A Health and Safety Timeline

Contents

A Health and Safety Timeline

1800s

Factory Act 1802

Act for the" preservation of the Health and Morals of Apprentices and others employed in Cotton and other Mills, and Cotton and other Factories". This is the first Act of the UK Parliament intended to protect the welfare of people at work.

Towards the end of the 18th century the increasing pace of industrial revolution and its concentration of labour in factories and mills utilising powered technology had brought with it growing publicity about the conditions of those – in particular children) employed in such establishment.

Sir Robert Peel introduced the Bill in 1802, passed the same year with little or no opposition, largely in consequence of the revelations of the abuse of children in textile mills. The Act was directed to the due cleansing of such premises by two washings with quicklime yearly, to the admission of fresh air by means of a sufficient number of windows, and to the yearly supply to every apprentice of sufficient and suitable clothing and sleeping accommodation (not more than two to a bed). The pauper apprentices were prohibited from night work, and their labour limited to 12 hours in a day. Most importantly the Act provided that the apprentices should be instructed in reading, writing, arithmetic and the principles of the Christian religion and that those who were members of the Church of England should be examined annually by a clergyman, and be prepared at the proper age for confirmation.

The Magistrates were to appoint two inspectors from amongst themselves (one being a clergyman) to visit factories and mills annually and such premises in the locality were to be registered with the Clerk to the Justices.

1819, 1825, 1831

These pieces of legislation were intended to fortify the 1802 Act, which was widely evaded. The 1831 Act imposed a maximum 12 hour day for all young persons in cotton mills. It too was evaded.

Factories Act 1833

Pressure from the "Ten Hours Movement" resulted in this Act. The Act whilst maintaining a 12 hour day for all young persons, was extended to woollen and linen mills. Most significantly, in order to prevent further evasion, it provided for enforcement by Government appointed inspectors. Four inspectors were initially appointed. The Act gave them powers of entry, power to make regulations, and the enforcement powers of the Magistrates.

HM Factory Inspectorate formed 1833

The first factory inspectors were appointed under the provisions of the Factories Act 1833. Initially their main duty was to prevent injury and overworking in child textile workers. The four inspectors were responsible for approximately 3,000 textile mills and

had powers to enter mills and question workers. They were also able to formulate new regulations and laws to ensure the Factories Act could be suitably enforced.

Despite serious opposition from contemporary politicians and employers, the factory inspectors were enthusiastic and were able to influence subsequent legislation relating to machinery guarding and accident reporting. By 1868 there were 35 inspectors and sub-inspectors, each responsible for a distinct geographical area.

Changes to legislation during the period 1860 to 1871 extended the Factories Act to practically all workplaces and the inspectors took on the role of technical advisers in addition to their enforcement duties. Major technological developments, world wars and the changing nature of employment have provided a constant challenge to factory inspectors over subsequent years.

1837

The case of Priestley v. Fowler (1837) appeared to established for the first time that an employer owed, in common law, a duty of care to his employee which was actionable by the employee if breach resulted in injury.

1840

Royal Commission established to investigate working conditions into the Mining Industry. The Commission's findings published in 1842 made shocking reading. Accidents, brutality, lung diseases, long hours and highly dangerous and adverse working conditions were found to be the norm. Public outcry resulted and the Mines Act 1842 was brought into force.

Coal Mines Act 1842

This Act prohibited the women and children from underground work. The radical nature of this measure undoubtedly eased the way for the milder Factories Act of 1844. The 1842 Mines Act allowed for the appointment of an inspector of mines and collieries and the first inspector, Hugh Seymour Tremenheere took up his post in 1843. Tremenheere had only limited powers under the Act but undertook many prosecutions, investigated the condition of the mining community and made recommendations for training managers, reporting of fatal and serious accidents and provision of pithead baths and suitable habitation for mine workers.

Factories Act 1844

This required safeguarding of mill gearing and prohibited the cleaning of machinery in motion.

1844 to 1856

A Health and Safety Timeline

Between 1844 and 1856 a succession of seven factory statues and subordinate regulations provided for the safety of children young person and women, including provision for the fencing of machinery, hours, mealtimes and holidays.

Factories Act 1847

Also known as the Ten Hours Act. Stipulated that as of 1 July 1847, women and children between the ages of 13 and 18 could work only 63 hours per week.

Coal Mines Inspection Act 1850

This act together with the Factories Act 1844 were significant in giving the Home Secretary power to award part of any fine imposed on an employer to a worker injured by the criminal breach. This form of compensation was not used extensively and fell into virtual disuse by the end of the century, being finally abolished in 1959. Inspectors were now allowed to enter and inspect mine premises, Tremenheere's plans for a dedicated mining inspectorate began to be realised.

