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Sent: 24 October 2013 10:30
To: phil@strategicsafety.co.uk
Subject: News and Legal Updates from Strategic Safety Systems Ltd.!



Strategic Safety Systems Ltd. Newsletter

October 2013
Issue 2

Dear Philip,

Welcome to the second October 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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Non-Core Operations and Permits to Work

This month I have seen one questionable situation at a company I visited and we have had one court case (see the HVAC case below), both of which related to non-core operations. What I mean by this is any operation outside your normal operations. Say you are a printing or an engineering company, then your core operations would be printing/finishing or machining/fabrication, as appropriate; work on the heating or ventilation system is a non-core operation, and is typically sub-contracted to "specialist" companies. However, specialist companies may either have dubious systems of work, or the interaction between core and non-core activities (say forklift trucks working near contractors working at height) may introduce risks. Over the years we have seen many accidents in otherwise well-run companies arising from non-core operations. You may think that your operations are too simple to warrant a permit to work, but I strongly recommend that you consider it.

SSS have therefore produced Technical Paper 23 describing how to go about controlling non-core operations.

[See Technical Paper 23](#)

Changes to the Register of Legislation

The SSS Register of Legislation has been updated to issue W, to incorporate the following changes:

- Adding the CRC Energy Efficiency Scheme Order 2013
- Adding the Enterprise and Regulatory Reform Act 2013 and its impact on the Health and Safety at Work etc., Act.

The CRC Energy Efficiency Scheme Order applies to organisations consuming 6,000 MWh per year.

The Enterprise and Regulatory Reform Act removes the strict liability formerly present in HSAW.

As normal, we will be sending out revised copies to those companies with whom we have an on-going agreement. However, other companies may purchase the upgrades for a nominal fee.

E-cigarettes

Yet another consideration in the E-cigarettes saga which arose during discussions at a client company last week:

If you ban E-cigarettes in the workplace (as most companies are doing) do you have to provide an outside shelter for E-cigarette "smokers"? And does this have to be an additional shelter to the one you already may have for smokers of normal cigarettes? And has the world gone crazy?

<http://phil-sss.blogspot.co.uk/2013/08/guidance-on-e-cigarettes-in-workplace.html>

Incidents and court cases

HVAC company fined after a 3m fall from height.

HLA Services Ltd., a heating, ventilation and air conditioning company, has been fined £10,710 (inc. costs) after an employee suffered serious injuries in a fall whilst repairing an extraction unit in Newcastle.

[See details](#)

Another accident due to inadequate guarding

Howie Forest Products Ltd, a Dumfries sawmill, has been fined £20,000 after a worker suffered severe injuries to his arm when it became trapped in poorly guarded machinery.

[See details](#)

Untrained forklift truck drivers results in (suspended) prison sentence for director

BB Recycling, a Corby recycling firm have been fined a relatively low sum of £640 (inc. costs) but its director was given a suspended jail sentence for endangering workers after allowing them to operate fork lift trucks without proper training and then ignoring a notice requiring urgent action to address the safety failing.

[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.

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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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