

Health and Safety Responsibilities

Health and safety can seem a bit of a joke sometimes. We've all seen the stories; goggles for conkers, safety helmets for acrobats.

Do you know anyone who has been injured on a construction site? No? You're fortunate.

About 60 people will die on sites in the UK this year. Many more suffer major injuries and even more die or suffer from ill-health such as silicosis, asbestosis or loss of hearing.

Not such a joke then? Are you responsible?

We All Are

- **You** have a duty to take reasonable care of your own health and safety whilst at work.
- **You** also have a duty towards the health and safety of the people you work with and members of the public where applicable.
- **When** protective clothing and/or equipment is issued for your use then **wear** and use it as instructed.
- **Play** your part in keeping the site **safe and tidy**.
- **Watch** out for any warning notices and **obey** the warnings given.
- **Do not** take short cuts, use the access and walkways provided.
- **Always** be alert if you are working in the vicinity of mobile plant.
- **Never** attempt to operate a machine unless you have been trained and authorised to do so.
- **Never** ride on machines that have no passenger seat fitted. It is illegal.
- **Never** interfere with ladders or alter scaffolding or move boards unless you are properly authorised to do so.
- **Never** throw anything from scaffolding or any height. Lower it in a safe manner.
- **Do not** lift objects or materials that are too heavy for you. Obtain assistance when necessary or you will probably regret it later on.
- **Keep** your work areas tidy and stack materials safely.
- **Report** any defects or damage to any equipment, plant or tools, or any other unsafe circumstances, to your Supervisor or IPS staff at once.
- **Report** all accidents involving injury, however slight, to your supervisor. Details of all accidents must be entered in the Accident Book held in your company's site office and in Interserve Project Services site offices.
- You must **comply** with instructions given to you by your site manager or supervisor.

Questions:

- 1 Who has responsibility for your Health and Safety?
- 2 Who may operate plant and machinery?
- 3 What action do you take if there is an accident involving injury?

Remember:

**There's no such thing as an accident.
Someone, somewhere did something to cause it.**

Further Information:- CIP Manual, Section O