

Q ~ **E** **S** **T**

QUALITY ENVIRONMENTAL SAFETY TRAINING

RAY'S VIEW

As I write this comment we are in the middle of our Audit period. This being the time of the year when Network Rail and their Supplier Approval Organisation (Link Up) carry out their annual surveillance visit to check that we meet all the necessary Safety, Environmental and Quality Standards. This process involves many hours of work putting together all the information to satisfy their checking process.

Without their approval we cannot work within the Rail Industry and our work opportunities within the general construction areas would become limited as many organisations now accept the Rail Industry systems as an A1 standard and use them as part of their approval process.

In today's market pre-qualification onto tender lists is mandatory and these systems and processes are vital in ensuring that we can tender for projects. It takes a lot of time and effort to gain accreditation it can however be lost in seconds if an auditor sees unsafe practices or unacceptable environmental practices on site, indeed a telephone call from a member of the public can and has resulted in a visit from an Health and Safety Inspector who will ask a lot of questions should he be called to site. It is therefore vitally important that all of us wherever we work, office or

site, ensure that we maintain at all times the standards we set down in our company procedures. This will ensure that our sites are as safe and environmentally acceptable as possible and will help us in ensuring that we can gain acceptance on all the tender lists we apply for, something that is very important in the current market!

We will see out this recession and hopefully increase our turnover ensuring continuing employment for all our staff. You can all help by making sure that we meet all the requirements of our clients by completing projects on time with no accidents or incidents.

We are at present carrying out a great deal of training to ensure staff meet the requirements for Plant Operators and Site Supervisors certification, this process known as OAST (On Site Assessment and Training) leads to the award of NVQ (National Vocational Qualification) in the relevant category. I would ask those of you who are, or will shortly be involved in this process, to cooperate fully with the assessors when they come to site and ensure that any information they request is promptly forwarded to them, this will enable the process to be speedily completed and the qualifications awarded without delay. Lets hope we all have a good summer!

*Regards
Ray Walker*

RECENT CONTRACT AWARDS Include

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Minley GB 1005	Carillion Building	Value: £398,201	Site Agent	Rick Fretwell
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Kingston Promenade Sewer	The Royal Borough of Kingston Upon Thames	Value: £33,245	Site Agent	Gary Bexon
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Seymour Leisure Centre	Westminster City Council	Value: £638,272	Site Agent	Steve Bailey
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Frankton Halt Bridge	BRB (Residuary) Ltd	Value: £121,386	Senior Site Agent	Andy Cheeseman
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Perivale	Metropolitan Police	Value: £759,857	Contracts Manager	Darryl Harvey
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Springhead Hull SP41/1A	BRB (Residuary) Ltd	Value: £55,620	Site Agent	Danny Marshall
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Norbiton Station	South West Trains	Value: £256,979	Site Agent	Jon Shepherd

SAFETY COMMITTEE

Norman Hollamby - 07860-543046 * Chris Gadd - 07867-552109 * J J Bowie - 07960-728054 * Mick Rapley - 077100-77712 * Paul McLean - 077100-77736 * Luke Kingsbury - 07867-535284 * Peter Rowe - 07736-149824 * Lee Walker - 077100-77735 * Jake Sparnon - 07733-127226 * Chris Arnott - 077100-77741 * Steve Ryan - 07909-550782

AVAILABLE TRAINING COURSES

We are running the following courses and still have places available.

Abrasive Wheels	25th June 2009
Streetworks Operative	25th, 26th June; 1st, 2nd, 3rd July 2009
Site Waste Management	30th June 2009 (limited spaces left)
Demolition Operative Safety Awareness	9th July 2009
Manual Handling	14th July 2009
Fire Marshall	14th July 2009
Unit 002	15th July 2009
PTS Initial	16th & 17th July 2009
First Aid at Work	21st, 22nd, 28th, 29th July 2009
Water Hygiene	23rd July 2009
Confined Spaces Initial	17th & 18th September 2009
PTS Initial	17th & 18th September 2009
Site Supervisor Safety Training Scheme	23rd & 24th September 2009
First Aid Appointed Person	24th September 2009
Streetworks Supervisor	24th, 25th, 30th September; 1st, 2nd October 2009
Asbestos Awareness	29th September 2009



If you would like to book any spaces please contact your Supervisor or myself.







