

National Irish Safety Organisation

Update!



*NISO is a not-for-profit voluntary body,
dedicated to the promotion of health
and safety in Irish workplaces*

WINTER 2015

**Farm Safety
Feature**

**CLP Regulation
Feature**



National Irish Safety Organisation

Update!

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Update!

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NISO President Reflects on 2014

One of the highlights of 2014 for the National Irish Safety Organisation was the National Health and Safety Conference which was held jointly with the Health and Safety Authority for the first time. The year 2014 marked 25 years since the HSA was launched at the NISO Annual Conference in Limerick under the terms of the Health, Safety and Welfare at Work Act of 1989.

The 2014 National Conference was opened by Michael D Higgins, President of Ireland. NISO and the HSA were honoured by his presence at our joint event. The Minister for Business and Employment, Ged Nash, was also in attendance, this being the first time that the minister with responsibility for health and safety has been present at a NISO conference since 2008.

NISO / NISG All Ireland Occupational Safety Awards

Even in these difficult economic times, the numbers attending the NISO / NISG All Ireland Safety Awards gala dinner and presentation ceremony continues to grow year on year. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all organisations who made a submission to the All Ireland Safety Awards in 2014. Participation in the All Ireland Safety Awards programme demonstrates a real commitment to raising the health and safety standards of your organisation.

Preparations for the All Ireland Safety Awards 2015 are now well under way. The Safety Awards Workshops for 2015 commenced in January and will continue into February. Please visit niso.ie for dates, times and locations of the Safety Awards Workshops.

NISO is delighted to announce the introduction of the new Superior Performance Award in 2015. This will be awarded to the company that demonstrates overall superior performance in their safety and health submission. The Superior Performance Award is sponsored by Anderco Safety.

NISO Supports Safe Farming

The year 2014 was a black year for the farming community with 30 fatalities, the highest number of fatalities in the agricultural sector in over 20 years. NISO has been actively promoting farm safety awareness and held three Farm Safety Seminars in 2014. These seminars generated great interest with just under two hundred farmers attending in total. The feedback from the farming sector has been very positive and the seminars were well received. I would personally like to thank the panel of speakers who gave of their time to address the seminars. NISO held a seminar for the farming community in Cork in January 2015. NISO is holding further farm safety seminars in 2015, the next is being held in Claremorris Co. Mayo on the 19th of February. I would urge every safety professional who has an influence over farmers, be it friend or relative, to encourage farmers to think 'safety first' in their daily farming activities.

Health and Safety Funding

NISO continues to raise concerns regarding the continual reduction of funding to the Health and Safety Authority over the last six years. Research has shown that an adequately funded Health and Safety Authority has a positive effect on the reduction of workplace accidents and fatalities.



*Pauric Corrigan, president,
National Irish Safety Organisation*

Dates For 2015

Saturday, 18 April: The All Ireland Safety Quiz finals, hosted by the Northern Ireland Safety Group, will be held in the Ramada Plaza Hotel, Shaws Bridge, Belfast.

Thursday, 23 April: The NISO Annual General Meeting will take place in The Gresham Hotel, Dublin 1.

February and March 2015: The NISO / NISG All Ireland Safety Quiz regional heats will be taking place. Organisations are encouraged to make a special effort and enter teams into their regional heats.

Friday, 2 October: The Annual Health and Safety Conference and All Ireland Occupational Safety Awards, hosted by the Western Region, will be held in the Radisson Blu Hotel, Galway.

We look forward to your participation in NISO events over the coming year.

As president, on behalf of NISO, my fellow officers, executive members and head office staff, I would like to wish all our members and the wider safety community a safe, healthy and peaceful 2015.

*Pauric Corrigan,
President, National Irish
Safety Organisation.*

EU-OSHA launch free e-guide on managing stress and psychosocial risks at work

As part of the Healthy Workplaces Manage Stress campaign, the European Agency for Safety and Health at Work (EU-OSHA) recently launched its e-guide on managing stress and psychosocial risks.



Stress is an important occupational safety and health (OSH) concern in about 80% of European businesses and is one of the main reasons for lost working days in Europe. However, less than a third of European establishments have procedures in place to deal with work-related stress. The e-guide is a practical tool to help both employers and workers, particularly of small businesses, better understand and manage stress and psychosocial risks.

The e-guide is now available in several national versions. In total, 34 country-specific versions will be published and each is adapted to the legislation, context and language of its nation. Each

one also directs users to relevant national resources on stress and psychosocial risks. The e-guide is aimed, in particular, at tackling the needs of employers and workers of small enterprises.

Each version of the e-guide contains:

- simple explanations of risks, their causes and consequences for workers and businesses,
- advice and instructions on how to spot problems early and take action,
- practical examples of prevention and risk management, particularly for small businesses,
- information on national resources.

Created to improve understanding and raise awareness of stress and psychosocial risks at work throughout Europe, the e-guide also helps to overcome certain misconceptions that exist about stress, separating fact from myth. It is particularly intended for those in small enterprises who need guidance or advice on the first steps to take to tackle stress and psychosocial risks in the workplace.

The e-guide is free of charge and each version is available to browse online or can be downloaded for offline use.

To download the free e-guide, please visit osha.europa.eu.

HSA Safety Alert Helmets for Equestrian Activities

The Health and Safety Authority wishes to advise that the European Commission has informed member states that standard EN 1384:2012 [Helmets for Equestrian Activities] is no longer a harmonised standard under the Directive 89/686/EEC on Personal Protective Equipment.

This means that EN 1384:2012 can no longer be used to support CE marking of helmets by manufacturers; therefore helmets marked with reference to EN 1384:2012 only do not provide an adequate level of safety.

Consequently it is advised that all new helmets being placed on the market should be checked to ensure that they are manufactured to higher standards than EN 1384:2012 (see

Commission decision below). Also, helmets in use should be checked to ensure that they also meet higher standards than EN 1384:2012.

For more information please see the link below to the Commission Decision.

<http://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?qid=1415880618820&uri=CELEX:32014D0714>



SAVE LIVES: Farm safety campaign launched by the IFA

Irish Farmers' Association (IFA) has launched a new farm safety campaign – SAVE LIVES – to raise awareness of the dangers of working on the farm and to encourage farmers to always think safety first.

Speaking on the SAVE LIVES campaign, Eddie Downey, president, IFA, said he hopes this new campaign will encourage farmers to change their working practices, be more responsive to potential dangers and take preventative action.

