National Irish Safety Organisation

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

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NISO / TU Dublin CPD Certificates/ Diploma in Safety Management at Work

EDITORIAL

National Irish Safety Organisation

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President's Message HSA Strategy Statement

As you will be aware the HSA launched its Strategy Statement 2022–2024 and Programme of Work 2022 in early January. This is a serious and imaginative programme and I welcome the intentions set out in the Strategy Statement.

The renewed focus on the role of the Safety Representative is very welcome and hopefully employers across the country will take their lead from the HSA and engage fully with the Safety Representative. NISO has



Harry Galvin, president, National Irish Safety Organisation

always considered that the Safety Representative role is very important and that a good Safety Representative makes a significant contribution to the safety performance of their organisation. They are also of great assistance to the Safety Manager. As you will be aware each year we acknowledge the contribution made by Safety Representatives across the country with our Safety Representative of the Year Award as part of our overall Safety Awards scheme.

Chemicals also feature strongly in the HSA's Strategy Statement. Its focus on the EU Green Chemical drive will help to continue replacing toxic and harmful chemicals with more environmentally friendly chemicals. The impact of Brexit is also an area of focus, as UK-manufactured chemicals will be now be treated as third country imports and not part of the EU internal market. Those tasked with purchasing chemicals will need to aware of the changing authorisation for chemicals caused by changes in EU rules for the internal EU market and any importation of chemicals into the EU.

At the launch of the HSA's Strategy Statement 2022–2024, reference was made to the continued cooperation between the Authority and the Gardaí in the area of Road Traffic Accidents (RTAs). This is welcome. I would like to see this cooperation developed to the point where Gardai investigating an RTA establish if the drivers were driving for work or for personal purposes. In recording this information, in addition to the number of persons injured and killed in the RTA incidents, these numbers could be added to the recorded workplace injuries and fatalities under separate headings. By seeing these statistics clearly set out it should assist in making employers pay more attention to their driving policies and training.

2022 is the first full year that accreditation falls completely within the Authority's remit. I would like to see the Authority take over the accreditation of all health and safety training, thereby bringing all health and safety training within the remit of one body, and most importantly that one body has expert health and safety staff to administer the system.

Harry Galvin President National Irish Safety Organisation.



Lowest workplace fatalities recorded since records began

The Health and Safety Authority has revealed that the number of workplace fatalities in 2021 is the lowest since records began.

- Work-related fatalities declined 30% to 38 fatalities in 2021 from 54 in 2020, the lowest figure recorded since the Authority was established
- Farming sees a decline of over 50% with nine fatalities recorded in 2021 compared to 20 in 2020, but still remains one of the most dangerous sectors in which to work
- Construction records a decline of 38% with 10 fatalities in 2021 compared to 16 in 2020
- Two children, both aged 16, tragically killed in work-related incidents
- Loss of control of a vehicle or its attachments (12 fatalities) and falling from a height (10 fatalities) the leading causes of work-related fatalities in 2021
- Cork, Dublin and Wexford record the highest level of fatalities with 5 in each county
- No fatalities recorded in 2021 in counties Kilkenny, Leitrim, Longford, Louth, Monaghan, Roscommon, Waterford and Westmeath

Releasing provisional annual statistics for 2021, the Health and Safety Authority welcomed a 30% reduction in work-related fatalities. Thirty-eight people lost their lives in 2021 compared to 54 in 2020 representing the lowest figure recorded since the Authority was established over 30 years ago.

Commenting on the downward trend, Mark Cullen, Chief Inspector with the Health and Safety Authority said; "It is positive to see such a substantial decline in work-related fatalities in 2021. However, our view is that every work-related death is preventable. Christmas this year for the families and friends of these 38* individuals will have been a difficult one and our thoughts are with them".

"Farming continues to be one of the most dangerous sectors in which to



work, but a 50% decline on the 2020 level of fatalities is encouraging and a sign that the safety message is getting through. Our work in the farming sector will continue and I would urge all farmers not to become complacent and let's make sure that this time next year we're discussing even fewer lives lost".

In relation to the construction sector, Mr Cullen said, "The construction sector saw a 38% decline in workrelated deaths with 10 workers losing their lives in 2021 following a spike in fatalities in 2020. Of course, this is 10 deaths too many and smaller sites and contractors in particular need to ensure that worker safety is at the top of the priority list every day".

