

Hub health and safety team present at Major Projects conference and seeing is believing

The hub health and safety team presented at two major events this month, the Major Projects conference and Seeing Is Believing.

The team focussed on the work it is doing to support the health and safety 5 Year Plan, the 'raising the bar initiative' and plant person interface.

Visitor response was very positive and we gave away 1m rules to reinforce the 1m by 1m plant operator visibility requirement (raising the bar B1 plant and equipment), which proved very popular.

More information can be found here

www.highwaysafetyhub.com and www.sib.uk.net



Highways England alerts New safety alerts this month

HE 180 – Tele-handler Incident

HE 187 – Struck by Vehicle

HEI/02 – Winter Weather

Previous safety alerts can be found at:
www.highwaysafetyhub.com/alerts.html



A revision of the plan is underway which expects to be published in March 2017. A very informative presentation updating progress on the health and safety 5 Year Plan is now available;

<http://www.highwaysafetyhub.com/useful-links--information.html>

EU Transport Scotland

The EU Transport Scoreboard, a grading system published by the European Commission compares all 28 EU member states. The data for 2015 identifies that only Malta and Sweden had less road fatalities per million inhabitants than the UK.

At 28 road fatalities per million inhabitants, the UK figure is almost half the EU average (52). At 36, Ireland is also below the average. However, in terms of road congestion the UK finished bottom of the 28 countries. Measured in 'hours spent in road congestion annually', UK motorists spent 41.45 hours in congested traffic, compared to the average of 29.49 hours. Focusing on the 'quality of roads' the UK ranked 12/28. Based on a survey by the World Economic Forum and using a scale from one (extremely underdeveloped) to seven (extensive and efficient), the UK scored 5.13, slightly above the EU average of 4.77.

Further information can be found at:

<http://www.roadsafetyknowledgecentre.org.uk/knowledge/1615.html>

A1L2B wins industry Application of Technology Awards

The A1 Leeming to Barton Improvement scheme won this year's Application of Technology Award at the British Construction Industry (BCI) Awards on the 12th October 2016. The team were awarded the accolade along with their supply chain partner Aggregate Industries for their technological approach to pavement surfacing. Specialist software allows the pavers on the scheme to lay areas of surfacing that are up to 13m wide and 300mm thick in a single layer which means there is no need to set out therefore the project eliminated the need for setting out pins as well as significantly reducing the need for any interface with our work force

Further information can be found at:

<https://bcia.newcivilengineer.com/2016-winners>

Blue Star - The communication of risk

The Balfour Beatty M3 J2-4a scheme has been awarded a Blue Star following a Highways England audit for the introduction of a trial to improve methods of communications to the workforce.

A 3D animation video for the installation of kerbs has been developed to accompany traditional task briefings. The animation details elements of the task and precautions to be taken.

The installation of kerbs involves workers working in proximity to operating machinery. The animation details specific locations for workers on where to stand, barrier requirements and best practice for the activity. The animation also has benefits for installation consistency, quality and enhances understanding for non-English speaking workers.

<http://www.highwayssafetyhub.com/hs-toolkit-good-practice-examples.html>



Unintended movement of plant working group - Guidance

The plant safety group draft document now ready for public consultation

The Strategic Forum Plant Safety Group was formed to produce good-practice guidance on plant safety-based subjects and is managed and chaired by the Construction Plant-hire Association (CPA), on behalf of the construction and allied sectors.



The Group's latest project – Reducing Unintended Movement of Plant – is about managing exposure to consequential risks, where inadvertent operation of a control, such as a switch, lever, pedal etc, has caused unintended machine movement resulting in, in several cases, serious injuries or fatalities.

Work on the guidance commenced in June 2015 to identify and document the causes and suitable control measures. The group found that, in principle, inadvertent operation occurs through the operator unknowingly

activating a control lever, intentionally activating a control lever but with a different action occurring to what was expected, or where safety systems were bypassed or defeated.