'I am asking all farm families to take action today to make their farms a safer place to work. The best way to reduce accidents and fatalities is to update your Farm Safety statement - this will help you identify the risks and to put in place appropriate control measures,' said Mr. Downey.

See pages 8-9 for the IFA's Farm Safety feature article.

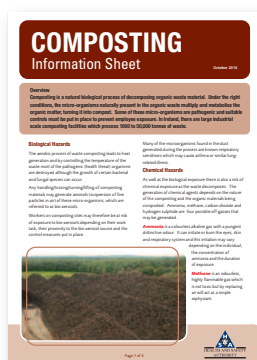
For more on the IFA's SAVE LIVES campaign, please visit www.ifa.ie.

HSA publications

Composting Information Sheet

Composting is a natural biological process of decomposing organic waste material. Under the right conditions, the micro-organisms naturally present in the organic waste multiply and metabolise the organic matter, turning it into compost. Some of these micro-organisms are pathogenic and suitable controls must be put in place to prevent employee exposure.

The Composting Information Sheet is a guide to composting safely, ensuring employee protection, health advice and hazards to be aware of.

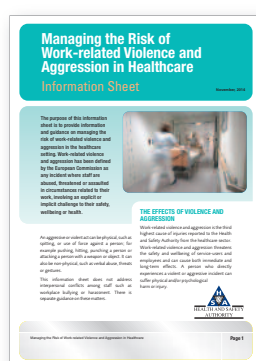


goals of preventing and controlling workplace hazards. Effective occupational hygiene reports provide employers with clear and critical information to support their Risk Assessment requirements under Regulation 4 of the Safety, Health and Welfare at Work (Chemical Agent) Regulations 2001 (S.I. No 619/2001).

This information sheet has been prepared by the HSA to provide guidance to occupational hygiene professionals and their clients on the contents and structure of a basic occupational hygiene survey report.

Managing the Risk of Work-related Violence and Aggression in Healthcare Information Sheet

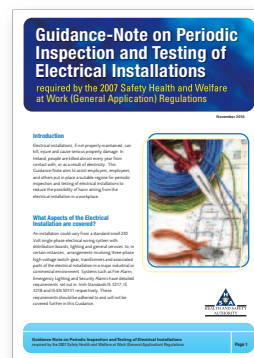
The purpose of this information sheet is to provide information and guidance on managing the risk of work-related violence and aggression in the healthcare setting. Work-related violence and aggression has been defined by the European Commission as any incident where staff are abused, threatened or assaulted in relation to their work, involving an explicit or implicit challenge to their safety, wellbeing or health.



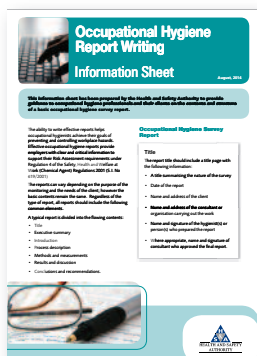
threatened or assaulted in circumstances related to their work, involving an explicit or implicit challenge to their safety, wellbeing or health.

Guidance-Note on Periodic Inspection and Testing of Electrical Installations required by the 2007 Health Safety and Welfare at Work (General Application) Regulations

Electrical installations, if not properly maintained, can kill, injure and cause serious property damage. In Ireland, people are killed almost every year from contact with, or as a result of, electricity. This Guidance-Note aims to assist employers, employees and others put in place a suitable regime for periodic inspection and testing of electrical installations to reduce the possibility of harm arising from the electrical installation in a workplace.



For further information please visit www.hsa.ie.



Occupational Hygiene Report Writing Information Sheet

The ability to write effective reports helps occupational hygienists achieve their

Setback for safer lorry rules

The European Transport Safety Council (ETSC) says an EU deal to postpone new rules enabling safer lorry designs is a setback for road safety.

Representatives of EU member states, the European Parliament and the European Commission met in December 2014 to hammer out an agreement on new legislation that enables, but does not require, manufacturers to make changes to lorry cabs that improve visibility and reduce the impact of crashes on other vehicles, pedestrians and cyclists. The final agreement, which is still subject to agreement by member state representatives and a vote by the

European Parliament, effectively delays the optional changes until 2022.

According to ETSC data, around 4,300 people in the EU died in collisions involving lorries in 2011. Because of their size and weight, crashes can be catastrophic with a much higher risk of death or serious injury.

New research by Transport Research Laboratory (TRL) estimates that up to 900 lives could be saved annually as a result of the proposed measures.

For more information please visit etsc.eu.

If you have any health and safety ideas, experiences, stories or tips that you would like to share with NISO Update, we would love to hear from you! Please send an email expressing your interest in contributing to NISO Update to Geraldine at info@niso.ie.

Employer liability awards on the increase with €24m awarded for workplace accidents in 2013

The Injuries Board reiterates the importance of workplace safety as recent figures reveal that employer liability awards went up by €2m from 2012 to 2013.

The Injuries Board awarded compensation of €24m in respect of 826 claims for workplace accidents in 2013 compared to €22m compensation for 807 awards in 2012. The average award for a workplace accident last year also increased from €27,286 in 2012 to €28,886 in 2013. The highest award for a workplace accident last year was €432,000, a substantial increase on the previous year's figure of €332,143. The highest award in 2013 related to a fatal accident.

Noting the increasing numbers in employment as the economic recovery gathers pace, Injuries Board CEO, Patricia Byron suggested that the year on year increase in employer liability claims is reflective of the increasing numbers in the workforce. 'As the economy starts to grow again, and as businesses around the country begin to expand, it is important that a renewed focus on health and safety is cultivated,' Byron commented.

Key statistics from the Injuries Board analysis of employer liability awards in 2013 are as follows:

- Slips, trips and falls were the most common accident type accounting



- for almost one third (30.8%) of all awards for workplace accidents.
- The vast majority of awards (80%) were under €38,000.
- The average award for a workplace accident was €28,886. The average award for men was slightly higher at €29,523, while women received an average award of €27,441.
- The majority of awards were to workers in the 25 to 34 age group (31.6%).
- Men are twice as likely as women to sustain a workplace injury with men accounting for 7 in 10 awards (69.4%), slightly up on last year,

- while women accounted for the remaining 3 in 10 (30.6%) awards.
- Over the last three years, Thursdays in November have proven to be the most common days for workplace accidents while the least number of accidents occurred on Sundays, and the safest month was April.
- Dublin, Cork and Limerick were the counties with the highest number of awards, whereas Leitrim, Roscommon, Sligo and Longford had the lowest.

