

News Update



August 2011

success is no accident

Driving? Check Your Vehicle

Safe drivers deserve safe vehicles

Dangerous vehicles kill. There are essential checks that everyone must carry out on their vehicle. Defects such as bald tyres, defective brakes and lights that don't work are common. The consequence is sometimes death and serious injury. So...

Clean windows, mirrors, and lights

Carry washer fluid, glass cleaner, de-icer, cloths and ice scraper. Replace wind-screen wipers if worn.



Check tyre pressures

When the tyres are cold check the pressures once a week. Your vehicle's hand-book will tell you the right pressure. (**Don't forget the spare!**).

Check tyre tread once a month

If you are a high mileage driver, check your tyre tread more frequently.

Warning lights

After you start your vehicle, warning lights should go off. If a light stays on, do not drive.

The annual "MOT"

This is a legal requirement for all vehicles except new ones. It is also important to service your vehicle according to the manufacturer's guidelines - it will retain its value better and ensure it is safe.

Lorries and buses

Drivers of these vehicles should carry out additional daily checks.

Information Watch

Title/Subject	Progress	Refer
Pipelines safety regulations 1996 amendments	The Pipelines Safety Regulations (PSR) 1996 provide for the management of pipeline safety and apply to all pipelines in Great Britain and to all pipelines in territorial waters and the UK Continental Shelf. Full amendments of these regulations can be found on the HSE website.	ed@courtley.com
The Docks (Amendment) Regulation 2011	To remove the requirement of a certificate confirming the safety of a vessel to transport a person at work to or from any working place in dock premises.	dean@courtley.com
Legislative Reform (Contained Use of Animal Pathogens) Order 2010 (LRO)	The legal reform order will extend the general purposes in HSWA to protecting against risks to animal health arising from work with animal pathogens.	graham@courtley.com

Notice Board



We have loads of FREE training available to our members, which should really be taken advantage of! Visit the 'Free* Training' page on our recently polished website and see what we have to offer. Also, remember to let us know what training you're interested in for future schedules.

SMSTS Refresher

24 & 25 October
21 & 22 December

PASMA

PASMA
Mobile Tower
Training
21 Sept
3 October

SSSTS

30 & 31 August
27 & 28 September

Health &
Safety
Awareness

11 October
19 December

Check out our new
training calendar on
the website:
www.courtley.com

SMSTS

29 Sept–27 Oct
9 Nov–7 Dec
2 Dec–30 Dec

PAT Requirements

Q

What are the legal requirements for a member of staff who wants to bring their own piece of electrical equipment into work e.g. kettles, toasters?

A

In accordance with HSE guidelines, you should ideally not permit members of staff to bring in their own pieces of electrical equipment. However, this is sometimes difficult to prevent. Therefore, you may need to include the equipment in a visual inspection test as you would with the other portable electrical appliances.

For further guidance read 'Maintaining a portable electrical equipment in offices and other low-risk environments' at www.hse.gov.uk/bubns/indg236.pdf.

Work Regulations 1989 states: "As may be necessary to prevent, so far as is reasonably practicable, such danger". If you have any doubts about electrical equipment brought in by staff, simply inform them to take it home.

HAV Screening Compliance

Q

We are currently undertaking a health survey which includes hand-arm vibration (HAV). We have sent out a questionnaire to all employees listed as 'at risk' to see who requires further tests, but some are refusing to complete the questionnaire. What should I do?

A

The Health and Safety At Work, etc Act 1974 requires employees to comply with their employer's duties to reduce the risks to the health and safety of employees and others who may be affected by work activity. Therefore, refusing to complete the questionnaire is breaching their legal duty.

We would recommend that you give appropriate information about health the surveillance programme and the reasoning behind the scheme to encourage their full co-operation.