Welcome to this issue of IOSHinfo, our quarterly review. IOSHinfo is designed as a five-minute round-up for busy people, giving you a quick overview of IOSH’s headline news and information from the last three months. If you want to know more, just click on the links or drop us a line at info@iosh.co.uk

Sharing knowledge on a world stage

In August IOSH joined over 4,000 health and safety professionals at the 20th World Congress on Safety and Health at Work in Frankfurt. IOSH representatives gave presentations and took key roles in debates and discussions. An exhibition displayed IOSH-funded research projects.

Construction consultation concludes

IOSH is pleased that, with the conclusion of a public consultation on revising the Construction (Design and Management) Regulations 2007 (CDM), some concerns in the proposals are being addressed. There is a need for more clarity and guidance on the key issue of competence, and to retain a shorter approved code of practice. IOSH wants to continue working with the Health and Safety Executive and industry on guidance materials and to ensure that the new Principal Designer role works well, so that improvements in construction health and safety performance can be achieved by the new CDM2015.

New OSH network to inform policy-making

Following IOSH calls for greater involvement of the occupational safety and health profession in EU policy development, the EC has committed to establishing a new network of OSH professionals and scientists. Such a network could help ensure that development and implementation of, for example, the EU Strategic Framework on Health and Safety at Work is kept well-informed on key issues. IOSH has already registered its interest.

New deal with NZ

IOSH’s new Memorandum of Understanding with the New Zealand Institute of Safety Management pledges mutual recognition and co-operation on professional, membership development and more.

More information at:
www.iosh.co.uk/nzcollaboration

Mary Ogungbeje, Research and Development Adviser, leads a debate on psychosocial risks
Managing Safely: from Falklands to Cambodia

A reunion between two Falklands War veterans has led to IOSH’s flagship Managing Safely course being taught in Cambodia for the first time. Stephen Bradley and Darren Brunton had served together in 1982. Thirty years later, Darren was Managing Director of a safety training company and Chair of IOSH’s Singapore Branch. Stephen had been clearing landmines in Cambodia. They recognised the need to improve occupational health and safety awareness and practice there – and Managing Safely offered the perfect package. Find out more at: www.iosh.co.uk/cambodiamanagingsafely

Health and safety can produce profits

At IOSH’s Ireland Branch annual conference, the theme ‘Working together for risk prevention – bring your boss’ highlighted why employers should view health and safety as a business benefit rather than a drag on profits. Around 100 delegates heard about IOSH’s Life Savings campaign – which shows how Irish businesses have saved money, boosted productivity and increased efficiencies by intelligent investment in health and safety.

IOSH Hong Kong ready for Asia take-off

After a decade of lobbying by representatives from both IOSH Hong Kong and IOSH’s senior leadership, the Asia-Pacific Occupational Safety and Health Organization (APOSFO) has approved the branch’s application to become a full member, at its annual conference in Thailand. This should expand IOSH’s reach and influence across the region. The Branch could now be in line to be the official 2018 conference organisers for APOSFO, the major Asian health and safety collective. More information: www.iosh.co.uk/hk_aposho

In Parliament

- The Deregulation Bill is now in the Lords, where proposals to exempt certain self-employed workers from health and safety law have again been roundly criticised. One Peer, Baroness Donaghy, has argued that IOSH “deserved to be listened to”
- IOSH supported the Government’s new Social Action, Responsibility and Heroism Bill (the so-called ‘Good Samaritan Act’) which aims to ensure social benefit is considered by claims courts. IOSH supports Government plans to encourage positive volunteering and greater public spirit
- In Scotland, Sarah Boyack MSP led a debate one year after the Rana Plaza disaster, the Scottish Government saying that such a tragedy must never recur. This resolve echoes IOSH’s recent Bangladesh roundtable debate and follow-up actions. IOSH has recently met with the Chair of the All Party Parliamentary Group on India to discuss recent building collapses there

Most trainees came from a landmine clearance background, but also included a company director and consultants in security and management training
Leading good practice in health and safety

The theme of IOSH’s two-day annual conference at ExCeL London in June was ‘Inspiring leadership’. It explored how safety leadership affects employee health and wellbeing and influences employee behaviour and engagement. Delegates were invited to record short videos responding to the theme. Dr James Thornhill’s winning entry quoted Napoleon Bonaparte’s view that a good leader is somebody who defines reality and plots a course with clear goals. Dr Thornhill’s prize was a masterclass-style training and development session.

