

Current work in the Hub

The following 'Raising the Bar' documents have been finalised and are now published on the Highways Agency website:

- Plant & Equipment
- Plant Person Interface
- Temporary Barrier
- Temporary Accommodation
- Manual Handling
- Service Avoidance

Work continues on developing the next suite of documents:

- Occupational Health
- Excavation Protection
- Slips, Trips and Falls
- Task Lighting
- Work at Height

Current 'Raising the Bar' guidance documents are available on the Highways Agency's website:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/health-and-safety-for-major-road-schemes-raising-the-bar-initiative>

Health and Safety Executive news

CDM 2015

The Health and Safety Executive (HSE) has published draft guidance on the legal requirements in the Construction (Design and Management) Regulations (CDM 2015).

Subject to parliamentary approval, CDM 2015 will come into force on 6th April 2015. These will replace the existing CDM 2007 regulations. The guidance is designed to help anyone who has duties under these regulations and to help them prepare in advance.

The draft guidance can be found on the HSE's website at:

www.hse.gov.uk/pubns/books/l153

Serious Incident on the A21

On the 16th January 2015 a young operative, Dale Pentney, working on behalf of the Highways Agency, has been fatally injured while working on renewing barrier on the A21 in Kent.

Commenting on his blog, the Highways Agency Chief Executive, Graham Dalton had these words;

'We have done an immense amount over the last few years to make our network a safer place to work. There was a time, a good few years ago, when we took the view that our contractors are responsible for the safety of their workforce. We take a more responsible view now, and recognise the role that we play in raising standards across all the contractors who work for us. Better than that, we influence safety standards right across the highways sector, and play our part in the wider construction industry.

Our accident frequency rate is well under half what it was six or seven years ago. Getting better is good. But it isn't good enough. I think we work harder than many at improving safety, and I know that our safety record stands up well against other big infrastructure businesses. Yet this week one of our community has been fatally injured at work. Now all I can do is turn again to doing what I can to make this a safer industry to work in.'

The Highways Agency and all its Partners would like to extend our condolences and deepest sympathy to the family and work colleagues of Dale Pentney.

Congratulations

The Highways Agency Supplier Recognition awards took place on the 19th January at the Institution of Engineering and Technology in Birmingham. This is the fourth year of this successful scheme; with this year seeing a record number of entries, a total of 118 for the seven categories of awards.

Graham Dalton commenting said:

'This year our recognition scheme received more than double the number of entries compared to last year - that is simply fantastic. It's also a strong indication of the steps our suppliers have made in bringing innovation into the workplace.'



I find it truly heartening that at a time when the safety of our road workers is of paramount importance, there were three companies besides the winner worthy of a high commendation in that category.'

Full details of all the winners can be found here:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/record-number-of-entries-as-highways-agency-awards-its-supply-chain>

Traffex 2015

Registration is now open for Traffex 2015. The 27th International traffic engineering, road safety, parking, ITS and highway maintenance exhibition is taking place in Hall 5 at the NEC Birmingham on the 21st – 23rd April.

For details please follow the link <http://www.traffex.com/content>



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