Regards Ann Hayes

NOISE POLICY

This policy supplements the Health & Safety Policy Statement and describes how we discharge our duties under the Control of Noise at Work Regulations 2005.

Excessive noise levels can cause permanent damage to hearing. Therefore, it is our policy to ensure individuals are not exposed to noise levels exceeding legal limits.

We will achieve this by:-

-  Reducing noise levels at source, by using quieter plant and work processes.
-  Identifying residual sources of excessive workplace noise (greater than 80dBA).
-  Advising staff when noise levels are likely to exceed 80dBA / 85dBA.
-  Undertaking risk assessments and identifying practical noise reducing measures.
-  Providing staff with hearing protection, as well as information, instruction and training.
-  Limiting the time staff are exposed to excessive noise levels.







If it is not reasonably practicable to reduce noise levels below 85dBA then staff must wear the hearing protection provided. Staff are issued with personal hearing protection as part of their P.P.E. packs, provided when joining the company.



Site Agents are responsible for providing suitable hearing protection and ensuring that replacements are readily available.

It is the responsibility of each member of staff to:-

-  Co-operate with this policy.
-  Take good care of any hearing protection issued to them.
-  To wear hearing protection when required.
-  Request replacement hearing protection when required.

Failure to comply with this policy without good cause may result in disciplinary action.

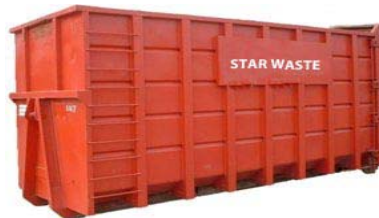
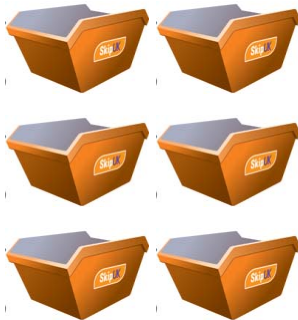


NOTICE TO AGENTS REQUESTING ASBESTOS PREMISES REGISTRATION

THE ENVIRONMENT AGENCY INSISTS UPON EXACT CLIENT AND ADDRESS DETAILS INCLUDING POST CODE. STAR DEMOLITION CANNOT COMPLETE REGISTRATION WITHOUT ALL OF THESE DETAILS; THE ONUS IS UPON YOU TO PROVIDE THESE DETAILS.



SORRY BUT NO INFORMATION = NO REGISTRATION!!



DO YOU REALISE...

IF YOU NEED MORE THAN ONE 6-9 YARD SKIP ON SITE IT'S CHEAPER TO USE ROLL-ON, ROLL-OFF BINS. (Subject to available space).

QUALITY & ENVIRONMENTAL

COMPANY OBJECTIVES 2009/2010

- 01 To have zero reportable accidents.
- 02 To hold a minimum of 500 Toolbox talks.
- 03 To review 25% of all utilised rail Sub-contractor's safety records.
- 04 To check 40 sites per year – Out of Hours.
- 05 To send out 60 Client survey questionnaires for Walker Construction.
- 06 To send out 20 Client survey questionnaires for Walker Highways.
- 07 To send out 20 Client survey questionnaires for Walker Training.
- 08 To send out 5 Client survey questionnaires for WSS Construction Consultants.
- 09 To send out 5 Client survey questionnaires for Star Demolition & Waste.
- 10 To achieve a score of 27 in Customer Surveys.
- 11 To produce a revised client questionnaire form.
- 12 To do 8 Supplier Visits per year.
- 13 To gain full accreditation in Water Industry Registration Scheme.
- 14 To gain full accreditation in Sectors 7A and 9A.
- 15 To review staff competencies on site to ensure we meet the requirements of our Training Matrix.
- 16 To continue to investigate site driving hours.
- 17 To develop our Site Waste Management Plans.
- 18 To develop training in Site Waste Management Plans – maybe all Directors and at least 50% of Managers.
- 19 To investigate ways of delivering an award scheme, maybe company suggestion scheme done by Division or Section.
- 20 To develop near miss reporting further.
- 21 To calculate the Company's Carbon Footprint and to put plans in place to reduce it.
- 22 To investigate the implementation of monitoring vibration.

