

# HSE SAFETY

# CORNERSTONES

March 2015

## IN THIS ISSUE

### **No Time to Lose Campaign**

*See how IOSH is working to eliminate occupational cancer and what your company can do to help.*

### **The New Health and Safety Standard**

*The new ISO 45001 promotes global collaboration.*

### **Recent HSE News and Prosecutions**

*Read about how three workers received serious burns from tonnes of molten metal, how two women died from reversing rubbish trucks and how a pensioner died from improperly installed insulation.*

## IOSH Launches No Time to Lose Campaign

Occupational cancer is any cancer caused wholly or partly by exposure to carcinogens at work. More than 50 substances are currently linked to workplace cancer and almost 14,000 new cases of cancer are caused by work conditions each year, according to the Institution of Occupational Safety and Health (IOSH). The effects of occupational cancer extend beyond just the individual sufferer—it raises health care costs, damages organisations' reputations and can lead to company fines for failure to provide a safe work environment.

To reduce incidents of occupational cancer, IOSH launched its No Time to Lose campaign, which has already gained the support of more than 70 organisations and companies. The campaign aims to raise awareness of occupational cancer and what can be done to help. No Time to Lose focuses on nine reforms:

### **Government action**

1. Highlights the cost of work-related cancer to individuals, businesses and to society
2. Maintains a comprehensive national database on occupational carcinogen exposure
3. Funds more research into occupational cancers, including on managing risks from new developments

### **Regulator action**

4. Delivers a more effective compliance strategy for preventing exposures
5. Takes a more proactive approach—for example, promoting the fact that nightshift workers are entitled to free health assessments

### **Joint-profession action**

6. Achieves a strong multidisciplinary drive to raise awareness and engage workers in solutions
7. 'Joins the dots' between employers, health and safety professionals, GPs and consultants

### **Industry action**

8. Designs exposure prevention measures through responsible procurement, manufacture and supply
9. Embeds work cancer awareness in relevant apprenticeships and trade-based training

To achieve these goals, the campaign offers businesses a free, anonymous 'Ask the Experts' panel service and free resources for tackling specific occupational cancer risks.

Your company can help mitigate carcinogenic hazards in the workplace by committing to an IOSH action plan. This pledge outlines how your company will institute measures to identify potential occupational cancer causes, develop preventative strategies and ensure that all employees are aware of how to best manage occupational cancer risks.

For more information on the No Time to Lose Campaign and how your company can get involved, visit [www.notimetolose.org.uk](http://www.notimetolose.org.uk).



**Crendon  
Insurance  
Brokers**

# The New Health and Safety Standard

The International Organisation for Standardisation is replacing BS OHSAS with ISO 45001 as the definitive international occupational health and safety management system standard by the end of 2016. The new system should make it easier for organisations to comply with local and worldwide regulations. ISO 45001 will improve international health and safety by providing a universal standard written in common terms, as well as by requiring organisations to continually review risk management strategies, provide ongoing educational and training materials, and prioritise health and safety. Most functional elements from OHSAS 18001 will be carried over to ISO 45001, such as the Plan-Do-Check-Act model, the procedures for setting policy and objectives, and the management review process.

ISO 45001 places new emphasis on an organisation's 'context'—the environment in which it operates, including its supply chain and the surrounding local communities—to help the organisation evaluate its impact and implement best practices. It also requires organisations to integrate health and safety policies into their overall management systems rather than treating it as an addendum.

This new standard is designed to benefit all businesses. Through improved communication on both a global and local scale, organisations will be capable of collaborating on effective risk management and emergency-planning strategies. Collaboration should reduce occupational health and safety accidents, which will lead to fewer emergency treatments, less time off for work-related injuries and fewer disruptions to operational processes. For more information, visit [www.iso.org/iso/home/news\\_index/news\\_archive/news.htm?refid=Ref1874](http://www.iso.org/iso/home/news_index/news_archive/news.htm?refid=Ref1874).



HSE SAFETY  
**CORNERSTONES**

**Crendon Insurance Brokers Ltd**

0121 454 5100

[www.crendoninsurance.co.uk](http://www.crendoninsurance.co.uk)

## NEWS AND PROSECUTIONS

### Steel producer sentenced for workers' molten metal burns

A multinational steel producer was fined £200,000 and ordered to pay £11,190 in costs after three employees in its Port Talbot refinery suffered serious burns from several tonnes of molten metal that had spilt on the floor. The event occurred when one of the employees was operating an electric overhead crane to transport a ladle carrying 300 tonnes of molten metal. The crane's camera system was broken, which allowed a hook to be improperly attached to the ladle which subsequently dislodged the ladle. The HSE found that the refinery had ignored repeated reports of equipment requiring maintenance or repairs. Had the refinery kept its machinery in proper condition, this incident would not have occurred.

### Lake District council prosecuted over bin lorry deaths

A Lake District council has been fined £120,000 after two women were killed by reversing rubbish trucks. The first woman had been walking down a single-track lane with her husband when she was struck by a reversing truck. The second accident occurred when a 58-year-old council employee was walking behind a rubbish truck to guide it. In both instances the drivers were convicted of causing death by careless driving. In its investigation, the HSE found that the council had not implemented enough safety measures to mitigate these types of hazards.

### Insulation firm fined over pensioner's carbon monoxide death

A Swansea energy firm was fined £500,000 and ordered to pay £24,968 in prosecution costs after improperly installing wall insulation which resulted in an 83-year-old woman dying from carbon monoxide poisoning just five hours after workers left her home. During the installation, employees had inadvertently blocked the flue of the woman's boiler. Despite the employee contacting two managers at the firm about a possible risk to the tenants, the firm neglected to arrange for a gas engineer to inspect the boiler, the employee failed to switch off the boiler and leave a warning notice, and the firm failed to contact the National Grid, all of which are standard industry guidance. In its investigation, the HSE found that the firm did not provide adequate training for its employees.