

NISG SAFETY QUIZ 2005.

The competition is open to NISG members only .

Each team consists of 4 members *Safety Professionals and NISG Committee Members are excluded from entry although they may act as team manager.

The secretary must be notified in writing of all Team members' names prior to the competition; if any last minute changes to Team Membership are necessary they must be agreed with a NISG Committee member prior to the team taking their place in the competition.

**anyone in a full or part time safety role or holding a professional qualification. However anyone holding qualifications up to the standard of the NEBOSH certificate will be accepted.*

The competition takes the form of a table quiz. Teams will be asked questions on various Health and Safety Topics and some general knowledge questions. There will be up to 10 rounds of team questions.

In the **Novice category** the top three teams will receive prizes.

In the **Previous Entrants category** the top 3 teams will proceed to an individual

question round to decide the category winner. **The first answer in this round is the only accepted answer.**

The decision of the adjudicators is final throughout the quiz.

Category Definitions

1. Previous Entrant

This category is open to any NISG member who has previously entered the competition and achieved a prize winning position, i.e. (1st 2nd or 3rd) during the last five years.

2. Novice

This category is open to any NISG member who

- Has not previously competed in a NISG Quiz,
- Has previously competed in the overall quiz but not within the past five years,
- Has previously competed in the overall quiz but not achieved a prize winning position (1st 2nd or 3rd) during the last five years.

The winning team in each category will be offered a place in the NISO All Ireland semi-finals, providing they satisfy the entry criteria for the competition.

Entries to the 2005 quiz should not comprise more than one team member from a previous year's prize-winning team

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Event: NISG A.G.M.
Date: 17th January 2005
Time: 2.15 for 2.30
Venue: King's Hall
 Conference Centre
Speaker: Ridgeway Plant
Topic: Safe Working Platforms

Event: NISG Monthly Meeting
Date: 21st February 2005
Time: 2.15 for 2.30
Venue: To be confirmed
Speaker: To be confirmed
Topic: To be confirmed

Event: NISG Monthly Meeting
Date: 21st March 2005
Time: 2.15 for 2.30
Venue: King's Hall
 Conference Centre
Speaker: SESS
Topic: Safer Storage Systems

NISG Officers and Committee

President Wilson Lambe
Chairman Liam Kelly
Vice Chairman Jim Leitch
Publicity Nicky McClintock
Past Chairman David Cooke
Committee Bill McAllister
 Heather McKinstry
 Brian Walker
 Nicola Ward
 John Gordon
 Mike Keating
 Priscilla Woods
 Colin McDowell
 Tom Stephenson
 Jim Pow
Secretary Linda Spence

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**Northern Ireland
 Safety Group**

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SAFE & SOUND

The Newsletter of the Northern Ireland Safety Group Vol.5 Issue 01 January 2005

Occupational Safety Awards 2005

In November's issue of *Safe and Sound* we highlighted the preparations that are required to assemble an entry for the safety awards. This month we will begin to look at the type of information required by the adjudication panel.

1. Safety Policy

Submit a copy of the statement signed by the Chief Executive and a copy of the contents of the policy document. Provide details of how the policy is communicated to all employees and stakeholders. Explain how employees are made aware of the Company safety performance.

2. Safety Organisation

Define responsibility at managerial and supervisory level. Provide details of the Safety Committee if there is one, state how many employees are on the committee, what departments they represent and how often meetings are held. Attach copies of meeting minutes.

The part Safety Representative's play in promoting safety should be outlined whilst also

making reference to the assistance given to the Safety Representative by the Company to help them carry out their role.

The same information should be provided for the Safety Officer / Engineer and should also include a job description. Provide full details on how this information is communicated to the appropriate people within or outside the Company.

3. Safety Training

This section deals with employee, management and contractors and should be divided into the three categories specifying the training provided within each category. Documents need to be provided to verify that the training submitted actually occurred. As much detail as possible should be provided including type of training, whether carried out in house or externally, signed attendance lists, copies of training certificates, content of training course, status of instructors. Include as much documentary evidence as possible.

