

Season's Greetings

The Delivery Hub Health and Safety Team would like to wish all its readers a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Safe Start 2014

The combination of poor weather conditions, reduced light and returning to work after a long break can lead to an increase in injury incidents. We have seen a worrying increase in injuries over the last year and are concerned that this trend continues. Typical events that have occurred include:

1. Slips, trips and falls. The majority of incidents are falls on the same level. Consider lighting requirements, adverse weather conditions and the accessing and egressing of plant
2. Contact with tools / equipment / machinery, including problems associated with operating equipment in adverse weather conditions
3. Poor manual handling, the likelihood of which can be increased

due to the weather conditions. What should we do?

The Major Projects delivery partner and Highways Agency directors have agreed that in addition to the application of good management practices, there are a number of tools and techniques which should be used to raise awareness:

- Hold year start kick-off meetings that focus on planning. Ensure that all the relevant personnel are included in these.
- Re-induction of personnel on the first day back to work
- Extended briefing sessions or tool box talks with the focus on New Year start up and the common hazards that may occur, such as slip trip falls and poor weather conditions, reduced lighting levels and generally getting back to work in a safe manner. Projects should brief out 'Raising the Bar 14' Slip

Trip Falls as a toolbox talk as this provides useful advice on the management of these risks.

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

- Review the projects top 5 risks and implement measures to manage them. The use of other Raising the Bar Documents such as RTB3 Plant Person Interface can be used as a reminder of what are the

minimum standards when working on Highways Agency schemes

- Everyone to stand back for five minutes before starting work. Assess your place of work to see if there have been any changes from the last time you worked there. Is everything in place that needs to be?
- Specifically targeted workplace inspections and leadership / culture assessments carried out by managers and supervisors before work resumes.



Current work in the Hub

The following 'Raising the Bar' documents are currently being finalised and are due to be published on the Highways Agency's website in the New Year.

- Service avoidance
- Communication of risk
- Influencing driver behaviour
- Occupational health

Work now looks to review the following 'Raising the Bar' Guidance documents

- Excavation protection
- Slips, trips fall
- Task lighting
- Working at height

We welcome any constructive feedback so if you wish to get involved please send your comments to DeliveryHubInbox@highways.gsi.gov.uk

Current raising the bar guidance documents are available on the Highways Agency website:

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

New inspection launches in January

After 5 years of using the Independent Audit it was decided in the autumn to refresh the approach undertaken. A new Inspection Process has been developed that will focus more on collecting best practice, management of high risks, and recording progress of implementing Raising the Bar. The new process aligns better with the activities of Network Delivery and Development and is more adaptable to include any current Highways Agency priorities. There will no longer be a score and the close out of any poor practice will be more formal. A trial of the process was carried out in December which was considered successful. It is now proposed that there will be a full roll out across both Major Projects and Network Delivery and Development starting in the New Year.

There will be a bedding in process for the first three months of implementation. The new process will be explained to each site as

they have their first inspection and they all will have a chance to feedback on the process so that it will become a very useful tool in promoting best practice and improving the management of high risks.

Highways Agency alerts:

[HA133 - Tracked Excavator Incident](#)

[HA134 - Allerdene Bridge Near Miss](#)

[HA135 - Defibrillator Training](#)

[HA137 - Acceptable Behaviours on Site](#)

Previous Safety Alerts can be found here

<http://www.highways.gov.uk/our-road-network/safety/highways-agency-safety-alerts/>

Preventing Harm Together



Attendance was exceptional with nearly 200 people going representing over 30 organisations.

The objective of the day was to welcome our new Collaborative Delivery Framework (CDF) partners, understand what we have achieved through collaboration and setting a health, safety and wellbeing vision for the future.

The morning comprised of presentations from Peter Adams (Major Projects Board Director)

who clearly set the scene and ambition, an excellent case study from Steve Halls from Crossrail. Jeremy Bird (National Health and Safety Team) explained the challenges ahead. Duncan Elliott (Carillion), Lucy Wickham (Mouchel) and Dave Merrick (EM Highways) showed what our delivery partners have achieved. Finally Tony Turton explained the CDF and the opportunities we have to improve through collaborative leadership and behaviour.

We held a networking lunch. A total of 11 presenters held discussions at the tables on various collaborative Health and Safety initiatives and support available. The topics included Occupational Health, Behavioural Based Safety, Plant Person Interface, Health and Safety Laboratory, A14 Scheme, Independent Inspection, H&S Excellence Wheel, CITB National Skills Academy and the Road Worker Safety Forum. This novel approach proved effective if not a little noisy!!

The afternoon session was led by Nigel Heaton from Human Applications and explored our Health and Safety Vision. An imaginative ice breaker we called 'Risk Buckaroo' certainly prevented any post lunch lethargy.

A collaborative H&S Vision was identified followed by a session that identified what were the opportunities and threats to meeting it.

The final session involved a principle known as 'Nudge Theory' This involved writing down a personal safety commitment in the form of 'If I do this....' 'then this will be the result....'

Closing comments were expressed by Chris Taylor (Major Projects Divisional Director)

Judging by the feedback given on the day and positive comments written on the feedback forms, the event was a resounding success.

The presentations and workshop outputs can be found on our website as a briefing supplement here; <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/delivery-hub-health-safety-briefings>

Highways Agency achieve CCS Milestone

The Highways Agency has been presented with a Milestone Award from the Considerate Constructors Scheme for having 1,000 sites registered – a first for construction clients in the UK.

The award was presented by Edward Hardy, Considerate Constructors Scheme Chief Executive to Graham Dalton, Highways Agency Chief Executive, at the 1,000th Highways Agency registered site: Blunts Farm Depot in Theydon Bois, near junction 27 of the M25.

Graham Dalton, Chief Executive of the Highways Agency said:
I'm delighted to accept this award

on behalf of the Agency and our partners in the supply chain. We work hard to minimise disruption for drivers and limit disruption to our neighbours who live near our road network whenever we carry out maintenance or improvement work. Customer service will continue to be a priority as we prepare to become Highways England. Through better planning, improved safety and engagement with our customers we will deliver £11 billion of investment in our network with minimal disruption.

For the full story please follow the link to the [Highways Agency website](#)



© Crown copyright 2014.

You may re-use this information (not including logos) free of charge in any format or medium, under the terms of the Open Government Licence.

To view this licence, visit <http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/doc/open-government-licence/> or write to the Information Policy Team, The National Archives, Kew, London TW9 4DU, or email: psi@nationalarchives.gsi.gov.uk.

This document is also available on our website at www.highways.gov.uk

If you have any enquiries about this publication email ha_info@highways.gsi.gov.uk or call 0300 123 5000*

* Calls to 03 numbers cost no more than a national rate call to an 01 or 02 number and must count towards any inclusive minutes in the same way as 01 and 02 calls. These rules apply to calls from any type of line including mobile, BT, other fixed line or payphone. Calls may be recorded or monitored.

Highways Agency media services Bedford S140673