



QUALITY

ENVIRONMENTAL

SAFETY

TRAINING

RAY'S VIEW

In January we had our annual visit from NQA who in general were very pleased with the visits to various sites. Issues raised were mainly in respect of Environmental matters and we need over the coming months to focus on this area and try to make further improvements.

As always at this time of year with Spring approaching and the lighter nights I would remind you all of the need to ensure that sites are left secure and tidy at night. Children in particular and the public in general will be about in the evenings and there is always a danger that they will enter the sites if they are not totally secure.

Peter Rowe and Chris Gadd are at present carrying out annual assessments on all staff, if when they talk to you there is some training you might like to undertake, please tell them and they can then put it forward for you. Obviously training requirements and needs are balanced between statutory and development training plus budget and availability and we cannot therefore meet all requests. We do, however, try and accommodate training requirements as best we can.

*Regards
Ray Walker*



RECENT CONTRACT AWARDS Include

✓ Springwood Drive, Play Area	Ashford Borough Council	Value £ 66,958	Site Agent	Rick Fretwell
✓ Redhill Bus Interchange	Reigate & Banstead Borough Council	Value £471,480	Contracts Manager	Martin Watts
✓ Bell Lane/Old Street Fetcham	Carillion (SHIP)	Value £ 40,000	Site Agent	Gary Bexon
✓ Mote House Access, Willington Street	Audley Limited	Value £152,265	Site Agent	Gary Fuggle
✓ X47 Fort Halstead	Serco Defence	Value £359,028	Senior Site Agent	Alan Leigh
✓ RAF Fairford	Defence Estates Operations	Value £182,899	Site Agent	Sid Skeat
✓ Bracknell Station	Birse Rail Limited	Value £132,955	Site Agent	Andy Cheeseman
✓ Brunel Road, Clacton	Fitzpatrick Contractors LTd	Value £ 39,465	Site Agent	Sid Skeat
✓ Reacher, Oakhanger	Serco Limited	Value £ 72,646	Site Agent	Darryl Harvey
✓ Manningtree Embankment	Kier Rail	Value £139,457	Site Agent	Andy New

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

MORE WAYS TO STAY ALIVE AND SAFE!

A hazard that was spotted....

Following a CAT scan, an area to be excavated was identified as having a live cable within it. Whilst saw cutting the edges of a trial hole the operative had to stop cutting momentarily because of an above ground obstruction. As the dust and smoke cleared he noticed what looked like plastic tape just below the surface. It turned out that a 400v live electricity cable had been buried below just 20mm of blacktop surfacing.

This was such a lucky escape. If it hadn't been for the sharp eyes of the operative he would have cut into the cable and suffered severe injuries or even death.

What can we learn from this?

Staying alert can keep you alive. When digging trial holes be very careful at every stage. Start the hole well away from where the cable seems to be and work slowly towards it, taking only small 'bites' at a time. Continue in this manner until you find the cable and don't forget, there may be more than one cable, so continue to be careful until you are confident you have found everything that could harm you.

And one that was, and then wasn't....

On one site recently it was discovered that a kerbing pin had been driven through a gas main. It happened on a Friday but wasn't discovered until the following Monday, when the pin was removed. As luck would have it the pin effectively sealed the hole it had made, so the delay in noticing it did not allow a significant escape of gas.

The gas main was shown on the service drawings, a trench reinstatement was clearly visible on the road surface and it had even been previously exposed. So why did it happen? Because nobody made the person putting in the kerbing pins aware of it, and they didn't think to ask. Although nobody was hurt the repair bill was high as a temporary diversion had to be installed before a repair could be effected.

Please keep yourself aware of the ever present (hidden) dangers from buried services and, if you haven't been given any information always ask before you start work.

*Regards
Chris Gadd*



A VAILABLE TRAINING COURSES

We are planning to run the following courses. If you would like to book a space on any of the courses listed below, please speak to your Site Agent or contact me.

Confined Spaces Initial	14th & 15th April 2008
First Aid At Work	15th, 16th, 22nd, 23rd April 2008
Mobile Scaffold	16th April 2008
First Aid Appointed Person	17th April 2008
PTS Initial	17th and 18th April 2008
Streetworks Supervisor	21st, 22nd, 28th, 29th and 30th April 2008
Site Management Safety Training Scheme	6th, 12th, 19th, 27th May and 2nd June 2008
First Aid At Work	13th, 14th, 20th, 21st May 2008
First Aid Appointed Person	15th May 2008
PTS Initial	15th and 16th May 2008
Cat & Genny	30th May 2008
Mobile Elevating Work Platform	3rd June 2008
Safety In Excavations	4th June 2008
Abrasive Wheels	11th June 2008
PTS Initial	12th and 13th June 2008
First Aid At Work	17th, 18th, 24th and 25th June 2008
Manual Handling	18th June 2008
Mobile Elevating Work Platform	1st July 2008
PTS Initial	17th and 18th July 2008
PTS Initial	14th and 15th August 2008



*Regards
Ann Hayes*

NON-ENGLISH SPEAKING PERSONS POLICY

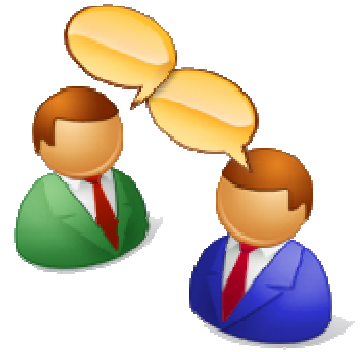
Except for Rail Work, it is the policy of Walker Construction (UK) Limited not to employ Non-English speaking employees unless there is a competent interpreter capable of briefing safety and environmental related information in their native language.