For further information please visit www.injuriesboard.ie.

Ireland ranks top tier for food safety



A report by the Conference Board of Canada's Centre for Food in Canada in collaboration with the University of

Guelph's Food Institute ranks Ireland and Canada in joint top place for Food Safety among 16 OECD Countries.

The report measures and ranks Canada's food safety performance against that of 16 peer OECD countries including Australia, France, Germany, the UK and the USA.

The new Report provides an overall world ranking of food safety performance. All of the countries surveyed have very high food safety standards, but Canada and Ireland, in

particular, earned excellent grades relative to their peers. The Report's authors place great emphasis on the need to ensure food safety and the availability of allergen labelling.

The Report covered: Australia, Austria, Belgium, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Netherlands, Norway, Sweden, the UK and USA.

For more information please visit the Department of Health website at health.gov.ie.



Dates for 2015

NISO/NISG All Ireland Quiz Finals

Ramada Plaza Hotel, Belfast
18 April; 20.00hrs

NISO AGM

The Gresham Hotel, Dublin 1
23 April; 15.15hrs

All Ireland Safety Awards

Deadline for Entries:
Early Bird: 2 April 2015
Standard: 1 May 2015

Annual Health and Safety Conference and the All Ireland Safety Awards Gala Dinner

Radison Blu Hotel and Spa,
Galway
2 October

Work-place fatalities increased by 17% in 2014

Figures released by the Health and Safety Authority report that 55 people were killed in work-related accidents last year, representing a 17% increase on the 47 deaths reported in 2013.

Fatalities in the Agriculture sector increased by 87% in 2014 with 30 deaths compared to 16 in 2013. For the fifth year running the Agriculture sector has recorded the highest number of fatalities, representing roughly 55% of all work-related deaths in 2014.

During 2014 there were reductions in fatalities in the following sectors: construction (from 11 down to 8); Fishing (5 down to 1) and Transportation and Storage (4 down to 3).

Aside from Agriculture there were

increases in fatalities in Manufacturing (from 1 up to 3) and the Administrative and Support Services sectors (0 to 2).

Speaking about the HSA's plans for 2015, HSA Chief Executive, Martin O'Halloran, said that there are a number of key areas that will be targeted: 'We do note that each year many fatal accidents involve self-employed persons, so we will continue to provide assistance and support to small business owners with an emphasis on safety around vehicles. We will also further our collaboration with other agencies and representative bodies that have an interest in workplace health and safety.'

Please see www.hsa.ie for further information.

National Irish Safety Organisation National AGM 2015

The Annual General Meeting (AGM) of the National Irish Safety Organisation (NISO) will take place on Thursday 23 April at 15.15hrs in The Gresham Hotel, Upper O'Connell Street, Dublin 1.

The AGM is open to all members of NISO. Members are encouraged to attend the National AGM, express their

views and become involved with their regional committees. The AGM will also provide an opportunity for attendees to network with other like-minded professionals.

Please email info@niso.ie or call 01 465 9760 for any queries regarding the NISO National AGM.

Countdown to Classification, Labelling and Packaging (CLP) Compliance

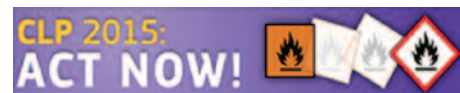
Any organisation supplying hazardous chemicals within Ireland or the EU will have to re-label them in accordance with CLP by 1 June 2015.

CLP ensures that chemical hazards are clearly communicated to workers and consumers. If your chemicals meet the criteria for classification as hazardous, you must re-label them. CLP requires companies to classify, label and package their hazardous chemicals appropriately before placing them on the market. In order to classify the mixture correctly you must undertake a series of steps. These are set out clearly on the ECHA

webpages on 'mixture classification'.

From 1 June 2015, the Classification, Labelling and Packaging (CLP) Regulation will be the only legislation to apply to the classification and labelling of both substances and mixtures. The obligations under the CLP Regulation are similar to the previous EU legislation; however, there are some important differences. An enormous number of products must be re-labelled to comply with CLP, including consumer items such as paints or detergents, as well as industrial mixtures.

National Irish Safety Organisation in association with the Health and Safety



Authority held a number of CLP Regulation workshops in 2014 and 2015. Further CLP Regulations Seminars ahead of the June 1 2015 CLP deadline will be subject to demand.

See page 12 for our CLP Regulations article.

Please see niso.ie, www.hsa.ie and echa.europa.eu for further information on CLP.

Farmers may face penalties to their direct payments

Minister for Agriculture, Simon Coveney, has stated that farmers could face penalties to their direct payments if they fail farm safety protocols.

Earlier in January, Phil Hogan, EU Agriculture Commissioner, indicated that penalties may be imposed on farmers if they don't address farm safety failings. Responding to the commissioner's comments on farm penalties, Minister Coveney said, 'We will look, with an open mind, at some of the things [Commissioner] Phil Hogan has said and if we think that will work then we will look to implement it.'

Minister Coveney said he is concerned by the recent spike in farm fatalities, especially considering the increased awareness around farm safety. He highlighted the importance of the farm safety scheme implemented by the Department of Agriculture.

'The truth is that there is more being done for farm safety now than ever before,' the Minister said. 'There are more inspections on farms by the Health and Safety Authority, there's a more coordinated effort across all the farm organisations by us in the Department of Agriculture.'

'We have just opened the first farm safety scheme. We are going to spend €12.5m on that. We are doing more on farm safety than has ever been done before, yet we are after having the worst year that we have ever experienced. For the moment, let's make sure that the farm safety scheme works... to reduce the trauma and tragedy from farm deaths which we saw last year,' Minister Coveney concluded.

Source: The Irish Farmer's Journal

See: www.farmersjournal.ie.

Merit Medical Ireland Ltd. was awarded with a Distinction at the 2014 All Ireland Occupational Awards



L to R: Pauric Corrigan, president, NISO; Aoife Fenton, EHS specialist, Merit Medical Ireland Ltd.; Mairead McGuinness, MEP; Jimmy Fenton, chairperson, NISG.

Over 6,000 applications to the Farm Safety Scheme

Over 6,000 farmers applied to the Farm Safety Scheme by the deadline for applications of 16 January.

