No let-up in new environmental regulations

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Save the date
NEBOSH will be attending the following events soon. Why not come along and see us there?

2011

16-18 January Intersec, Dubai, Stand 6-1055

8-9 March Health and Well-being at Work, NEC, Birmingham, Stand 88

15-16 March IOSH Conference & Exhibition, Excel, London, Stand C60

17-19 May Safety and Health Expo, NEC, Birmingham, Stand Q90

27 June NEBOSH Graduation & Awards Ceremony, Coventry (By Invitation only)

If you would like further information on any of these events please contact our Customer Services team:

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High-profile health and safety figure, Sir Bill Callaghan, is set to take over as the new Chair of NEBOSH in March 2011.

Educated at St John’s College, Oxford, Sir Bill’s early career was at the TUC, where he became Chief Economist and Head of the Economic and Social Affairs Department in 1979. He went on to serve on the Low Pay Commission between 1997 and 2000 – at the time the National Minimum Wage was first introduced.

Sir Bill was Chair of the Health and Safety Commission (HSC) from October 1999 to September 2007. Here, he drove forward the HSC’s ‘Revitalising Health and Safety’ strategy, which set targets and priorities for improving health and safety performance. He also strove to put health and well-being more firmly on the occupational health and safety agenda. In addition, Sir Bill spearheaded the HSE’s sensible risk campaign, which set out to debunk myths and show that health and safety is about protecting people from real harm rather than the trivial.

Sir Bill takes up his role at NEBOSH at an interesting time for health and safety. Lord Young’s recently published review of health and safety on behalf of the Coalition Government is set to have a strong influence on the future agenda.

NEBOSH is recognised globally as a mark of professional competence, and will therefore have an important role to play here.

“I’m expecting some lively debate among health and safety professionals in the months ahead, and I’m looking forward to taking part in this as Chair of NEBOSH.” said Sir Bill.

“I see NEBOSH as a custodian of the profession, with its high standards and highly respected qualifications. I’ll be doing all I can to ensure that the integrity of our profession is maintained.”

Outgoing NEBOSH Chair, David Morris, will have served the maximum allowable term of 9 years in the position by next March. David said he was honoured to have held the position for so long, and welcomed the appointment of Sir Bill Callaghan.

He said: “I have seen a lot of change at NEBOSH over the past 9 years. I am especially proud of the way NEBOSH is responding to the increasingly dynamic health and safety agenda, with its broader range of new and highly relevant qualifications.

“Sir Bill is very highly regarded, not only for what he’s achieved in health and safety, but for what he’s done more widely for the welfare of working people. I cannot think of a better person to take up the role of Chairman.”
The things Sarah Simmonds looks after at work aren’t that unusual for someone responsible for health and safety.

She has the welfare of staff to take care of. There’s some manual handling, a lot of odd shift patterns and a fair few hygiene issues to consider. She’s also got a fair few customers to consider. But what makes Sarah’s responsibilities different from most is that a lot of the time they’re around 37,000 feet above the ground!

**Sarah Simmonds is a Safety and Quality partner within In-flight Customer Experience at British Airways.** This means she’s responsible for safety and quality in the cabin environment of BA aircraft. As well as crew, BA flies 100,000 customers all over the world every day to more than 75 countries.

She also ensures BA cabin crews have the correct procedures in place to meet all legal requirements. Without this legal compliance, BA could not operate as a commercial airline. Sarah has a lot to do and a lot to know.

Safety wasn’t where Sarah started with BA. She left university with a first class degree in business information management. She had done her industrial placement with BA and when she graduated, the airline asked her to stay on working in distribution and logistics. From there, she handled contracts with caterers around the world. Part of her role involved ensuring food hygiene and the safety of contractors delivering food to aircraft. This is where she first found her passion for safety matters.

From there, she went flying. Sarah wanted more hands on experience of life as a BA cabin crew member. She received intensive training in safety equipment and procedures, put in shifts, delivered safety announcements, served from the trolley, made sure procedures were in place, her operating procedures manuals were up to date and learnt more about the various aircraft.

Although she enjoyed flying, after a few years she decided it wasn’t for her long-term. So she found a new role, linked to catering, ensuring food safety standards were being met at out-stations across the world – places like Nigeria, South Africa and Canada. At the same time, she got her first occupational qualification – a diploma in food hygiene.

Sarah’s interest in safety had grown so much by this time, she began saving up to take the NEBOSH General Certificate. Coincidently, Sarah was given the chance to apply for the role she’s now in. BA sponsors its safety and quality partners to take the General Certificate, so Sarah was able to save up for something else instead.

