

# Construction and Maintenance Health, Safety and Wellbeing Briefing February 2017

#### Incursions working group update

A key Highways England objective is to improve safety so that no one is harmed when travelling or working on the strategic road network. The Incursions Working Group's primary focus is to take action to minimise the risk of incursions and as part of this work the group has been studying data on the rate of incursions to help inform their work and in particular identify root causes.

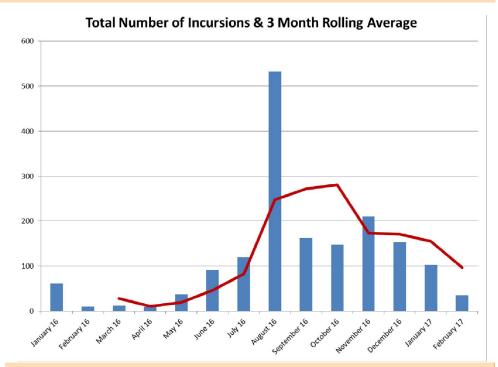
Current data on AIRSweb (the Highways England accident reporting data base) indicates that in 2015 there were 365 vehicle incursions into road works. In 2016 this number increased to over 900 incursions. This could be in part, due to better reporting and recording on AIRSweb but it is recognised by all that these numbers represent the tip of the iceberg.

The group continues to promote the prompt and accurate reporting of incursions first of all by the workforce to their supervisors and managers and then by the Health & Safety Teams working on Highways England contracts and project onto AIRSweb. New guidance will be issued shortly to all current AIRSweb users with regards to the proper recording of incursions and the fields on the system which must be completed.

It is also important that the data collected via this platform is shared with the widest possible audience of stakeholders. Data is now available on a spread sheet for the period of January 2016 to February 2017. It is organised to enable filtering on different areas and shows detail of why the incursion occurred.

Copy and paste this link in to the Firefox browser to view incursion data;

http://www.highwayssafetyhub.com/uploads/5/1/2/9/51294565/incursions\_data\_january\_2017\_rev1.xlsx



Highways England alerts New safety alerts this month

There are no new safety alerts this month, previous alerts can be found at: <a href="http://www.highwayssafetyhub.com/alerts.html">http://www.highwayssafetyhub.com/alerts.html</a>

Send your best practice, alerts and news to <a href="mailto:Philip.Farrar@highwaysengland.co.uk">Philip.Farrar@highwaysengland.co.uk</a>

#### **Health and Safety Hub Campaign Update**

The hub group is launching a series of campaigns focussing on high risk activities.

The first one will cover service avoidance and commences in April. There will be a variety of resources available to highlight the issues including posters, toolbox talks, videos and lessons learnt.

The information will be hosted on www.highwayssafetyhub.com



#### Raising The Bar Learn @ Lunch Thursday 30 March 1230

A webinar is planned on 30 March, aimed at Highways England project managers.

Raising the Bar is Highways England's health and safety initiative designed to identify best practice, raise standards and improve supply chain engagement within major projects. But how does all that work in practice, what guidance does it offer, how does it set the standard for our supply chain? What do you need to know and do about them in the context of your job?

This session is aimed at Project Managers and Assistant Project Managers, and will take you through the guidance and its application.

Contact the Centre Of Excellence for more details; COE@highwaysengland.co.uk

#### 5 Year Plan - Action 49 HSMS

Highways England Health and Safety Management System Comes Together

'What we have to do'.

"In early 2017 Highways England will publish a new Health & Safety Management System (HSMS). This has been developed in consultation with topic specialists from across the company, the Health & Safety Team and the TUS. It is action 49 of the H&S 5 Year Plan.

The new HSMS will ensure we have one common Health & Safety Management System across the whole company, with all

documents in the right format, easy to read, and readily accessible. The HSMS forms the backbone of our safe working practices – the 'what we have to do'. This is complemented with the task specific risk assessments, processes and procedures – fleshing out 'how we do our jobs safely'.

The main focus of the new HSMS is to ensure it is easy to locate information on Health & Safety hazards, together with the necessary controls. The documents contained in the HSMS are called Standards, and are written by topic (e.g. Risk Assessment, Safety

in Lone Working, Travelling on Company Business etc) – they will be hosted in the 'Way We Work' area of the Portal (so will be easy to access even on mobile devices).

The Standards will be managed centrally (with a contact email address for feedback or update suggestions), and link to existing risk assessments and safe systems of work. Crucially current risk assessments and work practices will not change purely as a result of the new HSMS".







#### Safe loads

Skanska is introducing a new UKwide standard to improve the planning and management of deliveries.

Since Skanska introduced Global Safety Stand Downs (GSSD) in 2009, five fatal incidents have related to loads falling from vehicles during deliveries. Last year in Skanska UK, 12 incidents were reported relating to deliveries, some of which resulted in significant injuries.

To eliminate these incidents a new global safety standard is being introduced later this year. In advance of this, existing UK processes have been reviewed and a new Safe Load standard is being introduced. This new standard will meet the forthcoming global requirements and raise awareness of the dangers of loading and unloading operations.

The Safe Load standard builds on existing processes and incorporates two important new requirements:

- To formally plan and document key deliveries this will form part of the Project Execution Plan.
- To ensure the competency of all those involved in planning deliveries and those directly involved in loading and unloading.

