

From: Phil Chambers at Strategic Safety Systems Ltd. [phil@strategicsafety.co.uk]
Sent: 14 October 2014 10:35
To: phil@strategicsafety.co.uk
Subject: News and Legal Updates from Strategic Safety Systems Ltd.!



Strategic Safety Systems Ltd. Newsletter

October 2014
Issue 1

Dear Philip,

Welcome to the first 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.

Regards,

Philip Chambers
Strategic Safety Systems Ltd.

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New regulations on acetylene safety

The Acetylene Safety (England, Wales and Scotland) Regulations 2014 came into force on 1st October. Whilst it is common in factory workshops and fabrication companies, the dangers of acetylene and the extra steps required are often not appreciated.

To help companies with their obligations under these regulations, the HSE have produced the guidance INDG327 Working Safely with Acetylene. Click on the link below to be taken to this.

[See Working Safely with Acetylene](#)

Check out your fire exits

Over the past couple of weeks, I have seen several areas of concern with measures put in place to cope should a fire occur. These include:

- Excessive vegetation on the escape route outside the building. You could get out, but your exit would be hampered.
- Fire doors locked
- Roller shutter door on the other side of a fire door
- Fire doors wedged open.

All of these can be easily addressed. With regard to fire doors, if they are necessary, then they should be kept shut or have an automatic closing device linked to the alarm system. If they aren't necessary, then signs that state they are fire doors should be removed.

Guarding and isolation essential

The two examples shown below are just the latest in a series of tragic cases where machinery, in this case conveyors in recycling plants, is unguarded. In one case, a person may end up losing a leg whilst in the other case, the person actually lost an arm. Both were avoidable. The key lessons are:

- Areas where there are in-running nips, say between a belt and pulley must be guarded either by an immediate guard that prevents entry into the nip or a local guard that prevents entry to the pulley/belt area.
- Guards must be interlocked so that when they are opened, the machine stops.
- When working on equipment, it must be isolated electrically and locked out.

Incidents and court cases

Lack of isolation causes potential loss of leg

Roydon Polythene (Exports) Ltd., a recycling firm was fined £11,221 (inc. costs) on 26 September 2014 after an employee almost lost his right leg when it became trapped in a machine.

[See details](#)

Worker loses arm in waste recycling conveyor

Lowmac Alloys Ltd., an Ayrshire WASTE RECYCLING firm was fined £118,000 on 6th October 2014 after an agency worker severed his left arm at the shoulder while clearing a CONVEYOR belt blockage.

[See details](#)

Keighley-based firm fined for noise exposure

Fibreline Ltd, a Keighley firm specialising in foam and feather furnishings was fined £19,457 (inc. costs) on 7 Oct 2014 after failing to protect its workforce from excessive noise made by production machinery.

[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](#).

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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