4. Safety Promotion

Safety promotion is a major aspect of the introduction of a safety culture within an organisation. Provide details of acts of safety promotion that have occurred within the Company. This should include Talks, Posters, Videos, CBT. Under each heading provide details of the promotional materials, how often they may be changed, who they are aimed at and the reason for their selection. Provide details of the Company participation in Safety Week.

We will conclude this look at the information required in the next issue. Entry forms will be available shortly.

**DON'T FORGET
 THE NISG QUIZ
 ON 11TH MARCH
 2005.**

**ENTRY FORMS
 WILL BE SENT
 OUT IN JANUARY**

**See Page 4 for an
 outline of the rules.**



SLIPS ASSESSMENT TOOL ONLINE

A new online slips assessment tool (SAT) that evaluates potential risks from floor slipping hazards has been launched by the HSE.

SAT has been designed for those responsible for assessing slip hazards on smooth floors prone to contamination from substances such as water, food, oil and dust.

Already being used successfully by HSE and Local Authority

enforcement officers, it is now being made available to the wider health and safety community.

SAT software package can be downloaded with full instructions from HSE's slips webpage. Users will have to purchase a surface roughness meter.

The software consists of a computer based package that is used in conjunction with a hand held surface roughness meter to generate a "slip risk"

rating.

This rating can then be used to determine the risk of pedestrians slipping in that area.

Unlike conventional slip test methods, SAT prompts the operator to consider a wide range of factors, including floor surface properties, cleaning regimes and recontamination rates.

This will enable the user to identify the most effective remedial action to control it.

SAT can be downloaded from the HSE slips website at:
Http://146.101.202.138/

MAJOR HAZARD REGULATIONS GUIDANCE CONSULTATION

HSC is seeking views on a draft updated guidance booklet covering the Control of Major Hazards Regulations 1999 (COMAH).

This update is necessary because COMAH is being revised to implement a new EC Directive.

Amendments include to changes to the thresholds in Parts 2 & 3 of Schedule 1 to COMAH, which are key to determining

whether the regulations apply to a particular site.

HSC would like to receive views on the revised guidance from stakeholders who will be affected by the proposed amended regulations.

These include:

- operators of current establishments subject to COMAH,
- Sites where dangerous substances are

present, that would now become subject to COMAH,

- Employers of workers, such as sub contractors, who may work at sites covered by COMAH,
- Local Authority emergency planners,
- Emergency Services.

Responses should be in by 18/02/05



Go to <http://www.hse.gov.uk/consult/live.htm> to download the full text.

SPEED AND MOBILE PHONE POLICIES FOR COMPANY DRIVERS



RoSPA has published new policies to help employers tackle the controversial issues of dealing with employees who drive too fast or use mobile phones at the wheel.

Driving is the most dangerous work activity that most people undertake. About 20 people are killed and 250 are seriously injured every week in crashes involving someone who was driving, riding or otherwise using the road for work purposes.

The Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents has led the campaign to highlight the risks faced by company car and van drivers and others who are on the road as part of their job.

Pressure of business can make workers more likely to speed or to make calls while on the move.

RoSPA's new publications *Driving for Work: Safer Speed Policy* and *Driving for Work: Mobile Phones* have been produced with the support of the Department for Transport to help bosses deal with the problems.

Kevin Clinton, RoSPA Head of Road Safety, said:

"Company car drivers often exceed speed limits in order to get to appointments on time, are less likely to view speeding as risky and more likely to think that being on time is

more important.

Company car drivers and people who drive for work are up to 50 per cent more likely to crash than private use."

"Research shows that using hand-held or hands-free phones while driving is a significant distraction and substantially increases the risk of the driver crashing.

"High mileage company car drivers are more likely than most to use a mobile phone while driving.

"If we are to reduce the number of work-related road accidents, it is vital that employers play their part by having policies in place to deal with managing occupational road risk, including speed and mobile phone use.

These two documents will give employers an ideal starting point by providing 'model' policies for them to adapt for their own motorists.

They are available from the Road Safety Department, RoSPA, 353 Bristol Road, Birmingham B5 7ST.

They can also be downloaded from the RoSPA website at www.rospace.com/roadsafety.

They deal with issues such as consulting staff, raising awareness, accident recording and investigation, liaising with police and leading by example.

The documents complement RoSPA's publication *Driving for Work: Safer Journey Planner* published last year.