The guidance covers:

- Planning of the task and the selection of plant
- Attributes of personnel, supervision and training requirements
- Control of the working zones and those within the area
- Communication
- Types of operating controls and means of isolation
- Selection and fitting of additional control measures, including clothing specifications
- Checks, inspections and maintenance requirements.

The working group considers that the draft document – Reducing Unintentional Movement of Plant – is now ready for a public consultation, giving those within industry the chance to comment on the content prior to its formal release.

The public consultation period will close on 16 December 2016 and it is envisaged that the final version will be available in early 2017. A condensed and summarized version will subsequently be produced for easy reference.

Further information and feedback forms can be found at: www.cpa.uk.net/sfpsgpublications

Ongrade proximity warning developments

Ongrade, suppliers of vehicle safety systems, have launched SiteZone Instant. SiteZone Instant enables greater protection between people, plant and hazardous areas on site.

The system is wireless and incorporates two way RFID warning devices which use 360° detection zones and have the ability to see around corners.

The two way RFID warning devices communicate with each other and alert pedestrians and operators of each other's presence to prevent collisions.

The system is easily installed, doesn't require specialist installation and can be mounted and activated within a few minutes, making it suitable for short-term tasks such as deliveries into a works location or depots and onto plant for short or long duration works.

Further information can be found at:

<http://www.proximitywarning.com/>



IceAlert Highlights Frozen Surface Hazards

EUROSIGNS UK, have introduced IceAlert, an early-warning system that identifies areas potentially affected by ice. The system is suitable for use in any outdoor area.

The signs are said to be particularly useful for car parks, yards, depots or any areas that have a pedestrian footfall.

The IceAlert sign has a temperature-sensitive reflector, which revolves into view when temperatures drop to 2°C and is in full view by the time the temperature reaches -1°C.

No power is required to operate the sign, which is virtually maintenance free.

As well as warning of icy slip, trips and falls hazards, Eurosigns say the IceAlert system could minimize the risk of costly personal injury claims.

Further information can be found at: sales@eurosignsgb.co.uk



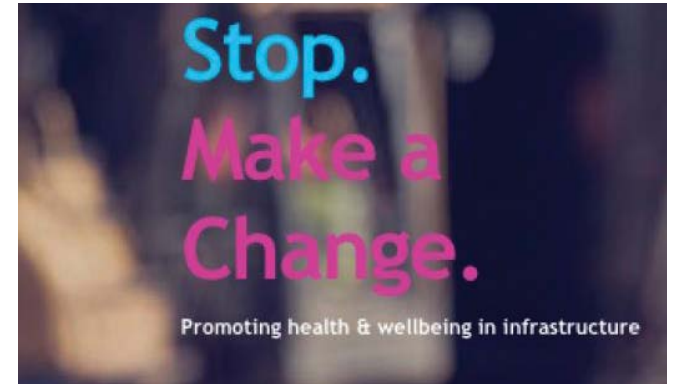
Stop. Make a Change.

On 18 April 2017, organisations from across the UK infrastructure sector will take part in a national Stop, Stand Up event with sites, offices and production facilities putting work on hold to focus on how we can work together to build a healthier and safer industry.

As part of this event, organisations have agreed to put in place a series of commitments that they will implement within their business over the coming year.

The aim is to ensure that the industry has a common focus on some of the key health challenges that it faces, a panel of industry leaders have identified four key areas for these commitments:-

- Respiratory Health - One of the leading causes of ill health in the UK construction industry



- Fatigue – An area for review due to the nature of infrastructure works, the reliance on shift working and travel distances
- Plant Safety – Over the last 5 years 10% of fatalities in our industry have been following persons being hit by vehicles/plant
- Mental Health – In excess of 400,000 days are lost to work-related stress, anxiety and depression in construction

Further information can be found at: <http://www.stopmakeachange.co.uk/>

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Registered office Bridge House, 1 Walnut Tree Close, Guildford GU1 4LZ. Highways England Company Limited registered in England and Wales number 09346363

Send your best practice, alerts and news to SmartMotorways@highwaysengland.co.uk