The most common incident causes leading to deaths in workplace settings were the loss of control of a vehicle or its attachments (12) and falling from a height (10), which between them accounted for well over half of all fatalities (58%).

Commenting on the incident triggers, Mr Cullen said; "We know what's causing the major incidents leading to loss of life and serious injuries. Losing control of a workplace vehicle, whether that's a tractor, excavator or other machine, and falling from a height, are the key triggers. If employers focus on these two key areas many lives will be saved in 2022."

He added, "Think about the task you're about to undertake or asking others to carry out, step back for a minute, plan the work, make sure the right precautions are in place and nobody is putting themselves or others in danger. If working with heavy machinery or at a height, extra vigilance is needed. Don't assume the unthinkable will never happen".

While the farming and construction sectors saw significant declines in fatalities, some sectors experienced an increase. The transportation and storage sector recorded an increase from two deaths in 2020 to 6 in 2021 while the forestry and logging sector saw two deaths following none recorded in the previous year.

Source: hsa.ie

New quad safety measures for 2023

The Minister for Business, Employment and Retail Damien English has signed a statutory instrument to introduce new safety measures to help reduce the number of serious quad injuries and fatalities in Ireland.

There will be an obligation on the users of all-terrain vehicles (ATVs) – more commonly known as quad bikes – to undergo mandatory training, and to wear appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE) when using such vehicles for work purposes.

Minister English highlighted that in recent years, there has been a number of accidents in farming and other areas of work involving the use of ATVs.

"The number and severity of these incidents has given rise to serious safety concerns, particularly across the farming community," he said. "The overall objective of these amending regulations is to reduce the level of death and serious injury associated with ATVs in the workplace by providing specific legal requirements for the wearing of head protection and for operators of ATVs to undergo professional training.

"Over a 10-year period [2009-2018], tractors, ATVs and other vehicles represent 30% of workplace fatalities in the agriculture sector, with ATV fatalities showing a significant increase in recent years, with 11 fatalities attributed to their operation.

"Investigations into the causes of these accidents by the Health and Safety Authority [HSA] have shown that many cases are caused by the lack of training and head protection."

The introduction of mandatory training and use of PPE while using ATVs was a recommendation of the Farm Safety Task Force. "The new measures will come into force on November 20, 2023. The twoyear lead-in period in relation to the enforcement of these requirements is to allow everyone involved – users, suppliers and retailers – enough time to ensure that all of the necessary measures will be in place for compliance."

Martin Heydon, Minister of State with responsibility for farm safety at the Department of Agriculture, noted that the risks associated with the operation of ATVs can be reduced with the use of appropriate head protection and training.

"I look forward to working closely with Minister English over the next while, to help farmers who use ATVs prepare for the new requirements, making their farms safer places."

Source: agriland.ie

Return to the office guidance

The Labour Employer Economic Forum (LEEF) Consultative Group met on 4 January 2022 regarding the Work Safely Protocol. LEEF confirmed that the transition to office working can commence with immediate effect and encouraged employers to engage with employees to plan, prepare and engage with staff to affect that return in the weeks ahead. NISO suggests that each organisation must adapt its health and safety requirements resulting from a risk assessment of their business in order to plan the pace of a return to work in consultation with their employees.

It is understood that LEEF stakeholders agreed to amend the Protocol by paring back the details of the Work Safely Protocol and to retain the document in the form of a 'best practice' guidance for the transition.

The updated guidance will reflect that Covid-19 is still present and the return to office working must be considered in line with obligations under existing Safety, Health and Welfare legislation to provide a safe place of work. It is hoped that a revised guidance document will be finalised and published shortly.

Engagement will continue to take place between Government, trade unions and employer representatives, under the auspices of the LEEF, on supporting the transition period and the return to workplaces.



NISO CERTIFICATE IN SAFETY, HEALTH AND WELFARE AT WORK COURSE

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TUS - Limerick 25 January 2022

TUS - Athlone 7 February 2022

Dublin / National 15 February 2022

Further information and to book: W: niso.ie E: info@niso.ie T: 01 465 9760

NISO Welcomes New Members

National Irish Safety Organisation would like to welcome all of the organisations that have joined recently. As a not for profit organisation with charitable status, your membership of NISO supports our endeavours to promote health and safety in Irish workplaces.