Factories Act 1856

Under pressure from factory owners the 1856, the Act relaxed some of the requirements of the 1844 Act. It redefined the workday which had been established under the Factory Acts of 1844 and 1847. No longer could employers decide the hours of work. The workday was changed to correspond with the maximum number of hours that women and children could work. The act included the following provisions: Children and women could only work from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. in the summer and 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. in the winter. All work would end on Saturday at 2 p.m. The work week was extended from 58 hours to 60 hours. Hours of work for ages 9 to 18 was changed to 10 hours night and day.

1864, 1867

Specified non-textile factories, including pottery, match-making, foundries, blast furnaces, copper mills and all manufacturing processes employing more than 50 people, and workshops were subjected to some of the statutory requirements.

Mines Act 1872

This provided for the imprisonment as a penal sanction, a means of enforcement continued in the subsequent mines statutes, but not extended for a hundred years to other legislation which relied on fines as the penal sanction.

Explosives Act 1875

This Act introduced a system for the licensing and regulation of factories for the production of gunpowder and other explosives. This was superseded by the Explosives Act 1923.

Factory and Workshop Act 1878

This Act brought all the previous Acts together in one consolidation. This Act may be said to be the first attempt at comprehensive factory legislation. Now the Factory Code applied to all trades. No child anywhere under the age of 10 was to be employed and compulsory education for children up to 10 years old was established. 10–14 year olds could only be employed for half days. Women were to work no more than 56 hours per week.

Threshing Machines Act 1878

First legislative steps directed towards safety in agriculture.

Employers' Liability Act 1880

The Employers' Liability Act extended protection to workers concerning accidents caused by the negligence of managers, superintendents and foremen. Railway companies were also made liable when their employees were injured through the negligence of signalmen, drivers and pointsmen. However, the act did not protect employees against accidents caused by fellow workers.

Factory Act 1891

Made the requirements for fencing machinery more stringent. Under the heading Conditions of Employment were two considerable additions to previous legislation: the first is the prohibition on employers to employ women within four weeks after confinement; the second the raising the minimum age at which a child can be set to work from ten to eleven.

1893 - The first women factory inspector were appointed

The Factory Inspectorate was formed in 1833 and for the first 60 years it employed only male inspectors. Alexander Redgrave, the Chief Inspector of Factories was opposed to the idea of women inspectors, saying in his 1879 annual report:

I doubt very much whether the office of factory inspector is one suitable for women... The general and multifarious duties of an inspector of factories would really be incompatible with the gentle and home-loving character of a woman...

After several years of campaigning by the Women's Protective and Provident League, the London Women's Trades Council and others and amid growing support in Parliament, the first "Lady Inspectors", May Abraham and Mary Paterson were appointed in 1893. They were based in London and Glasgow respectively and earned an annual salary of £200. Much of their early work involved enforcing the Truck Acts, investigating women's hours of employment and enforcing health and safety in laundries.

1895 - The Quarry Inspectorate formed

A HEALTH AND SAFETY TIMELINE

Prior to the Quarries Act 1894, the only quarries that factory inspectors were responsible for inspecting were quarries using steam power. The introduction of the Quarries Act 1894 extended the powers of the Metalliferous Mines Regulation Act 1872 to give inspectors the power to enforce provisions of notifying accidents, undertake prosecutions and make Special Rules. This lead to the establishment of the Quarry Inspectorate.

1897 - Chaff-Cutting Machines (Accidents) Act 1897

Despite the increasing mechanization of the industry, workers in agriculture enjoyed no statutory protection save in the limited area covered by this Act and the Threshing Machines Act 1878, since the Factories Acts did not apply.

Workman's Compensation Act 1897

Introduced scale payments by employers to employees in certain industries who suffered injury "arising out of and in the course of employment".

A HEALTH AND SAFETY TIMELINE

1900 - 1945

Factory and Workshop Act 1901

A fresh attempt at the rationalisation of factory legislation. It was followed by a series of detail regulations, many still in force. (*May alter after the 2011 Lofstedt review of legislation*). This Act remained the principal statute for the regulation of factories until its repeal by the Factories Act 1937.

Mines Act 1911

This comprehensive Act following earlier comprehensive legislation in 1872 and 1888.

1917

There was a call to license all drivers and restrict the age of drivers. Accident data was collected. Three children's safety competitions were run involving 57,000 pupils.

