

Connected Health & Safety

ENHANCES WELLBEING AND PERFORMANCE



TOPICS:

- Health and Wellness
- Ergonomics
- Occupational Hygiene
- Flexible Working
- Implementing a health management system
- The economic case for OSH
- Insurance: rising premiums
- HSA enforcement

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HSR CONFERENCE 2016

Thursday, May 12th – Moran Red Cow Hotel, Naas Road, Dublin



The theme for this year's Health & Safety Review conference – Connected Health and Safety Enhances Wellbeing and Performance – reflects the HSA's view that occupational health is its number one priority, as set out in its new Strategy Statement 2016-2018. This means that HSA inspectors will be focussing their attention on work-related health risks.

The HSA's priority fits within the Government's Healthy Ireland Framework and the proposed Health and Wellbeing (Workplace Wellbeing) Bill.

But an even more important reason to give health priority in the workplace is that work-related ill-health results in more absence from work than workplace injuries, according to the available data. Employers need to address the health issues of the workplace: be they traditional issues like ergonomics and occupational hygiene or the modern issues of flexible work, bullying, harassment, stress, mental health and productivity problems associated with these issues.

Now that the connection is being made between health and safety, it is important to look at how occupational health and safety is managed in the workplace and the consequences of failure to manage. The conference will hear presentations on what can be achieved by putting in place policies to improve performance, but also what can befall organisations who fail to put good policies in place: injuries, illnesses, enforcement action by the HSA and increased insurance premiums.



morning

8.00 **LIGHT BREAKFAST/REGISTRATION**

9.00 **Opening remarks by conference chairperson**

SHARON MCGUINNESS ASSISTANT CHIEF EXECUTIVE,
HEALTH and SAFETY AUTHORITY

9.15 **DR JOHN GALLAGHER** SPECIALIST IN OCCUPATIONAL MEDICINE

Connecting workplace health and safety

Traditionally workplace safety and health programs have functioned in vertical silos without much horizontal integration. Strategically it does not make sense to have unaligned and disconnected functions in the areas of health and safety, wellness, health protection, and occupational health. Workplace wellness programs of the future will connect and integrate occupational safety and health protection with workplace health promotion and disease prevention. John will speak about why it is not an accident that some of the most successful modern companies are recognising that there is a link between safety, health and wellbeing on one hand, and overall costs and productivity on the other.

9.45 **FRANCES WRIGHT** PRINCIPAL OCCUPATIONAL HYGIENIST,
WRIGHT ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

Occupational Hygiene and Your Workers' Health

This presentation will identify and assess chemical and physical agents found in the workplace and the health effects that they can cause. This will be a practical presentation, with examples of assessment methods and control measures for occupational hygiene hazards.

10.15 **SÍOBHRA RUSH** SENIOR ASSOCIATE EMPLOYMENT TEAM,
LEMAN SOLICITORS

Working to Live – what is the legal impact of flexible working on your organisation?

Siobhra will consider the health and safety implications of flexible and new ways of working. Should the introduction of flexible work practices give rise to further obligations on employers from a health & safety perspective? For instance, if your organisation allows home working, or operates in a shared workplace, or seconded employees, what obligations does this give rise to? This discussion will include considerations under the 2005 Act and various regulations/codes of practice, and a common sense approach to a topical issue in today's working world.

10.45 **DISCUSSION FORUM**

Delegates are invited to raise questions, offer opinions and engage in discussions.

11.00 **COFFEE** 

11.30 **ITA LEYDEN** MANAGING DIRECTOR, LEYDEN CONSULTING ENGINEERS (LCE)

Ergonomics in Practice

Ita will give a brief overview of the practical application of ergonomics in both manufacturing and office-based environments. Not only can poor ergonomic design increase the risk of injury and ill-health in the workplace, but it can also contribute to reduced productivity and poor quality. Ita will overview some of the common ergonomic assessment tools which can be used to identify various concerns and, using case studies, will demonstrate the benefits of good ergonomic design.

