

Health & Safety newsletter

August 2006

Issue 1

News in brief

Introducing

Gary Nugent joined the Port of Felixstowe Safety Department in March as Safety Manager (Engineering).

Gary relocated from Harwich where he served as an Electrical Engineer for 27 years.

Gavin Reeve recently joined HPUK as Environmental/Safety Manager. Based in Felixstowe, Gavin will be responsible for the co-ordination of environmental issues, with a view to obtaining formal environmental management certification.

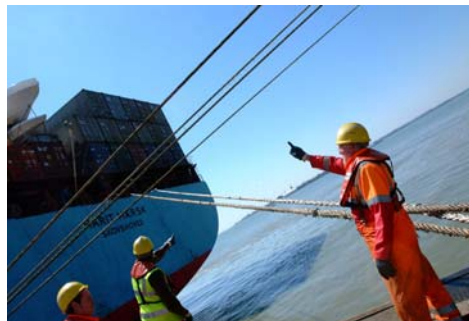
Gavin has had a 20-year career in the construction industry and joins HPUK from Ipswich-based contractor Jackson Civil Engineering, where he was responsible for safety, environmental and railway issues.

HPUK Launches Health & Safety Newsletter

Welcome to the first edition of the HPUK Health & Safety Newsletter.

"Health and Safety is the Company's number one priority," explained Dave Wilson, HPUK's Head of Health and Safety.

He continued: "It is our aim to ensure the health and safety of every employee at work. The Safety Department can provide support, advice and expertise, but we need the commitment from every individual to ensure that safety remains paramount, at all times."



Docks Regulations 1988 - Review

The Government has agreed to provide funding for a review of the Docks Regulations 1988.

HPUK will play a major role in the review, which is being carried out by key stakeholders from the port industry.

Seat Restraints

In accordance with an HSE initiative on workplace transport risks, we are currently finalising our review of seat restraints fitted in machinery. In line with HSE requirements, where seat restraints are fitted, they **must** be worn.

Comprehensive risk assessments have been carried out on the use of seat restraints in tugs, FLT's and RTG's in port operations, and the assessments have highlighted the importance of using seat restraints.

Further work is required for use on ro-ro operations, and consultation will take place prior to introducing the enforcement to wear seatbelts later in 2006.

Smoking

The health risks of smoking and passive or secondary smoking - are well known, many non-smokers resenting having to breathe other people's smoke.

Parliament recently voted in favour of prohibiting smoking in public places in the workplace from 2007.

In preparation for this legislation, all smokers have been requested not to smoke in plant equipment. Please comply with this request.



Hutchison Ports (UK)

Behavioural Safety

Last autumn, the Company engaged the services of an independent consultant to advise on a Behavioural Safety Programme. The consultants carried out a review of HPUK's health and safety culture and processes.

Their findings highlighted a number of initiatives to implement in-house. This 'revitalising' of safety will include the following:

Objectives

- ▶ To promote **everyone's** health and safety responsibilities.
- ▶ To reduce all recorded and reportable accidents by 15% on 2005 figures.
- ▶ To improve health and safety communications across the organisation.
- ▶ To promote environmental awareness, commitment, and to meet our legal and moral requirements.

A number of initiatives are also under way. They include:

- ▶ Health and Safety Committees
- ▶ Safety Delegates
- ▶ Health & Safety Training
- ▶ Near Miss Reporting
- ▶ Newsletter
- ▶ Notices/Information
- ▶ Risk Assessments

Harnesses

The Port of Felixstowe provides individual harnesses and lanyards to all ship-working and Engineering staff, and to personnel who work at height.

HSE guidelines direct that these items should be inspected prior to each use by individuals, and by a competent person. **Every** harness should be inspected at least once every six months.

In the past, management of the six-monthly inspection has been difficult. Therefore, an updated inspection procedure has been introduced.

All harness holders will be written to and requested to take their harness to Stores, where it will be inspected, tagged and numbered, and if necessary replaced.

Harnesses do fail inspection for a number of reasons; it is the responsibility of the harness holder to comply with the new inspection procedure.

Remember, your safety is paramount. Inspect your kit and ensure that it is fit for use at all times.

Legislation Update

The Noise at Work Regulations were updated in April 2006.

Noise levels for the first action level have been reduced from 85 dB(A) to 80 dB(A), and for the second action level they have been reduced from 90 dB(A) to 85 dB(A).

What does this mean?

First Action Level - 80 dB(A)

At this level of noise the Company has a duty to inform you of the potential danger and provide ear protection.

Second Action level - 85 dB(A)

At this noise level, ear protection **must** be worn. Noise monitoring is regularly carried out and information provided as required.

Get in touch...

You can contact the Safety Department on Ext. 4721

Accident Statistics

Total Reportable Accidents (accidents reported to the HSE, if over 3 days off work, or major injury) 2005 = 43 and 2006 = 24. Total recordable accidents (accidents recorded in Company Accident Book) 2005 = 297 and 2006 = 208.

The first five months of 2006 have been encouraging in respect of reported accidents, with a 45% reduction on 2005.

Accident Stats 2005/2006 YTD

