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There are, quite simply, just two words that sum up the whole spectrum of health, welfare and safety at work, in the home, office and on the roads.....**COMMON SENSE**.....and yet:

- Why is it that normally intelligent people ignore trip and fall hazards – leave stationery in aisles – piled up rubbish in exit routes – block up emergency exits – remove equipment and don't mop up oil spillages – don't tape off pits and fall hazards – 'forget' to grind off exposed bolts.....
- Why is it that Companies produce risk assessments and work method statements – then fail to inform their work crew who turn up on site without a clue – have no hard hats, high viz vests – are wearing trainers and who moan because they are sent away again? Where's the sense in that?
- Why do we have to spend hours on telephone calls – sending off guidance notes – advising and listening to the "All a load of rubbish, this" brigade of accident makers waiting to happen?
- Why is the present standard – if you can call it that at all – of driving on the roads so poor – and why are so many drivers aggressive and challenging to those around them – and why has any vestige of common sense gone clean out of their heads?

Why? The rules of society have changed forever; thinking and feeling for others is no longer in vogue but is seen as a form of weakness – common sense has been lost – greed and lust for gain is the only priority left...and all this leads to...?

"Sue at any price..." "No win no fee..." "Winner takes all..." "The strong prevail..." "Me, me, me..."

So – if this is the way we have 'progressed' then surely a little old common sense injected here would say:

"Protect yourself then – be up on the Law and legislation – cover yourself against accidents, falls, being sued and being taken to the cleaners..."

Check your work place – because no one else will!

Get your health and safety policy out and update it – or write one in the first place! – bring it up to date and enforce it – get your staff to sign to say they've read it!

Risk assess the whole gambit of your operation – what health risks are out there – what needs to be addressed to ensure safety of the personnel and the public – then simply solve the hazards by enforcing a standard that adheres, strictly, to the risk assessments made...

Suddenly common sense will be back in fashion – accidents decline, people start to look around them and also look out for others leading back to where we should have been 20 years ago....back into a more caring and structured Society!!!

I think I'm going for President – selling the World wide line of **"Common Sense for the Common Folk!!"**

Be Safe!
Jerry

"AN ASSOCIATION OF ENGINEERS AND SPECIALISTS"