

## Invensys OSHE Bulletin

During a routine inspection of a Construction Site, a HSE Inspector came across an operative using a Stihl saw to remove some tarmac in preparation of some kerb stone installation.

The operative was not using any breathing protection against the dust generated and did not use any water to suppress the dust arising. The inspector asked to see the PPE issued to the operative and his competencies, including CSCS card and NVQ qualification. The inspector determined that the operative was 'deemed suitably competent' and therefore should have known all necessary precautions to take before starting the task.

A prohibition notice was issued to the individual (and not the employing company) as the inspector deemed the operative was in breach of the Health & Safety at Work Act 1974 (section 7).

The prohibition notice lasts for 5 years against the operative. If within that time, the operative is seen/reported carrying out the task without correct precautionary measures, then he will be prosecuted in court.

Key messages:

- In what is widely believed to be the first issue of a prohibition notice by the HSE on any individual, it shows the law can be applied to any individual rather than an employing company. Section 7 requires you to take reasonable care for the Health & Safety of yourself and of others who may be affected by your work.
- You are supplied with all the necessary PPE to enable you to do your job safely as defined in the task/daily activity briefing. Please ensure that you use it correctly for your own safety.

## Machine/Crane Controllers Competency Counterpart

During recent On Track Plant site compliance visits, a review was carried on the competency certificates of machine and crane controllers. It was identified during these visits that a number of Machine/Crane controllers failed to produce their competency counterpart due to not having them on site or on their person at that time.

It is a mandatory requirement that all Machine/Crane controllers carry their counterparts certification with them at all times, either in person or in the vehicle that they are travelling in. They must be able to produce this certification on request.

Please remember: competency certificates also forms part of the machine/crane controller check lists and is required to be shown to the machine operator they are working with at that time. Failure to produce the documents will result in the Machine/Crane controller being refused in undertaking the duties of the Machine/Crane controller.

## Crossrail Health & Safety Alert

Operators and inspectors of lifting equipment are reminded to:

- Undertake statutory inspections at appropriate intervals.
- Undertake daily (visual) inspections in line with the manufacturers guidance.
- Ensure that the 'inspector' has the relevant competencies to sentence the equipment.
- Increase the frequency of inspections if site conditions can contribute to the deterioration of the lifting equipment.
- Report defects immediately; quarantine the item pending repair or disposal.
- Ensure inspections are recorded.

## Network Rail Notice

Further to a number of accidents involving eye injuries Network Rail have been reviewing their position with regard to the wearing of Safety Glasses when at work. Further to extensive trials and consultation with their own direct labour across Infrastructure Maintenance they have taken the decision to mandate the wearing of eye protection on all maintenance work sites with effect from June 1st 2011.

Please be advised that for consistency of approach and recognising the health and safety at work of contingent labour, they expect all labour working under the control of an Infrastructure Maintenance Team Leader to have eye protection available and worn at all times, unless agreed in advance with the Team Leader that site specific conditions or tasks have been suitably and sufficiently risk assessed and deemed to be safer undertaken without the wearing of eye protection. All glasses provided must comply with EN166 and of optical class 1 and impact resistance F.