



Disabled people and businesses in Guernsey – you may like to be aware that the Guernsey Disability Alliance has recently been formed to represent the interests of all disabled people in Guernsey. Nearly 11,000 islanders have a long-standing condition that restricts daily activities and there are more than 1,000 wheelchair users. If businesses do not provide for the needs of disabled people, they miss out on valuable trade and some very good employees. Take a look at the HSE's guidance on this important topic and enhance the value and reputation of your business - www.hse.gov.uk/disability.

Guernsey law and good practices – are you up-to-date? Come to our managing health and safety briefing – see below.

Asbestos – the hidden killer – focus on tradespeople – during October and November 2008, the HSE is running a special campaign to target tradespeople such as plumbers, electricians and joiners who are at risk from exposure to asbestos in buildings and other areas in which they work. The primary aim is to raise awareness and to highlight that many people are more at risk than they think from asbestos. Find out more including the precautions which must be taken by visiting www.hse.gov.uk/asbestos/index.htm.

CHIP regulations – new UK law to be aware of - The Chemicals (Hazard Information and Packaging for Supply) (Amendment) Regulations 2008 enter into force on 1 October 2008. The changes do not affect the main legal duties but do adjust:

- the rules and procedures for classifying and labelling a chemical preparation containing carcinogens, mutagens and substances toxic for reproduction;
- the generic concentration limits to be used for the evaluation of the hazards for the aquatic environment;
- the classification and labelling requirements for preparations containing ozone depleting substances;
- the specified warning phrases on labels for certain preparations to make them clearer and more consistent.

More details at www.hse.gov.uk/chip/issues.htm#updates.

Do you work in Guernsey's air transport sector? If so, you may find this new area of the HSE's website helpful – topics covered include falls from height, baggage handling, aircraft turnaround and passengers - www.hse.gov.uk/airtransport/professionals.htm.

HSE bans this, that and the other – continuing to counter the unfair, negative press health & safety too often receives, the HSE has dedicated pages dispelling a number of the myths which have been reported in the past. There have been many reports of HSE, and health and safety law, being responsible for banning all sorts of things. For example, flip flops at work, knitting in hospitals, school sports days, a charity Christmas swim and even cuddly toys on dustbin lorries. In reality, the HSE has banned very little outright, apart from a very few high-risk exceptions. The HSE believes that health and safety should be about taking practical steps to manage real risks, not bureaucracy leading to the banning of everyday activities. Next time you hear of a daft 'ban', check it out. www.hse.gov.uk/myth has a number of examples – some will make you smile!

E-newsletters – would it help you to receive regular bulletins of matters affecting your area of business? You can subscribe free of charge at www.hse.gov.uk/new/ebulletins/index.htm.

Health & Safety Leadership– here's a useful checklist www.hse.gov.uk/leadership/checklist.htm

European Safety & Health Week – 20 to 24 October 2008 – risk assessment – why not take part? It is an often neglected part of the assessment and management of risk in the workplace, costs very little and can save a fortune – www.osha.europa.eu/en/campaigns/hw2008 or <http://news.hse.gov.uk/2008/09/24/european-health-and-safety-campaign>

GOSHA news

- **Managing Health & Safety Briefing** – 12 November 4pm to 7pm - We are pleased to offer another opportunity for businesses to attend a briefing which will help in the management of health and safety. The briefing will be informal and there is no test and no assessment of what you do and don't know. It is aimed at business owners, supervisors or managers. Paul Craig and Richard Brown have compiled the briefing and many thanks to them for doing this. Full details on the website – first come, first served basis!
- **Practical site visits** – we are visiting Channel Islands' Air Search on 15 October - many thanks to all at CIAS for making this possible.
- **Open Meetings in 2008** – 2 October (UK HSE expert talk on falls from height) and 20 November (Hannah Beacom, MD of Island Coachways). Another good way to add knowledge and earn CPD points.
- **Website** – we hope you continue to find www.gosha.org.uk helpful. It contains lots of practical help including the legally required Guernsey H&S law poster (see the links page)
- **GOSHA window stickers** – are a great way to make others aware of our association and highlight your concern for workplace health and safety in Guernsey. Please ask any member of the committee for yours.
- **Membership pack** – it's now ready and will be distributed to members who attend on 2 October. If you cannot attend on that day, please call into Normandie Health & Safety (Rue a Chien) for your copy.
- **Committee Meeting Minutes** – are now displayed on www.gosha.org.uk, so you can keep up to date with all we are doing.
- **Raising issues/training needs etc** - our next committee meeting will be on 7 October – if you would like to raise any matter, please contact a member of the committee (details at www.gosha.org.uk).

GOSHA Committee