

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.**

Sunday Business Post – Tips for Start Ups

I was delighted to be featured in Sunday Business Post on Sunday 15th September with my Health and Safety tips for Start Ups. For more click [here](#)

Up and Running on Ocean FM

I was also delighted to be interviewed by Daniel Browne on Real Safety Leadership on “Up and Running”, the weekly business program in association with the Innovation centre at IT Sligo on Saturday 12th October. Click [here](#) for Ocean FM.

Working hours of junior doctors unsustainable

Very good article in Irish Times on this on-going dispute saying “Fatal incidents represent the extreme end of the consequences of long working hours. However, possible adverse effects cover the spectrum. Research indicates that a lack of rest

causes work accidents, adversely affects the wellbeing of workers and is simply counter-productive. To read full article click [here](#)

HSA Seminars on Driving and EU Safety Week.

There are a range of seminars taking place in October in various locations. For more click [here](#)

NISO Safety Awards 2013

GE Healthcare won 2013 All Ireland Safety Supreme Award at the 22nd Annual National Irish Safety Organisation/Northern Ireland Safety Group (NISO/NISG) Safety Awards, which took place on 4 October 2013 in Galway. Full list of awards click [here](#)

UK Kebab company sentenced after worker suffers horrific injury

An Essex kebab manufacturer has been fined £17,500 and ordered to pay costs of £7,500 after pleading guilty

to serious safety failings after a worker suffered horrific injuries to his hand when it became trapped in unguarded machinery. He was cleaning a derinding machine when he noticed a piece of meat or sinew caught in a part called the stripper comb. While the machine was running he tried to dislodge it with a pressure washer but when that failed he reached in. His hand was drawn into the machine between the stripper comb and the serrated roller above it. He couldn't reach the stop button from where he was so the serrated roller continued to rotate over the back of his hand, grinding it away until a colleague came and turned off the machine.

For more click [here](#)

Compensation scheme for blacklisted workers announced in UK

Workers who were blacklisted by a number of leading building firms in UK for health and safety and trade union activities are to be compensated. The development was announced by Balfour Beatty, Carillion, Costain, Kier, Laing O'Rourke, Sir Robert McAlpine, Skanska UK and Vinci plc, who have also apologised to workers who were found to be on a secret list held by The Consulting Association (TCA). For more click [here](#)

European Safety Week – 21st – 25th October 2013

The Healthy Workplaces Campaign 2012–13 '*Working together for risk prevention*' encourages managers, workers and other stakeholders to join forces to improve safety and health. For access to resources click [here](#)

European Parliament votes in favour of regulating flight times

The European Parliament voted in September to back a bill to regulate pilots' flight times, despite objections from the British Airline Pilots Association (BALPA) and the European Cockpit Association (ECA), among others. Some of the changes under the new act include:

- flight time duty is cut by 45 minutes to a maximum of 11 hours;
- the limit on total flight time in 12 consecutive months will be reduced from the current 1,300 hours to 1,000;
- maximum combined duration of airport standby followed by the flight duty will be limited to 16 hours.

European Union (EU) officials insist the new rules will boost safety standards. For more click [here](#)

Pregnancy & the working mother in UK

Almost three quarters of women feel that taking maternity leave puts their jobs in jeopardy, according to a study conducted by NetMums. While there are laws to protect women who are pregnant, on maternity leave or seeking to return to work, these laws tend to address compensation for women who have already been displaced from employment, rather than helping them back into their jobs. To read full article click [here](#)

Australia - Study finds work stress costs economy \$14.81b annually

WORK stress is causing sleep deprivation, harm to physical health and costing the economy \$14.81 billion annually. A study conducted by Medibank 24/7 Health Advice Line found that 86% of Queensland residents experience severe stress at work with 38% of full timers feeling seriously pressured most weeks of the year. CEO of Mental Health Council of Australia, Frank Quinlan said "Stress is caused by a range of issues including long hours, large workloads, job insecurity or conflicts at work, and the symptoms can severely impact on quality of life," he said. For more click [here](#)

Minister Richard Bruton Delivers further Workplace Relations Reforms

The Minister for Jobs, Enterprise and Innovation, Richard Bruton TD, has announced a number of further initiatives as part of the continued implementation of his overall plans to reform the workplace relations institutions and structures and the merger of 5 bodies into 2. For full detailed click [here](#)

Seaweed Festival 2013

Just a gentle reminder of the Enniscrone Seaweed Festival which takes place on **Sunday 20th October 2013** at Ocean Sands Hotel, Enniscrone, Co. Sligo. Seaweed products exhibition, cookery demos and tastings. All welcome. For more 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 096 37608 or 086 2437677 and or visit our website: www.darlington.ie.