items of equipment designed specifically for the Health and Safety of anyone that may be affected.

- Dust suppression for concrete saws. The steady minimal flow of water directed onto the blade within the guard.
- Automatic vacuum systems can be fitted to table saws, grinders, sanders and a number of other pieces of equipment to remove dust from the atmosphere.

The above is by no means exhaustive, but by making small efforts to control exposure, a positive image of the project will be reflected by reducing the impact on not only the site operatives, but by neighbors also.



## Behavioural Based Safety (BBS)

The HSE recently published new research on behaviour change and worker engagement.

Behavioural based safety is the analyst of the interactions between people's behaviour and the working environment. By changing the environment to support safe behaviour and implementing proven behavioral safety processes your company, can dramatically reduce the number of lost-time and minor injuries. **"Good Health and Safety is Good Business."**

There are two ways to get people to change. One is to target their attitudes, which can then lead to behavior change. The other is to get them to change their behavior, which will influence their attitudes.

**Human behaviour is both** Observable & Measurable therefore Behaviour can be managed

**Attitudes:** *are not* measurable however attitudes can be changed by changing behaviours

We want to get the workforce from:

Don't want to do it. → Have to do it. → Want to do it. → Automatically do it

BSA will be offering a seminar on BBS for all managers and site managers in the coming year. (Dates and venue to be confirmed). If you would like BSA to assist your company improve your Health & Safety individual requirements by arranging a BBS seminar, safety training or CPD, please call Roger on 01483 467270

## Work related driving - Controlling the risk - Update

Following recent incentives to control the risks involved with work related driving, we are pleased to report the following:

### 1. Training

We are now into the next stage in the Institute of Advanced Motorists "Skills for life" scheme.

We have discovered that we are not as safe at driving as we thought. Although we appreciated that we have picked up and developed bad habits since passing our tests, the extent of these habits was alarming.

Now into our third mentoring sessions, we are in the process of booking our Advanced Driving Test.

We have noted that benefits have included a greater perception of risk and the development of defensive driving skills.

For more information please check out the website at [www.iam.org.uk](http://www.iam.org.uk) or contact us.

### 2. Video Link Up

Our video conferencing systems at our Guildford head office and our Northern Mirfield office has the capability of hosting multi screen conferences that can link up to virtually any broadband connected PC with an ear piece and microphone (Web cam optional).

The system we have installed not only allows video conference, but also allows the sharing of documents, such as word or power point.

If you are interested in video conferencing then we would appreciate your feedback and will gladly pass on our knowledge and experience and will facilitate trials where time and resource permits.

## The Health and Safety Offences Act 2008

The Health and Safety Offences Act 2008 came into force on Friday, 16 January 2009. This new Act will increase penalties and provide courts with greater sentencing powers for those who break health and safety law.

The Chair of the Health and Safety Executive, Judith Hackitt commented:

" This Act gives lower courts the power to impose higher fines for some health and safety offences. It is right that there should be a real deterrent to those businesses and individuals that do not take their health and safety responsibilities seriously. Everyone has the right to work in an environment where risks to their health and safety are properly managed, and employers have a duty in law to deliver this.

"Our message to the many employers who do manage health and safety well is that they have nothing to fear from this change in law. There are no new duties on employers or businesses, and HSE is not changing its approach to how it enforces health and safety law. We will retain the important safeguards that ensure that our inspectors use their powers sensibly and proportionately. We will continue to target those who knowingly cut corners, put lives at risk and who gain commercial advantage over competitors by failing to comply with the law".

Following its successful Third Reading in the House of Lords on 10 October, the Health and Safety (Offences) Act 2008 received Royal Assent on 16 October and comes into force on 16 January 2009.

The Act fulfils a longstanding Government and HSE commitment to provide the courts with greater sentencing powers for health and safety crimes. The effect of the Act is to:

- raise the maximum fine which may be imposed in the lower courts to £20,000 for most health and safety offences;
- make imprisonment an option for more health and safety offences in both the lower and higher courts;

## **BSA Now Offering Portable Appliance Testing**

In a new development BSA can carry out portable appliance testing. PAT Testing is legally required for all electrical items that your workforce use as part of their work activities. It includes items such as computers, TV monitors, extension leads, drills, and electric powered tools.



## **H&S Files**

As you all know the CDM Regulations 2007 demand the production of a H&S File for completed projects. At the request of some of our Clients, BSA have developed an electronic format for the H&S File, which it is believed will cut down on unnecessary paperwork!

For more details on this format contact Steve Arnold on 01483 467270 or [Stephen@bsims.co.uk](mailto:Stephen@bsims.co.uk)

## **HSE Infoline “Myth of the month” If I Call the HSE Infoline I’ll get a visit from the inspector**

HSE’s Infoline is confidential and run for HSE by a contractor. Your individual information is not passed to HSE so it won’t result in a visit. The trained operators answer the great majority of calls themselves. If they can’t deal with your query fully they will ask you if it is alright to refer it to an expert in HSE.



So, if you’ve got a query or a concern, just ask. You’ve got nothing to lose and it could help your business! 0845 345 0055

## **Bernard Sims Associates – Contacts**

For CDM Coordinators, Health & Safety Risk Assessments / Fire Risk Assessments / Party Wall / Training / Consultancy, Advice, Policies and Plans - Call BSA in Guildford on 01483 467270, our Northern Office on 01924 480473 or e-mail us via [enquiries@bsims.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@bsims.co.uk)



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