A railway safety committee was established. A safe driving competition was also established for professional drivers employed by firms in the Greater London area. A campaign to change the pedestrian rule so that walkers faced oncoming traffic was so successful that fatal accidents caused by pedestrians stepping into the path of vehicles fell by 70 per cent in 12 months. 5,000 copies of *Hints to Drivers* poster were printed; Industrial "Safety First" committee was established known as "London Safety First Council".

1918

A conference at Mansion House, London under the auspices of the London Safety First Council led to the establishment of the British Industrial Safety First Association (BISFA) to tackle workplace safety on a national scale. Statistics for 1913 showed that 3,748 death and 476,920 disablement claims had been paid, an increase of 25 per cent on the preceding year. Absorbing demobilised men back into the workforce was proving difficult. 611 people were killed in accidents on the streets of London, a decrease of eight per cent on the previous year.

1919

Cinema films promoting work safety were made. Five Government departments sat on the British Industrial Safety First Association (BISFA) Council. The safety education of drivers and children was made a priority. Meritorious Service Awards were made to various brave men, three of whom stopped runaway horses, one man dying in the attempt. A railway strike led to a 10 per cent increase in road accidents.

1920

The London Safety First Council introduced a 'Think Safety' campaign to deal with the one-and-a-half million new motorists who took to the road following the end of the War. HRH The Duke of York became president of the council. A compulsory code of road signals was introduced. The council called for left-hand drive vehicles to be

banned from Britain's roads. Nottingham set up a local "Safety First" organisation. Pressure began to build for a national "Safety First" movement. The first British "Safety First" convention was held by British Industrial Safety First Association (BISFA). Delectaland of Watford held a safety week, the first time the idea had been tried in Britain.

1921

Entries for the school children's essay competition topped 100,000. Traffic increased greatly in the suburbs of London.

Railway accidents claimed 991 lives. The London Safety First Council called on the police to collect accident data and publish their findings.

1922

First safety group established in Sheffield. BISFA planned a "safety first" campaign in the coal mines. Local area committees began to be established in the major cities. The London "Safety First" Council called for the marking of recognised road crossing places, the improvement of street lighting and the reduction of glare from motor headlights.

Explosives Act 1923

This superseded the Explosives Act 1875.

The National "Safety First" Association was formed with both the London Safety First Council and BISFA affiliated to it. The organisations moved to shared offices preparatory to merging into the new association. The Duke of York became the patron of the London Safety First Council when his presidency ended. There was a welcome decrease in deaths on the railways.

1924

The National "Safety First" Association began operations. Two reports about dockyard safety called for the introduction of "Safety First" principles as essential to reducing accidents. A Safety Code for Road Users was published; half a million copies were distributed. The London Safety First Council continued its work in the capital while new branches of the National "Safety First" Association were set up all over England.

1925

The insurance industry refused to support the National "Safety First" Association. One company said it would not do so because "as the number of accidents is reduced, claim ratios become more favourable and premiums charged to the public have to be reduced." They could not finance an association "which by its activities enables the public to obtain these lower premiums." Thought was given to whether the phrase "safety first" should be changed to "accident prevention" as a better reflection of the work.

A HEALTH AND SAFETY TIMELINE

Lead Paint (Protection against Poisoning) Act 1926

This was repealed and replaced by the Factories Act 1961.

The Duke of York became patron of the National "Safety First" Association and his first act was to appeal for more funds for the organisation. A small stand was taken at the Motor Show for the first time. More than two million safe driving leaflets were issued with driving licences.

1927

A new pamphlet on the safe use of abrasive wheels was published. The Road Fellowship League was set up for all road users. Members had to sign a pledge to conform to the Code of the League. The first Road Fellowship films were made. The London Safety First Council decided to become an area council of the National "Safety First" Association.

1928

More than 250,000 schoolchildren wrote essays in safety first competitions. More than 10,000 children attended a series of film lectures about avoiding accidents.

A deputation visited the Minister of Transport to demand action on six issues: accident causation analysis; provision of footpaths; priority at road intersections; mechanical efficiency of vehicles; knowledge of rules of the road; dazzle.

1929

Coroners co-operated in research into the primary causes of 2,194 road deaths in the last six months of the year. A third safety engineer was employed to assist industrial members in works accident prevention. The National "Safety First" Association gave evidence to the Royal Commission on Transport and was warmly commended for its work. The association applied to the Government for a grant to aid its work but was turned down.

1930 - Birmingham Industrial Safety Group founded

1933 - Coal Mines Reorganisation Commission: Report to the Secretary for Mines

London: His Majesty's Stationery Office, 1933 Cmd. (Great Britain. Parliament), 4468. Chairman: Sir Ernest Arthur Gowers (1886-1966)

1936

Employment of Women and Young Persons Act 1936

This was repealed and replaced by the Factories Act 1961.

