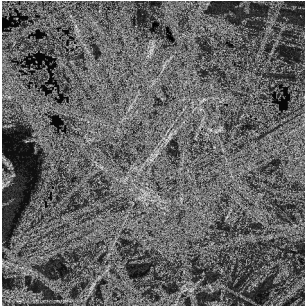


This newsletter is issued to our clients to help keep you up to date on current health and safety (H&S) issues as part of our H&S assistance services.

New Asbestos Survey Guidance



HSE have published new guidance for asbestos surveys. HSG264 “Asbestos – The Survey Guide” replaces the previous guidance document MDHS 100 “Surveying, sampling and assessment of asbestos-containing materials” published in 2001. The previous “type 1” survey has been removed while the “type 2” and “type 3” surveys have been replaced with the “Management” survey and “Refurbishment and Demolition” survey respectively. Also, the new guidance document emphasises the responsibilities of all duty holders, including clients, to help to ensure that the surveys are adequate and provides guidance to all parties as to how to comply with their duties. The guidance can be downloaded for free from:

<http://www.hse.gov.uk/pubns/books/hsg264.htm>

New Regulations for Tower Cranes

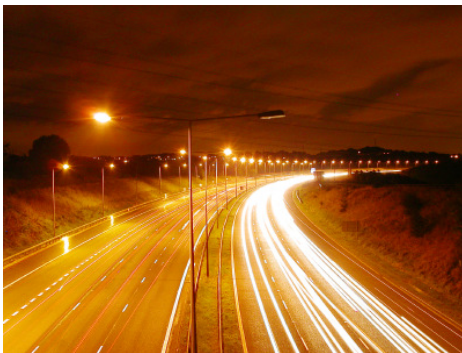
The Notification of Conventional Tower Cranes Regulations 2010 come into force on 6 April 2010. The Regulations require certain information about conventional tower cranes used on construction sites to be notified to the Health and Safety Executive (HSE). HSE have published a four page leaflet in their INDG series that sets out:



- The types of tower crane that need to be notified to HSE;
- Who needs to ensure notification is made;
- When the notification needs to be made;
- What information needs to be notified; and
- How the information should be notified.

The leaflet can be downloaded for free from <http://www.hse.gov.uk/pubns/indg437.pdf>.

Keep your eyes on the road



Legislation on eye-tests for drivers passed in the European Parliament in 2006 is set to be implemented in member states in 2011. The current proposal is that holders of commercial driving licences will have to have their eyes tested every 5 years, while holders of private licences every 10-15 years. Shorter periods between testing can be applied for new drivers, over 50s and specified medical reasons. All new applicants for the EU driving licence will have to undergo a visual acuity test including:

- Distance acuity, both monocular and binocular;
- Visual fields;
- Red/green colour test.

Member states have until 2013 to translate the Directive (2006/126/EEC) into national law.

Shattered Lives 2010

HSE have re-launched their Shattered Lives campaign again, which highlights the pitfalls of slip and trip hazards in the workplace and falls from height. The campaign includes a website that features an e-Learning section with videos, case studies, guidance and quizzes, and also the new WAIT (Work at height Access equipment Information Toolkit) online tool that provides guidance on how to conduct work at height safely and information about the various types of access equipment, as well as other useful resources. The website can be viewed at:

<http://www.hse.gov.uk/shatteredlives/index.htm?ebul=hsegen/15-feb-2010&cr=5>

HSE Inspectors to Target Building Maintenance

HSE visits to factory premises during 2010/11 will include a focus on safety during building maintenance. Inspections will "test the duty-holder's safety management arrangements and may lead to enforcement action". The work coincides with a Europe wide campaign in 2010 and is in addition to that carried out by HSE Construction Inspectors. There will be dedicated pages on the HSE website with building maintenance included as a target including:

- work at height, including roofwork;
- asbestos risks and the duty to manage;
- arrangements for selection of contractors;
- access to items of plant for maintenance purposes;
- rooflight and gutter cleaning, painting and bulb changing.

P F B Help always available

If you need any assistance or clarification of these H&S issues or any others affecting your business then please contact either Paul or James by telephone or email.

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