

## Phil Chambers

**From:** Phil Chambers at Strategic Safety Systems Ltd. [phil@strategicsafety.co.uk]  
**Sent:** 15 July 2014 10:33  
**To:** phil@strategicsafety.co.uk  
**Subject:** News and Legal Updates from Strategic Safety Systems Ltd.!



## Strategic Safety Systems Ltd. Newsletter

July 2014  
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.

Regards,

Philip Chambers  
Strategic Safety Systems Ltd.

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## Fire at Stroud company

A fire at Nu-Pro, a company providing metal surface treatment services near Stroud, totally destroyed one building housing a chemical milling process. Fortunately, the other operations at the site were not affected and there appears to be no visible damage to the environment. I checked the River Frome which flows through the site and trout were still swimming in it.

We all realise that fire is a major disaster and, typically, companies do not recover after a major fire. However, fire is just one of the events which can affect the continuity of your business. That is why it is essential that you have a workable and where appropriate, tested, business continuity system in place rather than a disaster recovery plan.

[See more about business continuity.](#)

[See BBC video on the fire.](#)

## Latest SHP Online articles well received



Our latest articles in SHP have been very well received. They are:

[The mistakes people make when managing noise](#)

This was written following SSS "repairs" on noise assessments carried out by others where the consultant had not understood concepts and had imposed onerous requirements.

[Major accidents caused by poor ergonomics](#)

This discusses how poor the ergonomic design of controls contributed to 2 aircraft crashes, a partial meltdown of a nuclear reactor and a recent example where an operator lost 2 fingers in a welding machine.

Links to the full list of the SSS white papers and SHP Online articles is available on the [SSS Publications webpage.](#)

## Government responds to HSE triennial review

In his triennial review of the HSE published in January, Martin Temple, former chief executive of EEF, advocated that there should be a clear distinction between the income generated by FFI and the funding of the HSE. The Government has announced that it will review the controversial fee for intervention (FFI) regime.

The government stated that the next steps will be:

- In the next few months HSE will begin testing with possible customers the market demand for a fully-chargeable inspection service for organisations with mature health and safety management systems. (See comments under HSE Income Stream below.)
- In July 2014, HSE's FFI review will report to the HSE board to provide advice to the Minister on the future options for FFI.
- By September 2014, HSE will have fully implemented a new performance framework.
- By end of 2014, work to deliver the recommendations in Professor Löfstedt's report will have been completed.
- By end of 2015, HSE will have reviewed its interfaces with other regulators and published revised memoranda of understanding.

[See the government response.](#)

## Developments on HSE's income stream

The Fee for Intervention (FFI) scheme that the HSE are presently following has come in for a lot of criticism.

Latest news on this is:

- Income from FFI during the 2013/14 FY was £12.3M. As their budget was £17M, this represents a shortfall of £5M.
- The budget for FY 2014/15 is £23M, so we can expect things to get worse.
- HMRC has just stated that as FFI is not a fine (though it smells like and fine and looks like a fine), fees for intervention are tax deductible.

As noted above, the HSE will begin testing a scheme where, if you are confident enough that you are in control of health and safety, you can pay the HSE, ie the people who could charge you under FFI or prosecute you, to carry out an assessment of your safety measures.

SSS are seeking comments on this scheme.

[See blog on this scheme and enter comments](#)

## Incidents and court cases

### Failure of interlock checks causes crushed hand

RSM Industries Ltd., which makes metal components for the automotive industry was fined £19,300 (inc. costs) because of poor guard interlock checking after a worker's hand was crushed.

[See details](#)

### Overridden interlocks causes loss of 2 fingers. Company did not report it under RIDDOR.

MTI Welding Technologies Ltd., a Dudley-based welding machine manufacturer was fined £56,100 (inc.costs) on 2 July 2014 after a worker lost 2 fingers in a machine.

[See details](#)

### Poor non-standard work operation results in falls from 2 forklift truck cages

Eurokey Recycling Ltd., a Leicestershire recycling company, was fined nearly £11,000 (inc. costs) on 3 July 2014 after non-standard work resulted in falls from cages on forklift trucks.

[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.



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](#).  
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 below.

Regards,

Philip Chambers

Strategic Safety Systems Ltd.

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