Over the next month projects will plan how to comply with these requirements and to support implementation a range of materials has been developed to assist with compliance. This includes toolbox talks, presentations, posters and an implementation guide.

Dylan Roberts, Director of Health and Safety for Skanska UK commented: "The recent GSSD in Florida involving Curtis Popkey serves as a further tragic reminder of the importance of improving safety in the area of planning and managing deliveries. Within our existing processes and arrangements on projects there are already good practices which are reducing the risks but the new Safe Load standard will deliver greater consistency and help to eliminate these incidents going forward."

As soon as the standard has been formally launched within the business Skanska will make materials available for others in the wider supply chain on the Health and Safety Hub pages.



#### STOP make a change

In April 2017 companies and organisations from across the UK infrastructure sector will take part in a joint national initiative targeting improvements in health, safety and wellbeing for the sector.

Stop. Make a Change. will see sites, offices and manufacturing facilities stop work from 10am until noon on 18th April, to allow staff and suppliers working there to take time to discuss some of the challenges we face as a sector and how they can be overcome.

In 2017 it has been decided to focus on four key issues – respiratory illness, plant safety, fatigue and mental health, with

Organisations making commitments to make beneficial changes in relation to each issue. By stopping all other work, Stop. Make a Change. offers the chance for everyone involved to focus on these commitments, and how they can be

effectively rolled out over the coming year. The commitments can be discussed to highlight any concerns or challenges, and opens the door to suggestions as to how further improvements might be made in the future.

Further information can be found at: <a href="https://www.stopmakeachange.co.uk/">www.stopmakeachange.co.uk/</a>







#### MPA granted funding to help deliver CLOCS

THE Mineral Products Association (MPA) has been announced as a recipient of Transport for London (TfL) grant funding to help to deliver the Construction Logistics and Community Safety (CLOCS) initiative across the industry and UK.

MPA will engage and extend awareness of the CLOCS campaign to drivers and businesses across the mineral products sector.

CLOCS requires HGV drivers to receive additional safety awareness training and for delivery vehicles to be fitted with equipment to help drivers avoid collisions, such as sensors and/or cameras to eliminate vehicle blind spots.

CLOCS also requires contactors and clients to improve the safety of construction sites for delivery drivers through actions such as safe unloading facilities and safe site access and egress, as well as better planning of deliveries with suppliers. The MPA CLOCS initiative will include a range of resources for drivers and businesses, and will be promoted across all regions using social media widely to endorse the initiative.

The MPA will also be promoting CLOCS to political audiences and industry regulators, including local authorities. New publications and industry-specific case studies will raise awareness of the commercial benefits to companies and drivers supporting CLOCS.

Further information can be found at: <a href="http://www.clocs.org.uk/">http://www.clocs.org.uk/</a>



### Treating health like safety

The Health in Construction
Leadership Group (HCLG)
welcomed over 300 Construction
leaders and influencers on the
25th January for a second summit
to continue the discussion on
reducing the burden of ill-health
in the construction industry.

At the first summit held in January 2016, over 150 CEOs from across the industry gathered to discuss the importance of raising awareness of health issues in the construction industry and focussed initially on respiratory disease.

Throughout 2016, the HCLG has played a pivotal role in facilitating the sharing of best practice and innovations across the industry, to help raise standards in the way health risks are managed on construction sites. This has included the promotion of key awareness-raising campaigns such as 'Breathe Freely' and 'No Time to Lose' which offers free guidance and resources for managing health risks in construction.

Following the success of the event last year, the 2017 summit aimed to reflect on progress to date as well as to bring a focus to the growing issue of mental health within the industry, and equipped delegates with the tools and techniques to apply within their companies.

The event was widely supported by industry bodies such as British Occupational Hygiene Society, The British Safety Council, Build UK, Construction Industry Training Board, the Health and Safety Executive, International Institute of Risk and Safety Management and the Institution of Occupational Safety and Health.

Further information can be found at:www.healthinconstruction.co.uk/



#### **CECA – CDM Good Practice**

The Civil Engineering Contractors
Association have released a new publication
– Construction (Design and Management)
Regulations 2015 – A good practice
quide for the civil engineering sector.

This guide includes the regulations; actions that should be taken by the duty holders and useful examples of good practice. The examples of good practice are supported in most instances by photographs and this combined with the colour coding for duty holders presents very useful guide. The publication is free to CECA members and available via their website. Future updates as new guidance examples are included will be released only on the CECA web site.

Further information can be found at: CECA Website: www.ceca.co.uk



## Construction News makes mental health awareness one of its core themes for 2017

Construction News has launched an industrywide survey, calling on all professionals employed in the construction industry to help shape the future of mental health awareness.

Our industry employs more than two million people, but is still described as a 'macho' sector, one where mental health is still a stigma and people are discouraged from speaking openly about mental health for fear of weakness.

Why this campaign matters:

One in four adults in the UK experiences mental health issues.

It is estimated that the number of deaths from suicide in the construction industry could be 10 times higher than those from fatal accidents at work.

A CIOB survey last year found 68.2 per cent of respondents had suffered from stress,

anxiety or depression as a direct result of working in the construction industry.

A Ucatt survey found that of people who had suffered from mental illness, 44 per cent had time off due to mental health issues but 75 per cent had not raised their problems with management.

Further information can be found at: <a href="https://www.constructionnews.co.uk/">https://www.constructionnews.co.uk/</a>



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