Deadline extension denied

Despite some calls for an extension, the deadline was not changed. The Department of Agriculture stated that any extension to the closing date would delay the start of processing of

applications and in turn the issuing of approvals to successful applicants. The scheme is part of the TAMS 1 programme of schemes which must be concluded by August 2015. Instead, Minister for Agriculture Simon Coveney has stated that a follow-on Farm Safety Scheme will operate in TAMS 2 when that begins over the coming months, following EU Commission approval of

Welcome

National Irish Safety Organisation would like to thank all the organisations that have joined us recently. Organisations to recently join National Irish Safety Organisation include:



- Bon Secours Hospital, Galway
- Brothers of Charity, Limerick
- Irish Wheelchair Association, Co. Offaly
- KD Group, Co. Mayo
- Lidl Ireland GmbH, Co. Kildare
- M+W Group, Co. Kildare
- North West Forest Services Ltd., Co. Donegal
- O'Kane Engineering Ltd., Co. Dublin
- SF Engineering, Co. Sligo
- Tipperary Fire & Rescue, Co. Tipperary
- Zimmer Orthopaedics Manufacturing, Co. Clare

Membership of NISO clearly demonstrates your ongoing commitment to improving health and safety standards in your workplace. As a not for profit organisation committed to promoting health and safety awareness, we value your support and look forward to your interaction with NISO in 2015.

Ireland's proposed rural development programme. The current scheme will provide grant aid for 28 safety items varying from replacement of corroded slats and slurry lids to safer handling equipment for cattle and sheep.

Source: Irish Farmer's Journal.

See www.farmersjournal.ie.

SAVE LIVES – Think Safety – Farm Safely

IFA 'SAVE LIVES' Campaign encourages farmers to make safety a top priority in 2015

The level of farm fatalities in 2014 has shocked the farming community. Thirty lives were lost in farm accidents on Irish farms last year. That is 30 farm families now coming to terms with the devastating consequences of the death of a loved one, not to mention all the farm families that are coming to terms with life after a serious injury.

Internationally, statistics show that farming is one of the most dangerous professions. This is also the case in Ireland: of the 55 workplace fatalities in 2014, 30 occurred in the agricultural sector. This is an 87% increase in farm fatalities compared with 2013. Great work has been done by the agricultural sector, and particularly the Farm Safety Partnership Advisory Committee, in recent years to increase awareness and encourage farm families to maintain the highest safety standards on their farms.

There must be an appropriate response by the agricultural sector to this spike in fatalities in 2015. For this reason, IFA is disappointed with the Health and Safety Authority's decision, without consultation with or notification of the Farm Safety Partnership Advisory Committee, to consider direct prosecution. As of January 2015, the Health and Safety Authority will consider direct prosecution if a farmer: (i) fails to have slurry pit fully covered, (ii) fails to have the PTO shaft covered or (iii) there is a child under seven in the cab of a tractor.

Research has shown that traditional policy tools, including legislation, sanction and regulation, have a limited impact on changing behaviour and bringing about a real change in farm safety. To achieve a sustained change and reduce farm accidents, Government must engage with farmers and enhance their level of personal responsibility through targeted information and

education campaigns that are cognisant of the farm family model and the realities faced by farmers.

IFA strongly opposes the suggested linking of farm safety inspections to cross compliance under the Single Farm Payment scheme as it would be counterproductive in reducing farm accidents and would in fact increase stress on farm families, which has been proven to increase ill health and the risk of accidents.

To build on the substantial work already undertaken by IFA to raise awareness of the dangers of working on the farm, the Association launched a new campaign, SAVE LIVES – Think Safety – Farm Safely, to encourage farmers to make safety a top priority in 2015. SAVE LIVES is an acronym of the following safety messages:



- S** tress distracts - stay focused on the job in hand.
- A** pply the handbrake of the tractor whenever you leave the cab.
- V** entilate and evacuate when agitating slurry - gases can kill.
- E** nsure roof can support your weight if you are working on it.
- L** oose or flapping clothes can get caught in machinery, be careful.
- I** cy roads and pathways can be dangerous, slow down.
- V** isitors on the farm, especially children, should be made aware of any dangers.
- E** scape routes should be planned when handling cattle.
- S** witch on the light - someone may have moved something and you could trip.

SAVE LIVES

Think Safety – Farm Safely



The campaign was launched with the distribution of 95,000 farm calendars to farm families throughout rural Ireland. A new SAVE LIVES pen will be distributed to farmers at all IFA meetings and events in 2015. IFA is seeking to involve over 60 co-ops and feed merchants, inviting them to participate in the campaign. Acorn Independent Merchants, which represents 11 agri-merchants around the country, has been the first to sign

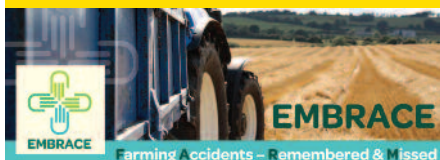
up and agree to print SAVE LIVES on all merchandise produced by Acorn members together with displaying the logo on its transport fleet.

It is IFA's steadfast belief that awareness and education are the best ways to improve work practices, to make farmers more aware and responsive to the potential risks and to take preventative action to reduce these risks. Awareness and education

will bring about a real change in behaviour and make Irish farms a safe place to work and live. Issued by the National Press Office, The Irish Farmers' Association www.ifa.ie.

Contact:
Niall Madigan
Tel (01) 450 1931/ 086 822 8635
Brigid Fitzgerald
Tel (01) 426 0344/ 087 652 2527

National Irish Safety Organisation supports Embrace FARM



Supporting families after the loss of a loved one from a farming accident.

Founded by Brian and Norma Rohan from Shanahoe, Co. Laois, in 2014, Embrace FARM is a bereavement support group for farm families who, like them, have lost a loved one or, indeed, those who have suffered serious injury in a farming accident. Please visit www.embracefarm.com for more information.
Email: embrace.farm@gmail.com;
Tel: 085 7709966

NISO Annual Health and Safety Conference 2015

Ireland's premier health and safety conference for safety professionals and business leaders.

Friday 2 October 2015
Radisson Blu Hotel and Spa, Galway



If you are interested in sponsoring the NISO Annual Health and Safety Conference and Trade Exhibition in 2015, please contact Susan Birkett on 01 465 9760 or email sbirkett@niso.ie.

The NISO Conference offers delegates an insight into current topical issues which will be addressed by a panel of renowned national and international speakers.

To register your interest in conference 2015, email conference@niso.ie with 'Conference 2015 Interest' in the subject line.