A HEALTH AND SAFETY TIMELINE

1937

Factories Act 1937

Repealed and replaced the Factory and Workshops Act 1901 to 1929. This Act provided, for the first time, a comprehensive code for safety, health and welfare applicable to all factories alike irrespective of whether they were textile or non-textile factories and whether mechanical power was used or not.

The Factories Act 1937 was amended by the Factories Acts 1948 and 1959 and these in turn were repealed and replaced by the Factories Act 1961.

1940

Safety First Movement

Safety First Movement taken into the Ministry of Labour to help with safety in war production.

1941

Formation of the Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents (RoSPA)

A HEALTH AND SAFETY TIMELINE

1946 - 1969

1947 - Closing Hours of Shops: Report by a Committee of Enquiry

London: His Majesty's Stationery Office, 1947 Cmd. (Great Britain. Parliament), 7105. Chairman: Sir Ernest Arthur Gowers (1886-1966)

1947 - Health, Welfare, and Safety in Non-Industrial Employment Hours of Employment of Juveniles: Report by a Committee of Enquiry

Presented to Parliament by the Secretary of State for the Home Department and the Secretary of State for Scotland, etc. London: His Majesty's Stationery Office, 1947 Cmd. (Great Britain. Parliament), March 1949 (Cmd 7664) Chairman: Sir Ernest Arthur Gowers (1886-1966)

Recommended that safety, health and welfare legislation should be extended over a wide field of non-industrial employment including agriculture. The Agriculture (Poisonous Substances) Act 1952 and the Agriculture (Safety, Health and Welfare Provisions) Act 1956 were two of the results. See below for details.

Agriculture (Poisonous Substances) Act 1952

Established the framework for the issuing of regulations concerning poisonous substances used in agriculture. Contents: protection of employees against risks of poisoning; duties of employees; inspectors; offences and penalties; provisions of samples. Substances to which this Law applied: dinitrophenols and their salts; dinitro-substituted phenols and their salts; organophosphorus compounds; other substances judged dangerous by the authorities. Repealed by S.I. 1996/3022.

Mines and Quarries Act 1954

This Act imposed the most extensive safety regime in any industry. It extended not only regulation in relation to equipment, places, access, egress, processes, specific hazards and methods of working but also laid statutory duties on mine managers; required pit deputies to make inspections, gave workmen's inspectors power of inspection, and extended the functions of the Inspectors of Mines.

Agriculture (Safety, Health and Welfare Provisions) Act 1956

This Act introduced comprehensive health protection and safeguards for agricultural workers and for children who may come into contact with agricultural machinery, equipment or vehicles. It prohibited the lifting of excessive weights, outlined the general provisions that must be made for sanitary conveniences and washing facilities and stipulated requirements for first aid provision.

The Act also laid down requirements for the notification and investigation of accidents and diseases. It was instrumental in appointing a number of inspectors with the powers to enter agricultural premises and enforce the Act. Repealed by

A HEALTH AND SAFETY TIMELINE

Agriculture (Safety, Health and Welfare Provisions) Act 1956 (Repeals and Modifications) Regulations 1975 – S.I. 1975 No. 46

1956 - Industrial Accident Prevention: A report of the National Joint Advisory Council, Industrial Safety Sub Committee

The National Joint Advisory Council, Industrial Safety Sub Committee was appointed mid-1954 to examine problems of accidents at work to workers in factories and others subjected to the Factories Acts. The report makes a number of recommendations regarding research, education in universities, colleges and schools, further training, information and advice that was available at the time. It looks at the work of the Factory Inspectorate.

1957 - Major incident at the Windscale nuclear site

The investigation into this major incident at the Windscale nuclear site on 8 October 1957 lead to a recommendation from the United Kingdom Atomic Energy Authority (UKAEA) that a body should be set up with responsibility for licensing future civil reactors in the UK. The insurance industry added pressure to the debate.

1959 - Nuclear Installations Act 1959

This Act brought about the establishment of the Nuclear Installations Inspectorate within the Ministry of Power. Today's Nuclear Installations Inspectorate (NII) is responsible for the UK safety regulation of nuclear power stations, nuclear chemical plants, defence nuclear facilities, nuclear safety research, decommissioning and strategy. Since 2 April 2007 NII has also been responsible for civil nuclear operational security and safeguards matters.

