

**From:** Phil Chambers at Strategic Safety Systems Ltd. [phil@strategicsafety.co.uk]  
**Sent:** 29 September 2014 10:34  
**To:** phil@strategicsafety.co.uk  
**Subject:** News and Legal Updates from Strategic Safety Systems Ltd.!



Strategic Safety Systems Ltd. Newsletter

September 2014  
Issue 2

Dear Philip,

Welcome to the second September 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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*Fee for Intervention should stay says report*

The Fees For Intervention (FFI) Scheme has proven effective and should stay, an independent report has concluded. This contradicts the concerns that many people, including SSS, have had given the increasing financial targets the HSE has set for this.

The report recognised that inspectors at the Health and Safety Executive have implemented FFI consistently and fairly since it started in October 2012, and found no evidence to suggest that enforcement policy decisions had been influenced in any way by its introduction.

According to the report's authors, the professional approach adopted by HSE's inspectors has ensured any challenges raised by the scheme during its first 18 months were minimised. The evidence suggests the concerns voiced about FFI have not manifested themselves to any significant or serious extent and that 'generally inspectors and dutyholders continue to work together in improving health and safety management'.

[See report](#)

*Beware work done by "experts"*

There have been two instances recently which should awaken you to work done by companies supplying specialist services or equipment. One could assume that, because you have engaged companies who claim competence in certain areas, you are absolved of the risk. Sorry, this isn't so and the employer is the one who is still held accountable.

In the case of Brinton Carpets (see Incidents and Court Cases, below), one would have thought that engaging Allianz, not exactly a back-street company, to carry out pressure tests, then you would be in the clear. But Brinton were fined over £11,000, almost as much as Allianz's fine.

In another recent situation, company A bought a CE-marked machine from a reputable Italian manufacturer. An identical machine had also been purchased by company B. A minor accident occurred on the company A's machine which triggered them to look more deeply into the risks, during which they identified another area. The machine at company B had already had guards fitted by the manufacturer to their machine in both these areas, but the manufacturer had not seen fit to

upgrade the design to include these or inform company A. Were there to be legal case over this, in my experience, action would be taken against company A, rather than the manufacturer.

So, you must ALWAYS thoroughly risk assess new machinery and never rely on the CE mark. And you must ALWAYS check that your outside contractors of services for pressure equipment, lifting equipment, fire equipment, etc., checking is actually picking up all the applicable equipment.

[See SSS white paper "Beware the CE Mark"](#)

## SSS provides support in other areas

Though Strategic Safety Systems has a well-established reputation in the Manufacturing sector, predominantly in Engineering and Printing, we have spread to other areas at the request of people in such areas. This shows how the core, simple approach we take is applicable elsewhere. Recent examples have been:

- Medium sized plumbing company (initially 9001 support, now safety and environmental).
- Medium sized energy conservation company (ISO 14001 and OHSAS 18001 certification support)
- SME company installing equipment for moving people who are incapacitated (OHSAS 18001 certification support)
- Two textile companies (safety support for SEDEX)

[See more about our services](#)

## Incidents and court cases

### Directors jailed for safety and fraud offences

Paul O'Boyle, a Hampshire businessman, was today jailed on 29th August for a total of 26 months for fraud and safety offences. A second businessman, Russell Lee, was given a 12 month suspended prison sentence, ordered to pay £8000 and given 150 hours' community service for similar offences.

[See details](#)

### Carpet company fined £11,000 and pressure vessel inspection company fined £14,000 after vessel explodes.

Brinton Carpets Ltd., were fined £11,174 (inc. costs) and Allianz Engineering Inspection Services Ltd., fined £14,100 (inc. costs) after a large pressure vessel exploded.

[See details](#)

### Massive fine for operating faulty forklift truck and falsifying records

MIB United Meat Ltd., a North London meat wholesalers has been fined £20,314 for operating a fault-ridden forklift truck and trying to deceive safety inspectors by forging a positive examination report on the vehicle.

[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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