IOSH launches new Desmond-South Munster Branch

The Institution of Occupational Safety and Health (IOSH), the world's largest safety and health organisation, has launched a new branch in Ireland.



IOSH's Desmond-South Munster Branch replaces its Ireland Branch's Southern District, and already has around 300 safety and health professionals as members.

The new branch aims to play a key role in improving occupational safety and health in the region and ensuring sustainable growth of Ireland's economy post-recession.

Official Unveiling of IOSH's Desmond-South Munster Branch

The Desmond-South Munster branch was officially unveiled during an event held at Cork City Hall on 4 December 2014.

Commenting on the launch of the new branch, Bob Seward, chair of IOSH Desmond-South Munster Branch, said: 'We intend to work hard to help grow the organisation's membership under the new branch structure. We also want to provide our members with access to the tools and support services that will enable them to maintain the highest standards and provide the best service to employers.'

'We will continue to support the Health and Safety Authority initiatives and other safety organisations such as NISO to improve safety and health in the workplace.'

Branch Status

The branch status marks a special milestone for IOSH in Ireland, and recognises the progress that had been made since the foundation of the IOSH Ireland Southern District in 1995. The new branch's name - Desmond-South Munster - reflects the region's

historical Anglicisation of 'Deas Mumhan' to 'Desmond', meaning South Munster.

Mr Seward said: 'This new status brings with it additional responsibilities to ensure we progress IOSH aims and objectives in the region.'

'In addition, we intend to further develop and strengthen our relations with the educational institutions, University College Cork, Cork Institute of Technology, Institute of Technology Tralee and the National Maritime College of Ireland.'

Workplace Fatalities in the Cork and Kerry Region

Fifteen per cent of Ireland's workforce is employed in the Cork and Kerry region, however, approximately 30% of all workplace fatalities throughout the country occurred in this region in 2013.

The branch believes that the vast majority of accidents and fatalities in the region could have been avoided through the application of good health and safety standards and practices.

Liam Howe, chair of IOSH Ireland Branch, said: 'I feel now more than ever is the time for the formation of the new Desmond-South Munster Branch, and for its safety professionals to shine. It is their job to spell out to their employer what we in the profession know – that good health and safety management saves lives and money.'

IOSH's Life€ Savings Ireland Campaign

As part of its activities, the Desmond-South Munster Branch will promote

IOSH's Life€ Savings Ireland campaign (www.iosh.co.uk/lifesavingsireland), which aims to show companies that good safety and health management can save money as well as lives.

Workplace injury and ill health costs the Irish economy around €3 billion and 1 million working days a year.

IOSH is keen to hear from companies that are reaping the rewards of having put health and safety at the heart of their business.

Any firm that has implemented a health and safety initiative which has resulted in cash savings, and would like to tell their story as part of the Life€ Savings Ireland campaign, can let IOSH know by emailing campaigns@iosh.co.uk or calling 1800 331 331.

For more details about the Desmond-South Munster Branch and updates on its activities, visit www.iosh.co.uk/desmondsouthmunster.



Pictured (left to right) at the IOSH Desmond-South Munster Branch launch event were branch treasurer Fabian Murphy, branch chair Bob Seward, Cork Lord Mayor Councillor Mary Shields; IOSH Ireland branch chair Liam Howe, and branch secretary Finbarr Moloney. Photo by Tony O'Connell Photography

Michael Gillen, Senior Executive at PharmaChemical Ireland, shares his health and safety resolutions for 2015 with NISO Update readers

Health and Safety – changing the perception



Michael Gillen, Senior Executive at PharmaChemical Ireland

The start of a new year is a great time for making resolutions. The success of the TV programme *Operation Transformation* over the past 7 years is testament to people's desire to change for the better at the beginning of a new year. So now is the time to think about what resolutions I should make in 2015 and whether I am willing to put in the effort to make them happen.

Changing the mindset

I have worked in health and safety, both directly and indirectly, for more than 20 years. The recurrent perception amongst the public at large over this period of time is that health and safety stops us from doing things. In the UK, for example, health and safety is still associated with children being stopped from running in school playgrounds. So what can you and I, as health and safety professionals, do to change this negative perception of our profession?

The theme of the October 2014 NISO / HSA Health and Safety Conference in Mullingar was 'Safety is a Mindset'. I believe the key resolution we all should make in 2015 is to try to change the general mindset about health and safety. This in turn will change the perception of health and safety from being negative and a reason NOT to do something, to one that is positive and that facilitates progress. The key to doing this lies in considering health and safety in all aspects of life rather than just the narrow confines of the workplace. Now, I am not for a moment suggesting that workplace health and safety be ignored; rather, I suggest that we should broaden the scope of the subject into everyday life.

Risk Assessment

A very simple experiment, which supports

the above proposal and at the same time identifies how much intuitive health and safety awareness people have, is as follows: observe someone as they are about to cross a road at a busy junction (ideally one should know this person or else you could get some strange looks). Ask them if they bother to look right and left before crossing the road (provided the traffic flows in both directions) and in most instances the answer is in the affirmative. Now, ask them if they ever do a risk assessment and see if the response is equally positive.

I conducted this experiment amongst a group of friends, family and colleagues during the month of December 2014 and from my small sample size (15), 100% stated that they always looked right and left (I have a suspicion they may not have all have been telling the truth). However when I asked how many conduct risk assessments, only 13% (2 out of 15) answered in the affirmative. So why do people intuitively conduct risk assessments on a continual basis, yet fail to appreciate that this is the case? I believe that the root cause of this conundrum lies in the fact that most people associate health and safety with the workplace and unfortunately, in the workplace health and safety is usually someone else's job.

In a slight variation to the above experiment, observe a child as they are about to cross the road (now this is where it is an absolute must that you know the child and preferably their extended family or else you will really get some dodgy looks!!). Now if a parent or guardian is holding the child's hand, the child will inevitably cross the road without looking right and left. Yet if the child is not holding an adult's hand, they usually look right and left (and often do so a couple of times). Why? Because even children, when someone assumes responsibility for their health and safety, tend to follow blindly and unfortunately the same is true in adults.

Four Key Attributes

So what is the solution for our New Year resolution?

Let us start by changing the mindset. Last October, I suggested that the 4 key attributes required to convert potential into achievement are: belief, attitude, expectation and habit.