Offices Act 1960

Since 1886 shopworkers' hours had been regulated and since 1904 local authorities had powers to limit opening hours of shops, but no other statutory protection extended to shop workers and none at all to office workers. The Gowers Committee had in 1949 recommended extensions and in 1960 a private members' bill had become the Offices Act 1960. In 1963 this was repealed and replaced by the Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act 1963. That Act gave statutory protection to the largest remaining group of unprotected workers.

Radioactive Substances Act 1960

Factories Act 1961

Contained power to make regulations governing dangerous processes and plant.

1961 - Construction (General Provision) Regulations 1961 – S.I. 1961 No. 1580

A HEALTH AND SAFETY TIMELINE

Enabling power: Factories Act 1937, ss. 17, 46, 60 and Factories Act 1948, s. 8. Made: 15th August 1961. Laid before Parliament: 22nd August 1961. Coming into operation: 1st March 1962. **Revoked by the famous SI 2007/320** Construction (Design and Management) Regulations 2007 (ISBN 9780110757896).

SI 1961/1580 is also referenced by other legislation items such as:

- The Manual Handling Operations Regulations 1992
- The Workplace (Health, Safety and Welfare) Regulations 1992
- The Construction (Health, Safety and Welfare) Regulations 1996
- The Construction (Design and Management) Regulations 2007
- The Electricity at Work Regulations 1989
- The Provision and Use of Work Equipment Regulations 1992
- The Health and Safety Information for Employees (Modifications and Repeals) Regulations 1995
- The Supply of Machinery (Safety) Regulations 1992
- The Health and Safety Information for Employees Regulations 1989
- The Construction (Design and Management) Regulations 1994
- The Control of Substances Hazardous to Health Regulations 1988

Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act 1963

Act gave statutory protection to the largest remaining group of unprotected workers.

Construction (Notice of Operations and Works) Order 1965 – S.I. 1965 No. 221

1966 - Construction (Working Places) Regulations 1966 – S.I. 1966 No. 94

1969 - Employers' Liability (Compulsory Insurance) Act

Required that all employers carry insurance to cover potential liability to employees.

1969 - Asbestos Regulations – S.I. 1969 No. 690

1969 - Employers' Liability (Defective Equipment) Act

Provided that the employer is liable in negligence for injury caused by defective equipment notwithstanding that the fault was that of a third party manufacturer or supplier.

A HEALTH AND SAFETY TIMELINE

1970 - 1979

Fire Precautions Act 1971

Brought together provisions in a number of unrelated pieces of legislation dealing with particular classes of premises and particular activities and was extended to all factory, office, shop and railway premises by the *Fire Precautions (Factories, Offices, Shop and Railway Premises) Order 1989* – S.I. 1989 No. 76

1972 - Robens Report (Cmd. 5034)

The Robens Report was the product of the first comprehensive Health and safety legislative approach was transformed.

Employment Medical Advisory Service Act 1972

This act amends and complements the Factories Act 1961 in relation to medical arrangements. It makes provision for the establishment of an employment medical advisory service and the appointment of employment medical advisers to replace factory doctors. It prescribes their functions and responsibilities in relation to the medical welfare of factory employees. Schedules indicating the provisions of the Factories Act 1961, amendments and repealed sections concerning employment of medical advisers are included.

Health and Safety at Work etc. Act 1974

The Health and Safety at Work etc. Act 1974 was described as "a bold and far-reaching piece of legislation" by HSE's first Director General, John Locke. It certainly marked a departure from the framework of prescribed and detailed regulations which was in place at the time.

The Act introduced a new system based on less-prescriptive and more goal-based regulations, supported by guidance and codes of practice. For the first time employers and employees were to be consulted and engaged in the process of designing a modern health and safety system.

The Health and Safety at Work etc. Act 1974 also established the Health and Safety Commission (HSC) for the purpose of proposing new regulations, providing information and advice and conducting research.

HSC's operating arm, the Health and Safety Executive was formed shortly after in order to enforce health and safety law, a duty shared with Local Authorities.

1 June 1974 – Flixborough chemical plant explosion (28 fatalities)

On Saturday 1 June 1974 a massive explosion destroyed a large part of the Nypro (UK) Ltd plant at Flixborough, near Scunthorpe. Twenty eight people were killed in the incident and 36 people suffered injuries. More casualties could have been expected

if the incident had occurred on a week day. Widespread damage was caused to surrounding commercial premises and residential housing.

The explosion resulted from the ignition and deflagration of a huge vapour cloud which formed when cyclohexane under pressure escaped from a part of the plant used in the production of cyclohexanone and cyclohexanol.

Her Majesty's Factory Inspectorate investigated the incident (this was before the Health and Safety Executive was formed) and produced an interim report. Following on from this, a formal investigation into the circumstances surrounding the explosion was undertaken by a Court of Inquiry chaired by Roger J. Parker QC.