Contact NISO on 01 465 9750 or email info@niso.ie for further information on NISO membership and to receive a copy of our Membership Brochure.

New Members

Organisations to recently join NISO include:

- Ace Building & Carpentry Ltd.
- Axis Construction Limited
- Gem Energy T/A Gem Utilities Ltd.
- Green Rebel Marine Ltd.
- GSW Solutions
- Synergy Security Solutions Ltd.



GSW Solutions

GSW Solutions is managed by Directors Sharon Carter, Seamus Casserly and Michael Carty. We are committed to the consistent delivery of outstanding Recruitment and Training Services to our clients, candidates and trainees. We support the Public and Private sector by providing staffing and accredited training solutions in Healthcare and Safety Training. We are members of NISO, the

Association of Healthcare Trainers, and are an Accredited Business All Star with the All Ireland Business Foundation.

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NISO / TU Dublin CPD Certificates / Diploma in Safety Management at Work





NISO/TU Dublin CPD Certificates/Diploma in Safety Management at Work

CPD Certificates / Diploma in Safety Management at Work

NISO is pleased to announce an innovative programme in Safety Management. This programme, offered through our partnership with TU Dublin, offers a particularly flexible curriculum, whereby students can design their own route to qualification at Level 7. Courses may be delivered in class, online or hybrid, excluding Workplace Noise Measurement and Environmental Noise Measurement.

Whether you are entirely new to safety management or you would like to upskill in a particular area or update an existing qualification, you will find a subject of interest. This programme is particularly relevant in the post-Brexit era as subject matter covered by UK professional organisations are no longer recognised in Europe. We are proud to be an Irish safety training organisation delivering, for the first time, a comprehensive set of safety management qualifications that reflect the Irish and European legislative and regulatory environment.

Employers, too, can benefit from their employees studying for any one of the courses on offer, reducing the need to outsource skills. There are undoubtedly advantages to having an employee who can carry out essential safety work, including fire or chemical risk assessments, safety statements, and noise surveys. We can also customise a course or module to make it specific to the risks and hazards pertaining to your organisation.

How it Works

From a variety of 12 individual courses, you can choose any one or more and study to obtain CPD Certification in that subject. The programme also offers the opportunity to combine eight courses to obtain a CPD Diploma in Safety Management at Work.

Courses

- Auditing for Safety Managers
- Behavioural Safety Management
- Chemical Safety Management PART 1
- Chemical Safety Management
 PART 2
- Environmental Noise Measurement
- Fire Safety Management PART 1
- Fire Safety Management PART 2
- Workplace Accident Investigation
- Workplace Ergonomics
- Workplace Noise Measurement
- Workplace Safety Manager PART 1
- Workplace Safety Manager PART 2

Note: You can study any of the courses as a single course to achieve certification in that subject. You may also combine any number of courses that interest you to obtain multiple certifications. A single CPD certificate course is worth five ECTS at Level 7 of the National Framework of Qualifications (NFQ). Completing 60 ECTS credits is the equivalent of one year of full time study at Level 7.

ENABLING A STRONG SAFETY CULTURE

Intel is committed to caring for our people and the planet by integrating design for the environment and safety principles into all aspects of our business; from the development of our products, through our supply chain and manufacturing.



Health and Safety Authority Launches 2022–2024 Strategy Statement and Programme of Work for 2022

The Minister of State for Business, Employment and Retail, Damien English TD, launched the Health and Safety Authority's new Strategy Statement 2022 – 2024 on January 11th at an online stakeholder event hosted by the HSA. The new Strategy sets out the Authority's continued goals to promote, regulate and influence the culture of safety and health in the workplace.

The HSA has a wide and varied mandate including acting as the national body with responsibility for protecting all workers nationwide from work-related incidents, injuries and ill health. It also acts as the market surveillance authority for chemicals and industrial products and protects all citizens from the risks arising from the use of chemicals. The Authority provides the national accreditation service through the Irish National Accreditation Body (INAB).

Launching the new HSA Strategy Statement, Minster Damien English TD, stated:

"Ireland and the EU are still in the process of dealing with the COVID-19 pandemic, which has had an unprecedented impact on society, workplaces and employment. The HSA has developed this strategy in the context of the rapidly evolving external factors shaped in particular by the COVID-19 pandemic".