- **Beliefs** control the release of untapped potential. It is our role, as health and safety professionals, to challenge limiting beliefs and I believe that we should start with ourselves. Remember - it is an expert's belief that is the most difficult to change.
- **Attitudes** can be viewed as a settled way of thinking or feeling about something and they can be positive or negative (depending on how something is framed). It is our role, as health and safety professionals, to broaden the frame of a topic from the narrow hazard based frame to a broader more inclusive risk assessment frame. Find ways in which things CAN be done – look for the stepping stone rather than the obstacle.
- **Expectation** is what is considered most likely to happen. It is our role, as health and safety professionals, to help colleagues and friends to set goals in health and safety for as we visualise the new we become dissatisfied with the old. This change in mentality approach is critically important if we are to succeed.
- **Habits** are critical in changing mindsets and move us from the consciously incompetent to the unconsciously competent. It is our role, as health and safety professionals, to provide sufficient support to allow good habits to form, but not such support that we 'insist' on leading by the hand.

I want 2015 to be a year in which people develop a positive perception of health and safety. With this in mind, my resolution for the New Year is to work towards changing the health and safety mindset of those I interact with on a personal and professional level. You are all welcome to join me!

If you have any health and safety ideas, experiences, stories or tips that you would like to share with NISO Update, we would love to hear from you! Please send an email expressing your interest in contributing to NISO Update to Geraldine at info@niso.ie.

Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals (GHS)

June 1 2015 marks the next milestone date for the introduction of the GHS when many thousands of hazardous mixtures (chemical products) being made or imported into Ireland will need to comply with the CLP Regulation 1272/2008.



Brian O'Connor, EHS Coordinator, Hospira

Hazardous substances threaten physical health and the environment no matter which country a chemical is being used in. GHS aims to overcome the problem of differing labelling requirements on physical, health and environmental hazards for the same chemicals around the world. As a result of differing classification and labelling requirements in different countries, chemicals and mixtures being produced for exportation have to be labelled according to the each country's differing criteria. The introduction of GHS will now help to facilitate international chemicals trade.

The EU brought GHS into law via the Classification, Labelling and Packaging (CLP) Regulation 2009. However, because of the enormity of this task, a staggered approach was adopted with various milestone dates set between 2009 and 2017. Dates of note include:

- 1 December 2010: Hazardous substances being placed on the market must comply with CLP.
- 1 December 2012: Transition period for substances already on the market prior to 1 December 2010 to comply with CLP ended 1 December 2012.
- 1 June 2015: Hazardous mixtures being placed on the market must comply with CLP.
- 1 June 2017: Transition period for mixtures already on the market prior to 1 June 2015 to comply with CLP ends 1 June 2017.

Main Changes

The most noticeable change in the CLP regulation is the new global terminology and change in pictogram (formerly called a symbol). See table on the right.

CLP Article 17 sets out the 'general rules' that apply to the label which comprises of:

- the name, address and telephone number of the supplier,
- product identifiers,

and, where applicable:

- hazard pictograms,
- signal word,
- hazard statements,
- precautionary statements and
- supplemental information.

Who is affected?

The responsibility for the labelling and packaging of hazardous substances and mixtures lies with manufacturers of substances, importers of substances or mixtures and formulators of mixtures. Distributors or downstream users who do not reformulate or change the substances or mixtures but relabel/repackage them also have a responsibility.

Manufacturers, importers and downstream users must ensure all substances and mixtures are classified, labelled and packaged according to CLP Regulation before placing them on the market. However, the downstream user and distributor may use the classification derived by another actor in the supply chain, provided that the composition is unchanged. If any new scientific or technical data become available following classification, the manufacturer, importer or downstream

user must re-evaluate the classification and update the label accordingly.



A Classification and Labelling Inventory has been set up at the European Chemicals Agency (ECHA). Importers and manufacturers must notify the Inventory of Hazardous Substances if they are placing them on the market, on their own or in mixtures and irrespective of the tonnage.

Although many companies may not be directly impacted by the new CLP Regulation, an employer must ensure that workers understand the new label and the safety advice for each chemical handled. This can be communicated to workers through training, tool box talks, notice boards, inductions and other modes of communication.

Sources of information

The 'chemicals' area of the Health and Safety Authority (HSA) website: www.hsa.ie, is an excellent resource and provides guidance on what is involved in the GHS. The ECHA website: <http://echa.europa.eu/> also provides useful guidance, in particular for manufacturers and importers; the guidance document titled *How to notify substances to the Classification and Labelling Inventory, Practical Guide 7*.

Brian O'Connor
BSc OSH, MSc EHS, CMIOSH

NEW CLP	OLD CPL
	
The new pictogram is diamond shaped with a white background and red border.	The old CPL is square shaped with an orange background.
Use of a Signal Word , i.e., Danger or Warning.	Use of an Indication of Danger , i.e., Toxic.
Use of a Hazard Statement , e.g., H317 'May cause an allergic skin reaction'.	Use of a Risk Statement , e.g., R43 'May cause sensitization by skin contact'.

Help on entering the All Ireland Occupational Safety Awards



NISO team answers members' queries.

QUESTION 1

Our company is interested in entering the All Ireland Occupational Safety Awards. How does a company enter the Safety Awards and what is involved in the process?

ANSWER 1

The All Ireland Occupational Safety Awards recognises a company's dedication to health and safety in the workplace. The awards provide an effective means for conducting an internal health and safety audit, allows a company to benchmark their performance against competitors in the same industry and demonstrates a positive corporate governance attitude within the organisation.

The first step in entering the Safety Awards is to register your interest with the National Irish Safety Organisation (NISO) by emailing info@niso.ie with your details. The next step is to visit the Safety Awards website: safetyawards.ie. Entry to the Safety Awards is submission based and the information to be included in the submission falls into ten different categories which are:

1. Statistics and Accident History
2. Health and Safety Management
3. Hazard Identification and Risk Management
4. Implementation and Operation of Health and Safety Policies and Procedures
5. Health and Safety Communication and Consultation
6. Pro-active Health and Safety Management
7. Health & Safety Training
8. Reactive Health and Safety Management
9. Emergency Preparedness and Response
10. Demonstration of Superior Performance in Health and Safety

It is recommended by the awards adjudicators that a submission be structured in a manner similar to the sections requested by the organisers. Therefore, a submission should be sub-divided into the sections listed above.

The submission must include evidence for each category. However, you must ensure that the evidence falls within the correct time period; this is a common mistake where valuable marks are lost every year. For example, the 2015 Safety Awards will

reflect on a company's health and safety performance in 2014, therefore, unless requested otherwise, the evidence must relate to 2014.