She took the General Certificate and not only passed, but won the NEBOSH John Locke Award by achieving the highest mark in the year.

Her employers were very proud. She appeared in the BA News magazine. This helped highlight the important role performed by all those working in Sarah’s area. She’s enjoyed the recognition.

Sarah says the NEBOSH Certificate is the “best course I’ve ever done” and that it’s “helped massively in my day-to-day role.” Sarah believes there’s nothing more important than safety. It lies at the heart of her employer’s operation.

Who knows what the future might bring. But whether it’s up in the air, or feet firmly on the ground, it will be all about safety – Sarah’s adamant about that!

How has your NEBOSH qualification helped you? Email us with your story, for possible future publication in the News Update: marketing@nebosh.org.uk
New environmental regulations are outnumbering new health and safety regulations by more than ten to one in the UK.

NEBOSH said that from August 2009 to August 2010 more than 50 new environmental regulations had been introduced in England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland (1). During the same period, just five new health and safety regulations had come into effect (2).

“The legislative framework for environmental management has grown rapidly in recent years, and this has continued over the past 12 months,” said NEBOSH Chief Executive, Teresa Budworth. “Anyone responsible for environmental management where they work has certainly had a lot to deal with when it comes to keeping up with legislation.”

It has been a different story with health and safety regulations, said Teresa: “The few regulations that have been introduced over the past 12 months have either been very minor amendments, or have only affected specific industries.

“It’s been that way for a while now. In fact, there’s been far more emphasis put on simplifying existing health and safety legislation in recent years, instead of introducing new laws.”

However, this has meant little in the way of respite for health and safety managers. Recent research by NEBOSH has shown that more than half of health and safety managers are now responsible for managing environmental issues at work. (3)

Job titles have been changing to reflect this shift in responsibilities, with many Health and Safety Managers now known as ‘Health, Safety & Environmental (HSE) Managers’ or ‘Health, Safety, Environmental and Quality (HSEQ) Managers’. Teresa Budworth added:

“At NEBOSH, we’re now encouraging health and safety managers to enhance the qualifications they already hold with appropriate level environmental qualifications.

“It takes a lot of know-how to manage environmental matters at work and anyone doing so should be able to demonstrate this knowledge to employers, just as with health and safety.”

Further information about NEBOSH qualifications, including the National Certificate in Environmental Management and National Diploma in Environmental Management, can be found on our website www.nebosh.org.uk/qualifications

(1) Source – http://www.netregs.gov.uk/netregs/legislation
(2) Source – http://www.hse.gov.uk/legislation/enforced.htm
(3) Research by NEBOSH (April and May 2010) looking at one hundred job adverts for health and safety management roles. Over half (55%) of the advertised positions mentioned responsibility for environmental management. See www.nebosh.org.uk/News/default.asp?cref=773&cId=2
What’s more deadly: construction work or armed conflict?

As many people are killed on construction sites throughout the world each year as die as a result of armed conflict.

According to the International Labour Organisation (ILO) at least 60,000 people are killed every year on construction sites. That’s around one death every 10 minutes. The industry accounts for almost one in 5 of all fatal workplace accidents. (1)

This death toll in construction is around the same as the number of soldiers and civilians killed through state-based armed conflict each year, over the past decade. (2)

Hundreds of thousands of people worldwide also suffer serious injuries and ill-health through working in construction. The main causes of death and injury are falls, crushes, impacts and electrocution. Common health problems include deafness, musculoskeletal disorders and exposure to hazardous substances such as solvents and asbestos.

To help tackle these problems, NEBOSH has launched a new qualification that will raise standards of health and safety in the worldwide construction industry. The NEBOSH International Certificate in Construction Health and Safety is designed specifically for supervisors and managers working in construction anywhere in the world.

NEBOSH health and safety qualifications are increasingly among the most widely recognised in the world. Almost a third of all NEBOSH examinations are now taken outside of the United Kingdom. The number of overseas NEBOSH candidates rose by 17% last year and growth was particularly strong in Asia, up 76%, and Africa, up 63%.

Much of this growth has emerged through the global construction industry, with many international candidates up until now seeking to achieve the NEBOSH International General Certificate.

However, in Britain there is an industry specific NEBOSH Certificate qualification available for those working in the construction industry – the National Certificate in Construction Health and Safety. NEBOSH has used this highly respected qualification as a framework for its new International Construction Certificate. The new Certificate is based on ILO construction health and safety standards instead of British law, which means it can be applied anywhere.