Looking forward the Minister also noted that there are new challenges, including the impact of the pandemic in accelerating the move to remote/hybrid working and the continued growth of the 'gig economy' in Ireland. The HSA strategy also highlights the particular needs of vulnerable workers and migrant groups.

In presenting this new strategy and the Authority's latest Programme of Work for 2022, Dr Sharon McGuinness, Chief Executive Officer of the Health and Safety Authority, said:

"Throughout the implementation of our new Strategy Statement and our annual Programmes of Work, the Authority will be setting out to achieve tangible outcomes in occupational safety and health (OSH), accreditation,



Minister Damien English TD, Dr Sharon McGuinness, Chief Executive Officer of the HSA and Tom Coughlan, Chairperson of the HSA, in advance of the recent launch of the HSA's Strategy Statement 2022-24 and accompanying Programme of Work 2022.

chemicals, and market surveillance. The key to a successful and productive economy and workforce is a commitment to safer and healthier working lives for all."

As seen in the Authority's Programme of Work 2022 key priorities areas are detailed for the year ahead. The Authority will continue to focus on high-risk sectors and hazards which cause fatalities, incidents, injuries and ill health, such as falling from heights and the hazards of working with machinery. In addition, it will emphasize the need to address occupational health hazards, in particular those associated with psychosocial and ergonomic risks, and exposure to chemical and biological agents.

Dr Sharon McGuinness added "The Authority remains focused on the challenges facing today's workplaces and enterprises, but is also looking ahead to the future where we see the introduction of new technology and the increased focus on climate action and chemicals sustainability, bringing benefits to occupational safety and health. The Authority will remain committed to offering enterprises, employers and employees a range of tools and supports to enable them to meet their statutory obligations and ensuring they keep themselves and their workplaces safe."

The recent launch of the HSA Strategy Statement also highlighted the new, upcoming National Strategy for Accreditation 2022–26, which will shortly be published. The strategy, which is being published by INAB, a key part of the HSA, will promote awareness of accreditation and broad-based engagement to enhance recognition and understanding of the economic benefits of accreditation.

Minster Damien English TD, added:

"As we move into an era of exciting change to the ways of working, while it will present challenges to Government, Public Bodies and individual employers and workers, it also brings great opportunities for wider economic and societal benefit and positive impact on worker health, public health and climate change. The Government recognizes the importance of the wide and varied role of the HSA and I look forward to working with the Authority to support and enable it to meet its vision of healthy, safe and productive lives and enterprises over the course of this strategy".

The HSA strategy launched was developed in collaboration with key stakeholders and through public consultation. It was developed with the present and future conditions of workplaces and the needs of enterprises across Ireland in mind.

The HSA Strategy Statement 2022–2024 and the HSA Programme of work are now available on the HSA website at www.hsa.ie.

NEW PUBLICATIONS / STATISTICS

New Publications

Skip Lorry Safety Information Sheet

This guidance will help to improve knowledge and understanding of the key steps needed to prevent injuries in the use of waste skip collection vehicles (skip lorries).



Skip Lorry Safety Checklist and Poster



This Skip Lorry safety checklist and poster will help to improve knowledge and understanding of the key steps needed to prevent injuries in the use of waste skip collection vehicles (skip lorries).

Guidance on Technical Landuse Planning Advice This guidance document is designed to assist planning authorities and COMAH establishment operators.

Carriage of Dangerous Goods by Road 2021 This guide is for

businesses that are involved in the consignment, loading, unloading and carriage of dangerous goods by road.

ADR Quick Reference Guide

Fingertip information on the carriage of dangerous goods by road.







Retailers Duties when Selling Chemical Products



Chemical products play an important role in our everyday lives. These products include detergents, paints, adhesives, cement, polish, oils, bleach and white spirits, used by both professional users, e.g. plumbers, decorators, mechanics and consumers (including DIY).

All publications available from hsa.ie.