For further information on entering the All Ireland Occupational Safety Awards, visit the Safety Awards website: safetyawards.ie. The website contains a very useful Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) section which is updated annually to make the entry process as easy possible for companies.

www.safetyawards.ie

24th ANNUAL Occupational Safety Awards 2015
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2015 Annual Occupational Safety Awards

NISO

National Irish Safety Organisation

Northern Ireland Safety Group

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QR code

Safety

Table Quiz

ALL IRELAND 2015

The NISO / NISG All Ireland Safety Table Quiz 2015

Regional Quiz Dates

NISO West Region [covering counties Galway, Mayo, Roscommon]

5 February 2015; 20:00 hrs; Oranmore Lodge Hotel, Oranmore, Co Galway.

NISO East Region [covering counties Dublin, Kildare, Wicklow]

26 February 2015; 19:30 hrs; Gresham Hotel, Upper O'Connell Street, Dublin.

NISO South East Region [covering counties Carlow, Kilkenny, Tipperary South, Waterford, Wexford]

6 March 2015; 20:00hrs; Dooleys Hotel, Merchants Quay, Waterford.

NISG Northern Ireland [covering counties Antrim, Armagh, Derry, Down, Fermanagh, Tyrone]

6 March 2015; 19:00hrs; Wellington Park Hotel, 21 Malone Road, Belfast, BT9 6RU.

NISO Midland Region [covering counties Laois, Longford, Offaly, Westmeath]

10 March 2015; 20:00hrs; Bridge House Hotel, Tullamore, Co Offaly.

NISO North West Region [covering counties Donegal, Leitrim, Sligo]

12 March 2015; 20:00hrs; Southern Hotel, Sligo.

NISO Mid West Region [covering counties Clare, Limerick, Tipperary North]

12 March 2015; 20:00hrs; Greenhills Hotel, Ennis Road, Limerick.

NISO North East Region [covering counties Cavan, Louth, Meath, Monaghan]

25 March 2015; 19:00hrs; Fairways Hotel, Dundalk, Co Louth.

NISO South Region [covering counties Cork, Kerry]

26 March 2015; 20:00hrs; Oriel House Hotel, Ballincollig, Co Cork.

All Ireland Finals

18 April 2015; 14.30hrs

Ramada Plaza Hotel, Shaws Bridge, Belfast.

Why Enter?

The All Ireland Safety Quiz is the perfect opportunity for organisations to get up to speed with health and safety issues, regulations and legislation. While this is an entertaining and sociable event, participants are also more likely to retain the health and safety information that they have learned in preparation for the quiz. Taking part in the All Ireland Safety Quiz is also an ideal way to inspire fresh ideas and heighten the safety awareness culture within organisations.

Regional Safety Quiz Format

The All Ireland Safety Quiz is in table quiz format and comprises of teams of up to 4 persons. There are two quiz categories: Novice and Previous Entrants. The winning teams from both the Novice and Previous Entrants categories will proceed to the All Ireland Safety Quiz Finals on 18 April in the Ramada Plaza Hotel, Belfast.

All Ireland Safety Quiz Finals Format

The winning teams that make it through their regional heats to the All Ireland Safety Quiz Finals will compete with the other regional winners to claim the title of overall winner in their category (Novice or Previous Entrants). The Finals will comprise of teams of up to 4 persons – there will be no questions asked to individuals. The top two teams from both the Novice and Previous Entrants categories will emerge as winners and runners up of the All Ireland Safety Quiz Finals.



National
Irish Safety
Organisation



Northern
Ireland
Safety Group

Legislation Update

Health (Provision of Food Allergen Information to Consumers in respect of Non-Prepacked Food) Regulations 2014 [S.I. No. 489/2014]

These Regulations concern the provision of food allergen information to consumers in respect of non-prepacked food. They provide for the means, expression and presentation through which allergen particulars are to be made available on non-prepacked food, as provided for under Article 44 of Regulation (EU) No. 1169/2011 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 25 October 2011 on the provision of food information to consumers.

These Regulations may be cited as the Health (Provision of Food Allergen Information to Consumers in respect of Non-Prepacked Food) Regulations 2014.

Road Safety Authority (Commercial Vehicle Roadworthiness) Act 2012 (Commencement) (Penalty Points - Certificate of Road Worthiness) Order 2014 [S.I. No. 508/2014]

This order commences the insertion into Part 1 of the First Schedule of the Road Traffic Act 2002 a reference at number 2A for the offence of using a vehicle without a certificate of roadworthiness. Commitment of this offence will result in a direct summons to court, and on conviction an endorsement of 5 penalty points on the offender's driving licence.

Previously an offence consisting of contravention of Regulation 19 of EC (Vehicle Testing) Regulations 2004, using a vehicle without a certificate of roadworthiness is now an offence under Section 6 (2) of the Road Safety Authority (Commercial Vehicle Roadworthiness) Act 2012.

European Union (Marine Equipment) Regulations 2014 [S.I. No. 540/2014]

Commission Directive 2013/52/EU of 30 October 2013 updates the principal Directive 96/98/EC on marine equipment by substituting a new Annex A that sets out the marine equipment to be placed on board ships and the testing standards that apply under the international maritime conventions of the International Maritime Organisation for MARPOL (prevention of pollution), SOLAS (safety at sea), Load Lines and the Collision Regulations.

These Regulations transpose Directive 2013/52/EU with effect from 04 December 2014 and restate the provisions of the principal Directive. They provide that transitional arrangements apply until 04 December 2016 in respect of certain marine equipment that was manufactured before 04 December 2014.

Waste Management (Facility Permit and Registration) (Amendment) Regulations 2014 [S.I. No. 546/2014]

These Regulations amend SI 821 of 2007 in order to provide

transitional arrangements for the implementation of the European Union (Industrial Emissions) Regulations 2013 which provide that certain waste activities require a licence under Part IV of the Environmental Protection Agency Act 1992 rather than a waste facility permit.

GUIDANCE

Managing Health and Safety in Fishing

The aim of this guidance document is to help improve standards of safety and health in the commercial sea/marine fishing sector. In an effort to aid prevention of accidents and ill-health among fishermen, this guidance document looks at the role of the Safety Statement in managing health and safety, the most common causes of death, injury and ill-health and gives basic information to help illuminate or control the risks involved in fishing.