The same Policy shall apply to Sub-contractors who will be required to declare accurate interpretation and briefing to Non-English speaking employees.

In all cases every attempt will be made to ensure essential information is passed on to Non-English speaking workers in an easily understood form and in line with HSE Guidelines.

For Rail Work - No person shall be engaged unless they meet Network Rail "Requirements for establishing the ability of PTS candidates to speak English".

Document published by Network Rail Contracts Procurement dated 12th February 2008



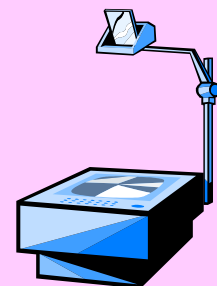
WALKER TRAINING

Not much to report, except that we have had the busiest 3 months in the history of Walker Training so far.

1. M Hollerans again have booked Traffic Management Training & Noticing courses from Brighton to Swanley to Bolsover, Derbyshire!
2. Skanska McNicholas are back with us again after winning some contracts in Kent.
3. Sharp Interpack (plastic packaging) from Aylesham (recommended by Norman) have booked 10 candidates for an IOSH 4 day course.
4. AMEC - we are delivering a Safety in Excavations course on the Isle of Grain.
5. Kent Probation have also booked over £3k's worth of training for First Aid and Fire Marshall courses.
6. Centrex Maintenance (street works furniture) booked a full Unit 002

Other new companies include:

Strange Cargo	IOSH
Cloakes	PTS
Halsion	Confined Space
Westridge Construction	Scaffold Inspection & (Unit 001) CAT & Genny
Arctic Medical	Manual Handling
Cullins Groundworks	Supervisors Street Works
Particon	Supervisors Street Works
Murphy's	SMSTS Refresher & Initial
Vinci	SMSTS Initial
Dakins	Unit002



Kevin Hogwood and I will be exhibiting at the London HAUC on 02 April at The Brewery (sounds good), near the Barbican; this is mainly to do with Highways & Utilities.

*Regards
Amanda Griffith*

More legislation I'm afraid - don't shoot the messenger!!

From April 6th 2008 Site Waste Management Plans (SWMP's) will become a legal requirement for all projects valued at £300k or greater. However, the Regulations will not apply to projects planned before April 6th but where the construction work begins before 1st July 2008.

The main parties responsible for ensuring the plans are prepared and complied with are the Client and the Principal Contractor. The Regulations say that a client must ensure that a SWMP is prepared before construction work begins. At the moment we do not know whether clients will prepare the plans themselves or require the Principal Contractor to do it for them, although it is probable that it will be a bit of both.

A site waste management plan must describe each type of waste expected to be produced during a project, how much there is likely to be and the waste management proposals to deal with each different type of waste.

If a project is valued at less than £500k, then whenever waste is removed from the site the Principal Contractor must record in the SWMP the name of the person removing the waste, the types of waste removed and where it is taken to. For projects valued at greater than £500k more detail is required.

The Principal Contractor must keep a copy of the SWMP on site and ensure that other contractors are aware of it. The plan must be kept for 2 years after completion of the project.

More information will be provided soon. Contact Chris for further details.

*Regards
Chris Gadd*



QUALITY & ENVIRONMENTAL

Well it seems Christmas is forgotten and Easter is here again. Looking back over the last three months we have been inundated with Auditors and we haven't finished yet!

January saw 4 days of NQA visits to check our Quality, Safety and Environmental (QSE) management systems. To most people this means keeping our logos on the company vehicles and certificates in Reception at Head Office. In fact it means a great deal more. As a company we have to show that we comply with International Standards both in our procedures and what we do on site. This meant two days were spent visiting four sites the results of which were good, but with some areas for improvement. One improvement being the removal of keys from vehicles and plant when they are not in use. This will stop unauthorised use and theft.

The outcome was very good with NQA recommending we continue to keep our certification.

Early February was the surveillance visit again by NQA but this time for the continuance of the National Highways sector Scheme for Traffic Management. A site visit was made to the A20 at Kingsdown near Brands Hatch where the auditor watched the site activity and asked questions of Walkers personnel. All went well and we continue to hold approvals 12A B and D.

An additional approval is now being sought to enable a wider range of work to be undertaken in the Water Industry. For this we need to use the services of Lloyds Quality Assurance Ltd. The process has started and we hope to have a site audit early April this year.

The Rail Link Up audit is due soon but as yet we have no date. Hopefully this will be at the end of March.

A review of Environmental activities during 2007 showed that 60 people attended the Environmental Awareness Course and the Objectives will be discussed at the next Management review Meeting at the end of March, where it is expected to confirm that the 2007 targets have been met with the exception of reducing the miles travelled to work which is still ongoing.

Overall a good result but still plenty of room for improvement. Thanks to all those involved with the audits, well done.

*Regards
Norman Hollamby*

NEWS & VIEWS

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