Health and Safety Executive, 'The Flixborough Disaster: Report of the Court of Inquiry', HMSO, ISBN 0113610750, 1975 (OUT OF PRINT). Available for reference in the British Library, London and also for loan from the British Library, Boston Spa, UK. Enter www.bl.uk and click onto the Main catalogue and then enter 007021917 in the search box. Can also obtain photocopies from the British Library.

31 July 1974 – Health and Safety Commission established

The Health and Safety Commission (HSC) was formed when the Health and Safety at Work etc. Act 1974 received Royal Assent on 31 July 1974.

HSC's constitution and responsibilities were laid out in Sections 1, 10 and 11 of the Act and, according to the first HSC annual report (1977) included: "taking appropriate steps to secure the health, safety and welfare of people at work, to protect the public generally against risks to health and safety arising out of the work situation, to give general direction to the Health and Safety Executive (HSE) and guidance to Local Authorities on the enforcement provisions of the Act, to assist and encourage persons with duties under the Act and to make suitable arrangements for research and the provision of information."

Some of the key health and safety hazards which HSC was concerned with in its first few months included asbestos, construction, dusts, genetic manipulation, ionising radiation, lead, noise and vinyl chloride.

1 January 1975 – Health and Safety Executive formed

The Health and Safety Executive (HSE) was formed on 1 January 1975 under the leadership of its first Director, John Locke. HSE's remit was to undertake the requirements of the Health and Safety Commission and to enforce health and safety legislation in all workplaces, except those regulated by Local Authorities.

A number of regulatory and scientific organisations transferred to HSE at this time, including: the Factory Inspectorate; Explosives Inspectorate; Employment Medical Advisory Service; Nuclear Installations Inspectorate; Safety and Health Division from the Department of Energy; the Mines Inspectorate; the Safety in Mines Research Establishment; the British Approvals Service for Electrical Equipment in Flammable Atmospheres; and the Alkali and Clean Air Inspectorate.

One of the first tasks undertaken by HSE was the re-organisation of the Factory Inspectorate into a series of 21 Area Offices and 11 local offices, supported by Field Consultant Groups, comprised of specialist scientific and technical staff.

A HEALTH AND SAFETY TIMELINE

First HSC advisory committees established

The Health and Safety Commission (HSC) set up the first of a number of advisory committees during 1975. This was done with a view to drawing upon the expertise of industry and specialist organisations and in encouraging wide participation in the improvement of occupational health and safety.

Advisory committees on the following topics were set up over the next couple of years: Advisory Committee on Dangerous Substances; Advisory Committee on Toxic Substance; Medical Advisory Committee; Advisory Committee on Asbestos; Advisory Committee on Major Hazards; Advisory Committee on the Safety of Nuclear Installations; Safety in Mines Research Advisory Board; and the British Approvals Service for Electrical Equipment In Flammable Atmospheres (BASEEFA) Advisory Council. HSC also consulted the Trades Union Congress (TUC) and Confederation of British Industry (CBI) for suggestions for additional advisory bodies.

Agriculture (Safety, Health and Welfare Provisions) Act 1956 (Repeals and Modifications) Regulations 1975 – S.I. 1975 No. 46

Safety Representatives and Safety Committees Regulations 1977 (S.I. 1977/500)

These regulations established the right of a recognised trade union to appoint safety representatives from among the employees it represented. The exception to this was employees of mines, specifically coal mines as defined by section 180 of the Mines and Quarries Act 1954. The regulations conferred number of powers to safety representatives including: "to investigate potential hazards and dangerous occurrences at the workplace (whether or not they are drawn to his attention by the employees he represents) and to examine the causes of accidents at the workplace"; "to make representations to the employer on general matters affecting the health, safety or welfare of the employees at the workplace"; and to inspect certain documents. Under the terms of the regulations, two or more safety representatives could request their employer to establish a safety committee. The regulations also outlined the terms for pay for time off allowed to safety representatives carrying out official duties.

Pneumoconiosis (Workers' Compensation) Act 1979

1979 - Golborne Colliery disaster (10 fatalities)

Ten people died and one person was seriously injured when firedamp ignited and exploded in the Plodder Seam at the Golborne Colliery in the Greater Manchester area on 18 March 1979. Firedamp accumulated following a breakdown in the ventilation system and it is thought that this was probably ignited by electrical sparking. The Health and Safety Executive's Safety in Mines Research Establishment (SMRE) investigated the incident and made recommendations for improving both ventilation systems and intrinsically safe electrical equipment in mines.

