

News Letter



Issue 2 2007



1st July 2007 – the date that smoking – or rather, no smoking – takes full effect in England. The legislation affects all businesses and please note that even company vehicles must now be a 'smoke free' zone!

No smoking signs must be displayed on doorways – no longer can there be a 'smoking room' – the basic message is "if you must smoke – smoke outside only!"



'PPE' – that's Personal Protection Equipment to you! – is actually designed to keep you safe...and yet:

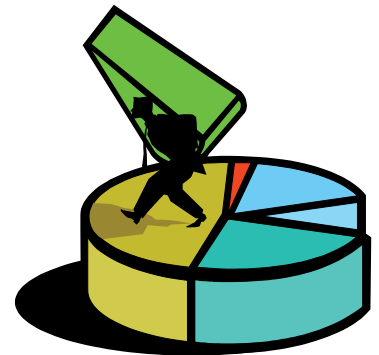
- Site workers either 'don't bother', turn the hard hat around, leave the gear at home, 'forget', prefer wearing trainers to work boots, can't see the point of high visibility vests and so on....
- Personnel grinding and sanding merrily work away with the protective goggles hanging up on a hook in front of them.....
- Staff handling chemicals fail to wear the supplied gloves, glasses and coats.....
- Management often fail to

see the risks ahead of the job and thus have no protective wear ready – let alone train the operatives in the task and risks involved!!

GOOD TO SEE EVERYONE'S KEEPING THEMSELVES SAFE THEN!!

MANUAL HANDLING – The statistics remain bad! So many bad backs, working days lost, sprains and injuries simply because no thought was put into moving loads around 'by hand'.

If it's a regular lift then ask yourself "Can it be done mechanically?" A sack barrow, trolley, machine skates for example? Think about it (it's called a risk assessment!) – is it too heavy for one person to lift properly? Is the walkway clear? Are stairs involved?



Don't end up as part of a pie chart report on accidents at work!!

Crisis Management – not only a very important management tool – but makes extremely good sense!!

If you have not considered what could go wrong in your business – accidents, fires, loss of software, media interest following staff problems, falling foul of the Law – then, when the inevitable happens – you'll be out of business, being sued or worse!



Risk assess your business and your future....NOW!

The year 2007 is still new and still the accidents are starting to pile up – re-construct your attitude to safety NOW and let's make it a safe year – all round!



Stay Safe! Jerry Ridgway