

From: Phil Chambers at Strategic Safety Systems Ltd. [phil@strategicsafety.co.uk]
Sent: 09 July 2013 10:30
To: phil@strategicsafety.co.uk
Subject: News and Legal Updates from Strategic Safety Systems Ltd.!



Strategic Safety Systems Ltd. Newsletter

**July 2013
Issue 1**

Dear Philip,

Welcome to the first July edition of our newsletter. What we aim to do is to provide information which is of use to you and to let you know the activities in which we have been involved. We also aim to let you know of any incidents that have occurred in, and legislation that is related to, the areas in which we work. We realise that, with the broad spectrum of our activities, some may not be relevant to you but we hope you find the rest useful.

Whilst the intention of this newsletter is to be useful, we realise that most people are plagued by spam and should you wish to prevent future issues being sent to you, unsubscribe using the link at the bottom of the page.

Regards,

Philip Chambers
Strategic Safety Systems Ltd.

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Old and new CoSHH symbols



One of our clients asked me if it was OK to mix the old and new types of symbols which denote if a substance is hazardous to health. He was concerned with the containers having new symbols whilst the MSDS had old ones. There is a long transition period from 2009 to 2015 for the new "red rhomboid" symbols to take over. In my opinion, because there is no confusion

between the symbols (with the possible exception of that shown above where ! means caution and the X symbol as shown means irritant), there is low risk in mixing these and therefore it is acceptable to have different styles in use, but not on the same document or label.

Opportunity to simplify environmental compliance

DEFRA is proposing to make it easier for companies to comply with environmental obligations by simplifying the guidance so that there is one guidance document per topic. As SSS has not been backward in coming forward to criticise the mess of environmental legislation, we welcome this.

There is the opportunity to make your view known on "improving the user experience" (DEFRA's words, not ours) via the link shown below. Of course, we are contributing to this! However, don't hold your breath for improvements as the consultation alone lasts until March 2014.

[Click on this link to make you views known or see more.](#)

Government make it easier to take on work experience students

On 21st June Ministers outlined plans to make it as easy as possible for employers to take on work experience students. These include:

- A commitment from the insurance industry to treat work experience students as employees for the purposes of insurance against bodily injury, and confirmation that simply giving work experience opportunities to students will not in itself impact on insurance premiums.
- HSE has issued guidance providing clarity on employers' obligations with regard to risk assessments - making it clear that if workplace risk has already been assessed with young people in mind, a business does not need to repeat this for each new student.
- Publishing by DfE and Ofsted of a guide to clarify the health and safety responsibilities for educational establishments organising work experience opportunities.

There have been several views expressed that this is a retrograde step. SSS do not necessarily agree with these.

[See More](#)

Incidents and court cases

Worker escapes death after 11m fall from cherry picker

A worker escaped death after the cherry picker in which he was working toppled because of incorrect mats below the feet of the stabilisers.

[See details](#)

Worker's hand drawn into in-running nip on laminating machine

The absence of adequate guarding allowed a worker's hand to be crushed in a laminating machine.

[See details](#)

Sawmill fined £57,000 after accident on poorly guarded conveyor belt

Pontrilas Sawmills Ltd., of Herefordshire, has been fined after an employee suffered severe crush injuries when his arm was dragged into the rollers of a poorly-guarded conveyor belt.

[See details](#)

Daily updates

Don't forget, there's lots of useful information that is highlighted typically daily on the SSS Twitter and Blog sites.

[Follow us on twitter](#)

[Visit our blog](#)

I hope you have found this information of interest. If you have any suggestions of other information you would like to see, please [contact me](#)

Regards,

Philip Chambers

Strategic Safety Systems Ltd.

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