

# STOP & THINK

## Week 4 – Corporate Manslaughter Act 2007



The linked article is very interesting.

[New Civil Engineer](#) 17 Feb 2011 [Geotechnical – Trial pit death firm found guilty of corporate killing](#)

The HSE outlines “*The Corporate Manslaughter and Corporate Homicide Act 2007 is a landmark in law. For the first time, companies and organisations can be found guilty of corporate manslaughter as a result of serious management failures resulting in a gross breach of a duty of care.*” It continues “*Prosecutions will be of the corporate body and not individuals, but the liability of directors, board members or other individuals under health and safety law or general criminal law, will be unaffected. And the corporate body itself and individuals can still be prosecuted for separate health and safety offences.*”

When reading the article try to focus on it more from the Act perspective as opposed to the geotechnical aspect.

For further information:

**HSE**

<http://www.hse.gov.uk/corpmanslaughter/index.htm>

**A question or two to get you thinking!**

Does this affect us as designers?