



Explorer Associates Limited
Health and Safety Division

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Health & Safety Bulletin for March 2006

March already.... The round of annual inspections – the same old chestnuts popping out of the fire:

- **Trip and fall hazards** everywhere – stationery parcels left on stairs – scaffolding littered with brick and concrete debris – stepladders in use when access towers are safer whilst working – unsecured access ladders – harnesses worn but not attached to running lines...
- **Non compliance with the Law** – risk assessments written but not read – let alone acted upon! No warning signs of hazards ahead – no enforcement of personal protective equipment on sites and within factories – no filling in of the H & S mandatory wall chart – total ignorance of legislation within Companies and Retail outlets...
- **Thoughtlessness** – plain and simple – ignoring warning tapes – using 240v power tools on site – lifting guards “for ease of work” – propping open fire doors...with fire extinguishers!!

Have we really progressed??

I am often led into arguments (I had a real good'un over Sunday lunch!) where the “I've always worked this way – without accident – so what are you lot – and the Nambie Pambie mob making the laws – trying to do to us – put us out of business???” – joker tries to explain to me that accidents are acceptable, inevitable and are part of working life!

Yeah! Right! So we're paid to take stupid risks “for the good of the company” are we? Losing the odd digit, arm, foot etc. is perfectly OK then? Taking sensible precautions - wearing safety gear – harnessing up – are all ‘Girlie’ actions then?!

...And that's why I nag, cajole and plead with my clients to THINK, ACT and REACT to their personnel's safety in their businesses and that of their customers and the public...it is simply commercial sense to do so – you could save a fortune – and time in the nick – if you fail to understand this!

So – organise those inspections and take action on the reports – observe the work place and listen to the staff – take some quality time out to look carefully at how you operate and how you would like to be treated if you were a client – not only will you sharpen up your safety programme but you'll streamline your whole Company making it commercially more viable – and we can all do with that!

Do you look at your place of work and think that yes, we have a health and safety policy, but no, I don't think were doing enough to work safely. Explorer Associates have a new addition to our team. Martin Jobling will be our lead person for health, safety and welfare enquiries. Would you like to give him a ring to talk about something at your place of work that has you worried? If so, you can contact Martin on 01303 272727 and have a chat. On your request we can come and carry out an inspection and report and see if we can give you your peace of mind. Not just Martin but the full team are here to help you.



Not just a trip hazard ...
the casing is damaged too!



They really are out there!

You might be used to something being there, but that doesn't mean its safe!

“AN ASSOCIATION OF ENGINEERS AND SPECIALISTS”

Registered in England No 3650082 Reg Office: 1 Forge Hill, Kent TN25 7DT UK Office (CoSec) UK VAT Reg 725 2570 43

Directors: J.F. Ridgway (Managing) C. Rodgers (Company Secretary)

Did you know?

Explorer Associates are not just Health, Welfare and Safety Consultants? I say this because we are often asked “So what else do you do?” – as if the subject is not wide enough to justify our existence anyway!!

Well – we are Project Managers out to all sorts of clients – overseeing demolitions and asset removal programmes, specialised ‘one offs’ (we are working on an asbestos removal project from expensive artwork, currently, for example) and management programmes where we quietly organise factory line replacements whilst the factory itself keeps production going; we are asset valuation experts working with Insurance Houses; specialised auditing of stock and stores we carry out for a variety of clients, including the giant BP Oils Ltd, Accident Investigations we carry out, on a 24 hour emergency response service, to those in trouble and to those Companies where the worst scenario is suddenly upon them – where you require a competent Manager there then you can call on our team – from health, welfare and safety consultancy through to site management, asset disposal sales and removals, to demolitions and to organising the return of sites to green field status – there is **EXPLORER ASSOCIATES!!**

If you get the quiet moment – and you have just completed your overview of your Company’s safety – have a look at our web pages: **WWW.EXPLORER-ASSOCIATES.COM**

Stay safe!

Jerry F. Ridgway

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