At last we have gained "Partial" Accreditation for the Water Industry Registration Scheme (WIRS) through Lloyds Register. This enables us to tender for work within the Water Industry and now we have 12 months in which to arrange a site audit by Lloyds in order to gain full Accreditation to the scheme.

Approval to National Highways Sector Scheme 9a for Road Sign Making and 7 for the Application of Road Marking Materials are both in-hand and we plan to arrange a one day audit to gain approval for both schemes before year end.

We had our Principal Contractor Licence audit which went without a hitch and so it is revalidated for the next year.

More Clients are requiring Quality or Project Plans to be produced. This is fairly straight forward but must be specific to contract requirements. I am happy to advise on the contents or prepare the plans if required, but we should refrain from using a "standard" plan (on the CD) for all contracts as this is not appropriate and is only there as an example.

Environmentally, we are performing quite well and we have a good attitude on site to protecting the environment.

We have set our Company Objectives as per the list to the side.

Keep up the good work.!

Regards Norman Hollamby

DRIVER SAFETY:- REVERSING

Many reversing incidents result in minor damage, such as bent wing mirrors and bumpers or costly damage to vehicles, equipment and premises. However, they can be fatal! Data from the Health & Safety Executive suggests that nearly 25% of fatalities involving vehicles at work occur when vehicles are reversing.

The HSE advises that you ask yourself the following questions:

- 🚗 What vehicle manoeuvres are necessary?
- 🚗 Can you avoid the need to reverse vehicles?
- 🚗 If the vehicle must reverse, can you remove people from the area?
- 🚗 Is there enough space for reversing?
- 🚗 Do vehicles use the most suitable route when reversing?

Preventative measures for cars and vans

There are some basic rules that drivers should be aware of to avoid reversing incidents.

- 🚗 Reverse into parking spaces, rather than out of them. There is less chance of hitting a person or another vehicle.
- 🚗 Avoid reversing, including three-point turns, whenever possible. If you take a wrong turning, it is safer, for example, to drive a short distance to a place where reversing is not required.
- 🚗 If you have to reverse, minimise the distance, do it slowly, and keep checking around you.
- 🚗 If someone offers to help you reverse, make sure you can see them at all times.
- 🚗 If you are unsure whether you are about to reverse into a low level object, stop, get out and check.
- 🚗 Never reverse blind when people, particularly children, may be about.
- 🚗 Make sure all windows and mirrors are clear, and that you use them.

Regards Andy Pilcher

NEAR MISS REPORTING

YOUR ACTIONS COUNT!

I wanted to let you all know about the reporting of near misses.

Our objectives as a company are to report all near misses, however small, this applies to you on all our sites and to you at head office.

A near miss is not aimed to get anyone into trouble, it is to stop potential hazards reoccurring.

JUST THINK if you trip up on uneven ground on site and report it as a near miss and we receive three more of the same reports, we can identify these problems and hopefully fix them before someone seriously hurts themselves.

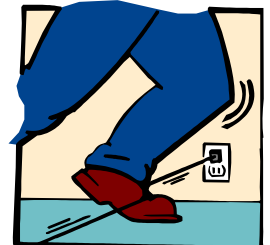
REMEMBER you can help us!

Letting us know about near misses will help everyone.

If anyone has any issues about their near misses, please contact **Chris Gadd 07867552109** or myself **Paul Mclean 07710077736** in confidence.

Please remember the more we know the more we can help.

Regards Paul McLean



CIRAS

Confidential Incident Reporting & Analysis System

For those of you who work on the railway CIRAS is an alternative way to report safety concerns that they feel unable to report through company safety channels. It is a completely independent and confidential way to report safety concerns without fear of recrimination.

You can now contact CIRAS from anywhere in the UK by calling Freephone 0800 0850 449, writing to Freepost CIRAS or texting 07507 285887 (standard text rates apply)

NEWS & VIEWS

If you wish to contribute articles to the Newsletter in respect of the core subjects - Please forward to Sue Sharman.

