

Health & Safety Update



Established 1996

**Maximising your health and safety at work
Together we can do something wonderful for you,
your employees and your business.**

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We welcome your views, ideas and suggestions on this Newsletter at any time – please email your thoughts to: info@darlington.ie. You are receiving this Newsletter because you are on Darlington Consulting's database of clients, colleagues and friends. Feel free to share or forward it on to colleagues and friends.

The aim of this occasional Health and Safety Update is to keep you informed about Health, Safety and Welfare and HR News. If you do not wish to receive this Newsletter please send a blank email with "unsubscribe" in the subject line to: info@darlington.ie and we will remove your email. **Darlington Consulting is here to solve your health and safety and human resource problems with advice, guidance and practical tools. Our aim is to save you time and money and protect your most important asset – your people.**

Happy New Year to you all

May I wish you all a very happy new year and safe working all year. HSA press release has confirmed that there were 46 deaths at work last year – the 4 highest sectors were:

| | |
|---|----|
| Agriculture, forestry and fishing | 20 |
| Construction | 11 |
| Transportation and storage | 4 |
| Wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles and personal goods | 4 |

Click [here](#) for the full breakdown of all 46 deaths.

Let this be the year that we do not cause the death or injury of any one in our care or employment. It can be done with planning, resources and the real will to make changes to how we work. How can I assist you this year to achieve this?

9 Safety Initiatives to take in 2014

I wish to suggest 9 simple safety initiatives that you can all take to ensure that this is the year when we do not injure anyone. Click [here](#) for article

Why you should invest in Health and Safety – my new video

I have recorded a video outlining why I believe all businesses should invest in health and safety. This is my first effort at a video – let me know what you think. It is on the home page of my website. View the video [here](#)

Flu Advice from HSE

I am suffering from flu myself and have had it for over 10 days. One person with flu is manageable but what if many at work get it or there is the risk of spreading it to other workers. HSE have produced a range of leaflets covering aspects of flu – click [here](#)

UK Carriage owner sentenced to community service after country fair death

The owner of a horse and carriage ride has been sentenced to 200 hours of community service after a grandmother died as a result of being struck by a runaway horse at a Suffolk country fair in 2011 when it careered through a panicking crowd. Click [here](#) for full story.

UK Police chief to be charged over shooting of unarmed man

Greater Manchester Chief Constable Sir Peter Fahy will be charged with a health and safety breach over the shooting of an unarmed man in Warrington. Anthony Grainger, 36, was shot by a Greater Manchester Police marksman in March 2012 as part of an operation to try to arrest suspected armed robbers. He died of a single gunshot wound to the chest after the car he was in was stopped near Warrington. For more click [here](#)

Lack of lifting chains blamed for mangled hand in UK incident

The worker was operating an overhead crane to lift equipment weighing nearly 300kg, using straps around it. As he moved the crane the equipment slipped out of the straps and started to fall towards him. He raised his left hand to protect himself but it became caught in one of the straps and was pulled into the crane's hook. He lost half his thumb, the tip of his index finger, two thirds of his middle and ring fingers, and all of the little finger on his left hand. The company was fined £80,000 for having an unsafe system of work. For more click [here](#)

Ageing workers – resources available

As the number of young people entering employment falls in the coming years, there will be a significant increase in the proportion of older people in the workforce. Employers will have to rely increasingly on ageing workers, and this could be to their advantage. Click [here](#) for a range of useful resources from European Agency.

Healthcare staff need proper protection

The healthcare sector is large, employing around 10% of all workers throughout the European Union. More than three quarters of them are women. Many healthcare work settings present a great variety of hazards. European Agency in Bilbao as a range of resources to help – click [here](#)

Matching Unemployed Youth to Job Vacancies – important report

McKinsey have produced an important report dealing with the mis-match between youth unemployment and unfilled jobs. How can a country successfully move its young people from education to employment? What are the challenges? Which interventions work? How can these be scaled up? These are the crucial questions this report attempts to answer. Click [here](#) for report.

Teenage girls in jobless households in UK ‘get careers advice from TV’

Thousands of teenage girls in UK are looking to TV shows for career inspiration because they live in households where nobody works. But while TV showcase some professions, young girls are unsure about what educational pathway to take “to actually get that job”. The Education and Employers Taskforce has called for more working women to become role models and visit schools to give careers talks. For more click [here](#)

WorkSafe New Zealand launched in December 2013

WorkSafe New Zealand started work in December 2013 to transform New Zealand-wide attitudes and performance in workplace health and safety. WorkSafe NZ Chair, Professor Gregor Coster stated that: “It is not our task alone. Every worker, every union, every health and safety advisor, every manager and every employer has a role to play”. Every year 75 people die and 6,000 suffer serious injuries at work in New Zealand. The Government has set a target of reducing the workplace death and serious injury rates by 25 percent by 2020. For more click [here](#)

Irish Doctor wins constructive dismissal case

The doctor resigned due to increasing pressure, harassment and stress at work and failure by “the office” to adopt safe and proper procedures and adequate office management). She had found herself in an intolerable working environment which caused her anxiety and stress. The Tribunal awarded the claimant a sum of €35,000.00. For full case click [here](#)

Darlington Consulting can provide advice and training on all of the issues raised in this Newsletter. We are here to advise, guide and train you and your employees in all aspects of workplace health and safety and HR management. Please call Mary Darlington on 086 2437677 and or visit our website: www.darlington.ie.