

GOSHA

GUERNSEY OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY AND HEALTH ASSOCIATION
WWW.GOSHA.ORG.UK

Newsletter October 2006

Headlines

- Gas Appliances in Guernsey – please send written comments on the Draft Code of Practice and Guidance entitled 'Safety in the Installation and Use of Gas Appliances', to the Commerce and Employment Department to arrive no later than the 24th October 2006. A draft copy of this code of practice is available at www.hse.guernsey.gg/
- Asbestos – Maintenance workers, including plumbers, carpenters and builders account for more than one quarter of asbestos-related cancer deaths in the UK each year. To raise awareness of the dangers of working with asbestos, the Health and Safety Executive has launched its "Don't take the gamble" campaign. Have you made your colleagues aware of the dangers?
- European Safety & Health Week 23 to 27 October – this year the focus is on protecting young people in the workplace – if you would like to know more or join in with the activities planned in the UK visit www.hse.gov.uk/campaigns/euroweek/index.htm.
- COSHH (control of substances hazardous to health) – lots of helpful information is available from www.coshh-essentials.org.uk – publications on construction, ceramics, foundries, manufacturing, quarries, stonemasons and slate works are now available to download. We plan to have a GOSHA talk on this subject in the future
- H&S guidance for those whose first language is not English – if you employ people who do not use English as their first language, you will find the following source of information of help www.hse.gov.uk/languages/index.htm

Other News

- Keep up to date – visit www.hse.guernsey.gg and see the newly designed website. Also, see the latest UK HSE information up-dates at www.hse.gov.uk/new/index.htm
- The latest free leaflets available from our HSE (telephone Jean Bourgaize on 234567) include
 1. [Health and safety starter pack for small businesses](#) - If you have recently set up in business or are new to health and safety our Starter Pack is for you. The Starter Pack has been designed to provide a comprehensive and low cost introduction to health and safety
 2. [ECA/HVCA contractor leaflet](#) –the leaflet 'Core Criteria for assessing Contractor Safety', was developed by the Electrical Contractors' Association (ECA) and the Heating and Ventilating Contractors' with input from the HSE
 3. [An introduction to health & safety in small businesses - Polish translation](#) - this Polish translation of the booklet shows you the kind of things which cause the more common accidents and harm to people's health
 4. [Manual Handling Inspections – a checklist for safety representatives](#)
 5. [Managing Sickness Absence and return to work](#)
 6. [Slips and trips in the education sector](#) - this information sheet is aimed at head teachers and school managers who wish to reduce the risk of slips and trips.
 7. [Basic advice on first aid at work \(revised\)](#) - this leaflet contains basic advice on first aid for use in an emergency.
 8. [Workplace health and safety: Glazing](#)
 9. [Play your part! How you can help improve health and safety offshore](#) - if you work offshore, for an operator or a contractor, read this leaflet. It explains how you can help to improve health and safety offshore by simply being involved.

Our visit to Ronez's quarry on 20 July 2006 was a very interesting and well attended meeting. We received some very good feedback on the visit and would like to thank everyone at Ronez, Guernsey, particularly Steve Roussel, for a very thought provoking and reassuring tour of the quarry. Lots of potential risk but properly assessed and carefully managed. The involvement of all staff in achieving and maintaining high standards of safety was impressive and is an example to us all of what can be achieved if everyone works together to make safety a priority in the workplace.

Please check the GOSHA website for information and news, including details of our forthcoming meetings and AGM on 30 November 2006 – www.gosha.org.uk