This makes the new International Certificate in Construction Health and Safety an ideal qualification for managers and supervisors employed by companies outside of the UK, or who work for multinational construction groups.

Teresa Budworth, NEBOSH Chief Executive, commented: “Construction work leads to far too many deaths worldwide every year. We hope our qualification will help to raise health and safety standards wherever the industry operates.

“Our new qualification will equip supervisors and managers with the skills they need to control the major hazards that affect this industry.

“This is a much needed qualification, which I’m sure all safety-conscious employers in construction throughout the world will value.”

More information about the International Certificate in Construction Health and Safety can be found on our website: http://www.nebosh.org.uk/ICC


(2) Source – Peace Research Institute Oslo (PRIO) http://www.prio.no/CSCW/Datasets/Armed-Conflict/Battle-Deaths/The-Battle-Deaths-Dataset-version-30/
NEBOSH speaking more languages

NEBOSH is about to make its new Health and Safety at Work qualification accessible to another 370 million people.

By the end of 2010 the NEBOSH Health and Safety at Work qualification will be available in both Arabic and Russian. Around 224 million people worldwide speak Arabic as a first language, making it the 4th most widely spoken language in the world. Russian is the first language of 146 million people and is ranked 8th in the world. English is the first language of 332 million people and is ranked 3rd after Mandarin Chinese and Spanish.

"It’s NEBOSH’s vision to preserve and improve health, safety and the environment in workplaces worldwide," said NEBOSH Chief Executive Teresa Budworth.

"Although many people speak English throughout the world, we cannot achieve this vision without making our courses and qualifications available in other languages.

“For the Health and Safety at Work qualification we’ve chosen Arabic and Russian as these languages fit well with the international markets being forged by several of our Course Providers.”

Teresa added: “We’re not stopping at Arabic and Russian of course. Mandarin Chinese is spoken by almost 860 million people, around 13% of the world’s population, so this qualification will soon be available in this language also.”

Arabic is an official language in 25 countries. These include countries in the Middle East such as the United Arab Emirates, Saudi Arabia and Qatar, and in North Africa such as Egypt, Algeria and Libya.

While Russian is an official language in only a few countries – Russia and several former Soviet states – there are sizeable Russian speaking communities in many parts of Europe, Asia and other regions of the world.

The NEBOSH Health and Safety at Work qualification is an introductory level international qualification covering practical risk assessment and ways to control common workplace hazards. It is an ideal first step towards other higher level NEBOSH qualifications including NEBOSH’s International General Certificate.

For more information on the Health and Safety at Work qualification or the delivery of courses and examinations in languages other than English, please contact NEBOSH Customer Services on +44 (0)116 2634700 or info@nebosh.org.uk
Potential funding for your course?

We have added a new section to our website to help potential students find out about funding streams for NEBOSH qualifications.

Several course providers have funding available for NEBOSH qualifications. Have a look at www.nebosh.org.uk/funding to find out more, or contact our Customer Services Team on +44 (0)116 263 4700 or info@nebosh.org.uk

SQA accreditation

NEBOSH are planning to have all of our Ofqual accredited qualifications transferred to accreditation with the Scottish Qualifications Authority (SQA) by the end of the year.

Recognition of NEBOSH qualifications by the relevant professional bodies (IOSH, IIRSM, IEMA) will remain unchanged.

Further information on the transition is available through our Customer Services Team on +44 (0)116 263 4700

Looking for an examination venue?

We’ve added a new search facility to our website allowing you to search for Course Providers who will accept examination candidates who studied elsewhere.

You can search for Course Providers that are located close to you by entering your postcode. However, the Course Provider details will show their head office address. You will need to contact them to find out the examination venue and dates that are available.

Many Course Providers hold their examinations at a number of venues around the UK and the rest of the world.

You can find this new search facility in the ‘Where to Study’ section of the NEBOSH website: http://www.nebosh.org.uk/studying/find_an_exam/

Connaught Compliance rebrands as Santia

One of the largest providers of NEBOSH courses worldwide has changed its name.

From 1 December 2010, Connaught Compliance Training Services based in Cardiff, will be known as Santia Training Services Ltd.

Brian Newbury, Technical Director of Santia Training Services explained: “This name change represents the beginning of an exciting new era for the business as a focused specialist standalone company.” He continues: “Our chartered consultants will continue to deliver high quality training with excellent pass rates.”

For more information please visit their website: www.santia-training.co.uk