An tÚdarás Sláinte agus Sábháilteachta Health and Safety Authority

Fatal Workplace Injuries by Economic Sector 2011–2022 (NACE Revision 2)

	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012	2011
A - Agriculture + forestry and fishing	0	9+2+0	20+0+3	19+0+3	15+1+4	25+0+2	21+5	18+6	32+1	16+5	20+8	22+5
B - Mining and quarrying	0	0	0	0	0	1	2	0	2	1	1	1
C - Manufacturing	0	5	4	4	2	0	2	3	3	1	0	2
D - Electricity; gas, steam and air conditioning supply	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0
E - Water supply, sewerage, waste management and remediation activities	0	2	1	2	2	1	1	3	0	1	4	3
F - Construction	0	10	14	11	5	6	10	11	6	11	8	6
G - Wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles and personal goods	0	2	5	1	2	3	2	3	5	3	3	2
H - Transportation and storage	0	6	3	6	8	5	1	3	3	4	1	7
I - Accommodation and food service activities	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
J - Information and communication	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
K - Financial and insurance activities	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
L - Real estate activities	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
${\rm M}$ - Professional, scientific and technical activities	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	2
${\bf N}$ - Administrative and support service activities	0	0	0	1	0	0	2	0	2	0	1	0
${\bm 0}$ - Public administration and defence; compulsory social security	0	0	1	0	0	5	0	4	1	0	0	1
P - Education	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
${\boldsymbol{Q}}$ - Human health and social work activities	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	2	0	0	1	1
R - Arts, entertainment and recreation	0	1	2	0	2	0	1	1	1	0	0	1
S - Other service activities	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
Total	0	38	53	47	39	48	48	56	55	47	48	54

(Source: HSA, correct at 21 January 2022. Note that some accidents may be under investigation and may not have been recorded yet.)

Upcoming Events

Please keep an eye on our website niso.ie for forthcoming courses in 2022.

1. Courses held at the NISO Training Centre, Ballymount, Dublin 12 / Online

DSE/VDU Risk Assessor Training (Online) NISO Certificate (1 day) 1 February; 1 March

Manual Handling Basic NISO Certificate (half day) 7 & 28 February

Safety Representation [Online] NISO Certificate (2 day) 21–22 February 2022

Mobile and Home Working Assessor Course [Online] NISO Certificate (1 day) Date TBC

CPD Certificate: Workplace Safety Manager Part 1 (TU Dublin Certified) (5 day) 7 –9 & 14–15 March 2022

2. NISO Certificate in Safety, Health and Welfare at Work Course length: 13 wks / 2 evenings p/wk

> MIDLAND REGION Venue: TUS – Athlone (Online) Commencing: 7 February 2022 Contact: info@niso.ie

DUBLIN / NATIONAL Venue: NISO Training Centre, Dublin 12 (Online) Commencing: 15 February 2022 Contact: info@niso.ie

3. Courses and events in the regions

EAST REGION NISO East AGM Date & Venue TBC

Safety Quiz Date & Venue TBC

MIDLAND REGION NISO Midland AGM Date & Venue TBC

Safety Quiz Bridge House Hotel, Tullamore, Co. Offaly 9 March 2022

MID WEST REGION NISO Mid West AGM Date & Venue TBC

Safety Quiz Greenhills Hotel, Limerick 10 March 2022

NORTH EAST REGION NISO North East AGM Date & Venue TBC

Safety Quiz Errigal House Hotel, Cootehill, Co. Cavan 8 March 2022

NORTH WEST REGION NISO North West AGM Date & Venue TBC

Safety Quiz Clayton Hotel, Clarion Road, Sligo 10 March 2022

SOUTH EAST REGION NISO South East AGM Date & Venue TBC

Safety Quiz Viking Hotel Waterford, Waterford City 21 February 2022 SOUTH REGION NISO South AGM Date & Venue TBC

Safety Quiz Radisson Blu Hotel, Little Island, Cork 7 April 2022

WEST REGION NISO West AGM Date & Venue TBC

Safety Quiz Oranmore Lodge Hotel, Oranmore, Co. Galway 10 February 2022

4. National/All Ireland Events

Webinar: CPD Certificates / Diploma in Safety Management at Work (TU Dublin certified) – Launch Online 3 February 2022; 11.00hrs.

NISO National Annual General Meeting Tullamore Court Hotel, Tullamore Co. Offaly 14 May 2022

NISO/NISG All Ireland Safety Quiz Finals Tullamore Court Hotel, Tullamore, Co. Offaly 14 May 2022

NISO Annual Health and Safety Conference & Trade Exhibition of Health and Safety Products and Services November 2022

NISO/NISG All Ireland Safety Awards Gala Dinner November 2022

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