A HEALTH AND SAFETY TIMELINE

1979 - NEBOSH – National Examination Board in Occupational Safety and Health

Professor Richard Booth takes up his position as founding Chairman of NEBOSH.

A HEALTH AND SAFETY TIMELINE

1980 - 1989

Notification of Accidents and Dangerous Occurrences Regulations 1980 – S.I. 1980 No. 637

The Notification of Accidents and Dangerous Occurrences Regulations 1980 (NADOR) required employers and the self-employed to keep a record of any accidents or certain types of dangerous occurrences and report these to HSE. The Regulations include lists of the types of dangerous occurrences that are reportable, including those that occur in any situation and those that relate specifically to mines, quarries and railways. Today, the Reporting of Injuries, Diseases and Dangerous Occurrences Regulation 1995 (RIDDOR) has replaced NADOR.

Control of Lead at Work Regulations 1980 – S.I. 1980 No. 1248

The Regulations stipulated that where employees are exposed to lead in the workplace, employers or those who are self-employed must assess the work in order to establish the nature and degree of the exposure to lead. Employers are also required to provide information, training and instruction to exposed workers. Other requirements under the Regulations included: ensuring control measures are in place for material, plant and processes and that these are properly maintained; providing washing and changing facilities and areas for employees to eat, drink and smoke; avoiding the spread of contamination; cleaning; air monitoring; and conducting medical surveillance and biological tests.

Diving Operations at Work Regulations 1981 – S.I. 1981 No. 399

Health and Safety (First Aid) Regulations 1981 – S.I. 1981 No. 917

These Regulations which came into force on 1st July 1982 stipulated that "an employer shall provide or ensure that there are provided, such equipment and facilities as are adequate and appropriate in the circumstances for enabling first aid to be rendered to his employees if they are injured or become ill at work." Employers were also required to inform employees about the arrangements in place for providing first-aid, including the location of facilities, personnel and equipment. Self-employed people were also covered by the Regulations as there was a requirement for them to provide appropriate and adequate equipment for rendering first aid to themselves at work, if necessary.

Asbestos (Licensing) Regulations 1983 – S.I. 1983 No. 1649

The Asbestos (Licensing) Regulations 1983 came into force on 1 August 1983 and have been amended by several pieces of legislation in the intervening years. At the time the Regulations became law, no-one could carry out work with asbestos insulation including asbestos insulation board or asbestos coating unless they held a licence granted by HSE or worked for someone who held such a licence. There were three exemptions to the requirements, namely: collecting samples or air monitoring

to identify asbestos; work carried out with asbestos insulation, asbestos insulating board or asbestos coating by employers or the self-employed, either by themselves or by using their own employees and in their own premises; and work of short duration using these materials.

Health and Safety (Genetic Manipulation) Regulations 1978

HSE assumed responsibility for enforcing the Health and Safety (Genetic Manipulation) Regulations 1978 from the Department of Education and Science in 1983. In March 1984 a new Advisory Committee on Genetic Manipulation (ACGM) was set up to support this new role. In its first year, ACGM set up working parties to investigate: the release of genetically manipulated organisms for agricultural and environmental purposes; the uses of viruses in genetic manipulation, including the use of recombinants containing potentially harmful nucleic acid sequences; and monitoring of workers involved in genetic manipulation work. In 2004, ACGM was replaced by the Scientific Advisory Committee on Genetic Modification (Contained Use), (SACGM(CU)). SACGM(CU) provides technical and scientific advice to the UK Competent Authority on all aspects of the human and environmental risks of the contained use of genetically modified organisms.

1984 - HSE starts to enforce asbestos licensing industry

The Health and Safety Commission's Advisory Committee on Asbestos reached agreement on two European Union directives concerning protection of workers exposed to asbestos and the marketing and use of asbestos. This agreement, based on medical evidence and research on engineering controls resulted in the development of the Asbestos (Licensing) Regulations 1983 which came into force on 1 August 1984.

1984 - HSE starts to enforce domestic gas safety

HSE assumed responsibility for mains gas safety functions on 1 February 1984, taking over from the Department of Energy. This involves responsibility for the safety of gas mains in the home as well as the workplace. HSE was given the power to introduce gas safety regulations under the Gas Act 1972 and enforce safety regulations made under this Act. Now HSE and local authorities have joint enforcement responsibilities under the Gas Safety (Installation and Use) Regulations 1998 and are responsible for preventing injury to consumers and the public from either fire and explosion or carbon monoxide (CO) poisoning.