12.00 **TRUDI McHUGH**, OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH ADVISOR, MICROSOFT

Implement a health management system

Microsoft and Laya Healthcare have pushed the boundaries of a connected health approach that enables Microsoft to empower their employees to lead healthier lives. This presentation will demonstrate how Microsoft connect the right services, people, data, and systems in an innovative way to increase employees' wellbeing and engagement in Microsoft.

12.30 **DISCUSSION FORUM**

Delegates are invited to raise questions, offer opinions and engage in discussions.

12.45 **LUNCH**

afternoon

2.00 **TIM DOWLING**, INSPECTOR, HEALTH AND SAFETY AUTHORITY

What prompts the HSA to take enforcement action?

Tim will speak about HSA inspections, the legislative base and drawing on his observations/experience of inspections, will speak about the types of breaches of legislation/situations encountered that prompt inspectors to issue report of inspections, improvement notices, prohibition notices and even to seek High Court closure orders.

2.45 **JAMES GLEESON** ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR COMMERCIAL UNDERWRITING, ALLIANZ plc

Why liability insurance premiums are rising and how improvements in health and safety management can help manage this business cost

Employers in Ireland have seen sharp increases in both employers' liability and public liability premiums in the past year. The expectation is that this trend will continue. This presentation will provide an in depth insight into the range of issues that have contributed to this shift in the liability insurance market, as well as explaining why more increases are likely to follow. The presentation will then consider the specific areas that business managers and health and safety professionals need to focus on to ensure that effective arrangements are in place for preventing accidents happening, as well as positioning themselves to defend any claim, should one arise.

3.15 **CHRIS MEE**, MANAGING DIRECTOR, THE CHRIS MEE GROUP

The Economic Case for Health and Safety (The Safety Professional's Perspective)

There are several reasons why companies engage in health and safety management. Chris will discuss the economic factors, from his perspective as a safety professional working in the field, that influence the top management of companies to commit to effective health and safety management. In his presentation, Chris will use some case studies that will cover a number of different industries.

3.45 **DISCUSSION FORUM**

Delegates are invited to raise questions, offer opinions and engage in discussions.

4.00 **CHAIRMAN'S CLOSING REMARKS**

4.15 **COFFEE AND PAPERS**



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CONFERENCE FEE: €295 (HSR Subscribers) €345 (Non-Subscribers)

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CONFERENCE CHAIRPERSON SHARON MCGUINNESS ASSISTANT CHIEF EXECUTIVE, HEALTH AND SAFETY AUTHORITY

Dr Sharon McGuinness is an Assistant Chief Executive in the HSA since 2006, where she heads up the Chemicals and Prevention Division and is responsible for leading the Authority's strategic objective on occupational health. Prior to joining the HSA, she worked in government affairs and global chemical regulations for Hewlett-Packard and also in the European Chemicals Bureau as a scientific officer in the work area on classification and labelling. She has held posts in academia and the pharmaceutical sector. She holds a B.Sc. and a Ph.D. in Pharmacology.

about the speakers

TIM DOWLING INSPECTOR, HEALTH AND SAFETY AUTHORITY

Tim holds a BSc (Eng), Dip Eng, C Eng, Dip SHWW. He is a structural engineer and a construction inspector with the HSA. Before joining the Authority in 1997, he worked with an international engineering consultancy on a wide variety of projects, including as senior projects engineer on the Financial Services Centre. Tim was a HSA Representative on the Construction Advisory Committee, the Construction Safety Partnership and the Scaffolding Training and Curriculum Review Committee. He has contributed to the HSA guidance on the Safety, Health and Welfare at Work (Construction) Regulations 2006, the Code of Practice on Roof Work and Guidance on Timber Frame Housing.