Joining forces on CSR

Following its successful multi-stakeholder debate on ethics and sustainability, IOSH continues to promote health and safety in corporate social responsibility (CSR). There have been meetings with the Chartered Institute of Purchasing and Supply and the new professional body, the Institute of Corporate Responsibility and Sustainability. IOSH is also liaising with the US Co-ordinator for ‘OSH volunteering’ in Bangladesh and has registered its interest in taking part in the forthcoming Brussels stakeholder workshop, which will help inform Europe’s CSR strategy to 2020.

Move more

IOSH has published a research study commissioned from the University of Derby, addressing regular screen breaks for office workers. The research found that simple strategies to change posture can reduce the risk of musculoskeletal disorders.

For further details, see: www.iosh.co.uk/News/IOSH-Study.aspx

Guides to cut injuries

IOSH and the National Hairdressers’ Federation have co-published health and safety guides for barbers and hairdressers. The guides aim to give straightforward information, practical tips and comment on vital health and safety laws such as the importance of the right facilities, the correct plan for first aid and ill health in the workplace, employee liability insurance and risk management.

Find out more at: www.iosh.co.uk/News/Hairdressing.aspx

New to IOSH Council

Well done to Council’s 12 newly-elected members: Anthony Philip Baker, Ciarán Delaney, Craig Foyle, Malcolm Fryer, Julian Hunter, Stephen Jones, Chi Sing Lam, Michelle Muxworthy, Liz Skelton, David Thomas, Richard Tse and Nicholas Wilson

Over 1,000 people visited the IOSH stand at the conference, co-organised with Safety and Health Expo for the first time – with 80 speakers and 36 themed sessions.
Defibrillators, definitely

IOSH has backed a campaign to increase the number of defibrillators in London’s businesses. London Ambulance Service’s Shockingly Easy campaign is pushing to have an extra 1,000 defibrillators right across the capital. IOSH’s own recently-conducted survey found that only 49 per cent of 1,000 UK business decision-makers had a defibrillator in their workplace.

More information at:
www.iosh.co.uk/defibrillatorscampaign

A first in Brunei

IOSH has hosted an event in Brunei for the first time. More than 40 health and safety practitioners learned how IOSH could support their work and professional development. The August event was organised by IOSH's Singapore Branch, attracting professionals from the public and private sectors.

More details at:

Still enough time to enter rail awards

IOSH’s Railway Group is looking for inspiring case studies of advances in employee health and wellbeing in the industry. Martin Leeks, Railway Group Chair, says: “We wish to promote changing the workplace from the one you found to the one you’d like to go to.” Individual or team entries must demonstrate outputs such as measurable benefits, impact, sustainability and transferability. Prizes include a free place at November’s rail industry conference and dinner at a top London restaurant. The deadline for applications is 26 September.

More information from:
www.iosh.co.uk/railaward

In the news

- Research and Information Services Manager, Jane White, gave an opinion piece to the Leicester Mercury on the subject of investing in health and safety.
- Head of Policy and Public Affairs, Richard Jones, was interviewed by BBC Radio 3 for the programme Production-Line Living.
- Across the summer, IOSH urged for more awareness of the dangers for children on farms, with stories running in the South West Farmer, Midlands Farmer, Three Counties Farmer and farminguk.com.
- Seoul Times covered a visit to IOSH from members of the Korea Occupational Safety and Health Agency (KOSHA).
- IOSH received extended coverage in the East Midlands area, including the Nottingham Post, during the build-up to the National Safety Symposium 2014 in Nottingham.

Read the latest coverage at
www.iosh.co.uk/News.aspx

Less than half of business decision-makers surveyed by IOSH had a defibrillator.