Although this guidance document is principally aimed at small fishing boats (i.e. vessels less than 15 metres including single handed operations on small open and decked boats), parts of the guidance will be of interest and relevance to those who work on

or operate larger fishing vessels.

This comprehensive guidance document covers topics including:

- Occupational Health and Safety Legislation
- Causes of injury and ill health in fishing
- Managing safety, health and welfare in fishing
- Common hazards
- Health of fishermen
- Emergency plans and first aid
- Fire and fire prevention
- Personal protective equipment, working gear, lifejackets and personal floatation devices
- Netting / jigging / trolling / longlining
- Landing and port operations
- Investigation and reporting of accidents

To download this guidance document on Managing Health and Safety in Fishing visit www.hsa.ie.



FATAL WORKPLACE INJURIES BY ECONOMIC SECTOR 2008-2015 (NACE REVISION 2) (AS OF 7 JANUARY 2015)

ECONOMIC SECTOR		2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
A - Agriculture, forestry and fishing	Crop and animal production, hunting and related service activities	20	10	22	22	20	16	30	0
	Forestry and logging	1	1	3	0	1	0	0	0
	Fishing and aquaculture	1	2	4	5	7	5	1	0
B - Mining and quarrying		1	2	0	1	1	2	0	1
C - Manufacturing		6	1	2	2	0	1	3	0
D - Electricity; gas, steam and air conditioning supply		0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0
E - Water supply, sewerage, waste management and remediation activities		2	0	2	3	4	1	0	0
F - Construction		15	10	6	6	8	11	8	0
G - Wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles and personal goods		3	2	4	2	3	3	4	0
H - Transportation and storage		3	6	3	7	1	4	4	0
I - Accommodation and food service activities		0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0
J - Information and communication		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
K - Financial and insurance activities		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
L - Real estate activities		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
M - Professional, scientific and technical activities		1	1	0	2	1	1	1	0
N - Administrative and support service activities		0	1	0	0	1	0	2	0
O - Public administration and defence; compulsory social security		1	2	0	1	0	0	0	0
P - Education		0	2	0	0	0	1	0	0
Q - Human health and social work activities		0	1	1	1	1	0	0	0
R - Arts, entertainment and recreation		1	0	1	1	0	0	1	0
S - Other service activities		2	1	0	0	0	1	0	0
Total		57	43	48	54	48	47	55	1

Source: www.hsa.ie

National Irish Safety Organisation Events Diary



Please keep an eye on our website: www.niso.ie for forthcoming courses in 2015.

1. Courses scheduled at NISO Training Centre, Ballymount, Dublin 12

Occupational First Aid, 5N1207;

***QQI Level 5**

(Course Length: 3 days)

28 - 30 January

Safe Pass Course, on Fridays

(Course Length: 1 day)

February 2015

Occupational First Aid

Re-Certification; *QQI Level 5

(Course Length: 1 day)

6 February

Basic Manual Handling Course

(Course Length: Half day)

9 February

VDU/DSE Assessors Course

(Course Length: 1 day)

13 February

Manual Handling Instructor & Assessor Course, *QQI Level 6

(Course length: 5 days; 3 days Week 1 and 2 days Week 2)

23-25 February & 2-3 March

*QQI, formerly known as FETAC

2. Courses and events in the regions

EAST REGION

Safety Awards Workshop

CityNorth Hotel, Gormanstown, Meath

28 January 2015; 11.30 - 13.00hrs

Seminar: Management of Asbestos

The Gresham Hotel, Dublin

16 February 2015

Safety Quiz

The Gresham Hotel, Dublin

26 February 2015; 19.30hrs

WEST REGION

Safety Awards Workshop

Oranmore Lodge Hotel, Oranmore, Galway

5 February 2015; 14.00 - 15.30hrs

Safety Quiz

Oranmore Lodge Hotel, Oranmore, Galway

5 February 2015; 20.00 hrs

Seminar: Farm Safety

McWilliam Park Hotel, Claremorris,

Co. Mayo

19 February 2015

MIDLAND REGION

Course: NISO Introduction to Occupational Health and Safety

Athlone Institute of Technology

(Course length: 13 weeks, 2 hours per week)

Commencing: 4 February 2015

Contact: midland@niso.ie

Safety Quiz

Bridge House Hotel, Tullamore, Offaly

10 March 2015; 20.00hrs

MID WEST REGION

Course: NISO Introduction to Occupational Health and Safety

Limerick Institute of Technology

(Course length: 13 weeks, 2 hours per week)

Commencing: 27 January 2015

Contact: FLLimerick@lit.ie

Safety Awards Workshop

Greenhills Hotel, Limerick

4 February 2015; 14.00 - 15.30hrs

Safety Quiz

Greenhills Hotel, Limerick

12 March 2015; 20.00 hrs

NORTH WEST REGION

Safety Quiz

Southern Hotel, Sligo

12 March 2015; 20.00hrs

NORTH EAST REGION

Safety Quiz

Fairways Hotel, Dundalk, Louth

25 March 2015; 19.00hrs

SOUTH REGION

Safety Awards Workshop

Oriel House Hotel, Ballincollig, Cork

29 January 2015; 11.30 - 13.00hrs

Safety Quiz

Oriel House Hotel, Ballincollig, Cork

26 March 2015; 20.00hrs

SOUTH EAST REGION

Safety Quiz

Dooleys Hotel, Waterford

6 March 2015; 20.00hrs

Waterford

NORTHERN IRELAND

Safety Awards Workshop

CITB-Construction Skills, Crumlin,

Co. Antrim

16 February

Safety Quiz

Wellington Park Hotel, Belfast

6 March 2015; 19.00hrs

3. National/All Ireland Events

All Ireland Safety Quiz Finals

Ramada Plaza Hotel, Shaw's Bridge, Belfast

18 April 2015; 14.30hrs

National Annual General Meeting

The Gresham Hotel, Dublin

23 April 2015; 15.15hrs

NISO Annual Conference and Trade Exhibition

Radisson Blu Hotel & Spa, Galway

2 October 2015

Trade Exhibition: Spaces Available

For more information on booking a

space call 01 465 9760 or email

sbirkett@niso.ie

NISO/NISG Safety Awards Ceremony

Radisson Blu Hotel & Spa, Galway

2 October 2015



NISO, A11 Calmount Park, Calmount Avenue, Ballymount, Dublin 12.

Tel: 01 465 9760 Fax: 01 465 9765 Email: info@niso.ie Website: www.niso.ie