DR JOHN GALLAGHER

SPECIALIST IN OCCUPATIONAL MEDICINE

Dr John Gallagher is a specialist in occupational medicine. He graduated in 1985 at University College Cork (UCC), attained his Membership of the Faculty of Occupational Medicine in 1992 and Fellowship in 1997. He completed a Masters degree at the Institute of Occupational Health, University of Birmingham, in 1991 and was the winner of the inaugural John Darwall Prize. He is a Fellow of the Royal College of Physicians of Ireland since 2005. He holds occupational health posts in a number of hospitals. He is a clinical senior lecturer in occupational medicine at UCC and the academic director of the Diploma in Safety, Health & Welfare at Work at UCC. He is also an examiner, trainer and past Dean of the Faculty of Occupational Medicine, Royal College of Physicians of Ireland. He is founder and managing director of Employment Health Advisers Ltd. and a partner with Corporate Health Ireland.

JAMES GLEESON ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR

COMMERCIAL UNDERWRITING, ALLIANZ plc

James Gleeson is a mechanical engineering graduate of Trinity College Dublin with more than 25 years' experience in risk management – he worked with NIFAST for more than 10 years where he started as a health and safety consultant, with his final five years as general manager of the company. He has also worked in the insurance industry for more than 15 years. He is currently associate director of commercial underwriting at Allianz plc, where he has responsibility for the company's commercial underwriting portfolio and reinsurance function.

ITA LEYDEN MANAGING DIRECTOR,
LEYDEN CONSULTING ENGINEERS (LCE)

Ita Leyden B.E., M.Sc., Dip. Em, C.Eng M.IEI, M.IES, C.MIOSH is the managing director of Leyden Consulting Engineers (LCE) – safety, engineering, training and ergonomic consultants. She is a chartered engineer, ergonomist and a chartered member of the Institution

of Occupational Safety and Health (IOSH) and the Association of Consulting Forensic Engineers of Ireland (ACFEI), with over 25 years' experience in the ergonomics, engineering, training and safety fields.

TRUDI McHUGH OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH ADVISOR, MICROSOFT

Trudi McHugh, who is an occupational health nurse, is the occupational health advisor and clinical lead within Microsoft. Having graduated from UCD in 2004, Trudi holds Higher Diplomas in both Occupational Health and Employment Law. Trudi has over 18 years' experience working in various OH settings, including over 10 years within large global multinational corporations. She works within the occupational health and EHS global and national teams implementing and delivering a service that is business and employee focused.

CHRIS MEE MANAGING DIRECTOR, THE CHRIS MEE GROUP

Chris qualified as a marine engineer in 1981 and has many years experience working on oil tankers and oil rigs globally ever since. In 1990 he joined Angus Fine Chemicals in Ireland as their occupational safety manager. In 1992 he started work with Sandoz Ringaskiddy (now Novartis) as the construction safety manager. He subsequently joined Intel for several years working as a senior safety engineer before setting up Chris Mee Safety Engineering (CMSE) in Nov 1996. CMSE was set up as a specialist health and safety consultancy with an emphasis on engineering and process solutions. The company is now entering its 20th year of trading and attributes its success to practical solutions and adding value for clients. The company has "bolted on" many safety services over the years including training, recruitment, fire and other related services. Chris set up Carbon Action in the United Kingdom in 2007. Carbon Action is a specialist provider of energy and carbon emissions services globally. CMSE and Carbon Action came together in 2010 to become The Chris Mee Group.

SIÓBHRA RUSH SENIOR ASSOCIATE EMPLOYMENT TEAM,
LEMAN SOLICITORS

Siobhra is a senior associate in the employment team at Leman solicitors, which she joined from Matheson, where she worked for over 11 years. In addition to an expertise in employment law, she has specialist expertise in health and safety law, and was formerly an advisor to the HSA. Siobhra is a founder member of the Health and Safety Lawyers Association of Ireland and is an active committee member.

FRANCES WRIGHT PRINCIPAL OCCUPATIONAL HYGIENIST,
WRIGHT ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

Frances Wright (LFOH, BSc, Pg Dip Env, Dip SHWW) is the principal occupational hygienist and principal of Wright Environmental Services. She has over 12 years' industry experience in the area of environmental health and safety. She is a past president of the Occupational Hygiene Society of Ireland and a licentiate member of the British occupational hygiene society. Frances is a regular guest lecturer to UCD and Sligo IT in the areas of occupational hygiene and environmental protection.