1984 - Abbeystead pumping station (16 fatalities)

An explosion occurred at a subterranean valve house in the Lune/Wyre Water Transfer Scheme at Abbeystead in Lancashire on 23 May 1984. Sixteen people were killed and 28 injured whilst taking part in an evening visit at the site. The visit was part of a programme to demonstrate to local residents that their fears that the Transfer Scheme would cause winter flooding were unfounded. The explosion occurred while water was being pumped over the weir into the river Wyre. The valve house was severely damaged during the incident. HSE investigated and concluded that the

explosion was caused by ignition of a mixture of methane and air which had built up in the wet room of Abbeystead Valve House. The source of the ignition was not identified. HSE also contacted water authorities and alerted them to the potential dangers of water transfer and comparable systems where methane could pose a serious risk.

Classification, Packaging and Labelling of Dangerous Substances Regulations 1984 – S.I. 1984 No. 1244

Control of Industrial Major Accident Hazard Regulations 1984 – S.I. 1984 No. 1902

The Regulations, known as COMAH, require that safe operation can be demonstrated for industrial activities in which various substances as defined in Schedule I of the Regulations are involved. They also set out requirements for isolated storage of substances in Schedule 2 of the Regulations. Under the Regulations, manufacturers are required to provide written evidence that major accident hazards have been identified and the necessary steps put in place to prevent major incidents and protect workers on the site. They also are required to prepare an off-site emergency plan to complement the Local Authority emergency plan and to provide information to the Local Authority which can be used to inform people living in the locality who might be affected by a COMAH site.

Reporting of Injuries, Diseases and Dangerous Occurrences Regulations 1985 – S.I. 1985 No. 2023

The Reporting of Injuries, Diseases and Dangerous Occurrences Regulations 1985, commonly known as 'RIDDOR', require a 'responsible person' to notify the enforcing authority where a person dies or sustains any injuries or specific medical conditions or where a dangerous occurrence takes place in connection with a work activity. The Regulations set out the specific injuries which are reportable including fractures, amputation, decompression sickness and others. A list of the dangerous occurrences reportable under RIDDOR is provided in Schedule 1 of the Regulations, while a second schedule sets out reportable diseases under RIDDOR. Separate notification requirements for mines, quarries and railways are also explained

1985 Ionising Radiations Regulations 1985 – S.I. 1985 No 1333

The Ionising Radiations Regulations 1985 applied to any work with ionising radiation except work carried out under section 1 of the Nuclear Installations Act 1965 and in certain activities as outlined in Schedule 3 of the Regulations. The Regulations set out legal duties in the following areas: dose limitation including restriction of exposure; designation of controlled areas and of classified persons; appointment of qualified persons; training and instruction requirements; dosimetry and medical surveillance; control of radioactive substances including arrangements for personal protective equipment and washing and changing facilities; assessment of hazards; investigation of cases of overexposure; and fees for medical examinations.

A HEALTH AND SAFETY TIMELINE

1985 - Putney domestic gas explosion (8 fatalities)

Eight residents were killed in a major explosion which occurred on 10 January 1985 at a block of luxury flats in Newnham House, Manor Fields, Putney, South London. HSE worked with investigation teams from the British Gas Corporation, South Eastern Gas, Midland Research Station, the London Borough of Wandsworth and the police and fire authority to the cause of the incident. Investigations revealed the explosion was caused by gas leaking into the building from a crack in the cast iron pipe that formed the gas main. The crack had been caused by uneven loading on the pipe due to differential settlement. HSE made a number of recommendations regarding the safety of gas mains, one of the key ones being for the British Gas Corporation to review its priorities for replacing cast iron gas mains.

1985 - Fire at Bradford City Football Stadium – Valley Parade

Fifty six people died and approximately 256 were injured when a serious fire broke out in the main stand at Valley Parade, the home ground of Bradford City Football Club, on Saturday 11 May 1985. HSE investigated this incident, described as the worst fire disaster in the history of British football. Forensic tests concluded that the fire was probably started by a dropped match or a cigarette stubbed out in a polystyrene cup. The old wooden stands that had been in place for decades at the ground contributed to the ferocity of the fire. The disaster prompted a review of the UK's sports grounds

1986 - HSE starts to enforce transport of dangerous goods by road safety

Legislation surrounding the regulation of dangerous goods has been subject to many changes since HSE began enforcing The Dangerous Substances (Conveyance by Road in Packages) Regulations 1986 (PGR). Today HSE is one of the organisations responsible for enforcing The Carriage of Dangerous Goods and Use of Transportable Pressure Receptacles Regulations 2009 (CDG 2009). More information about HSE's role in this area can be found in the Dangerous Goods manual.

HSE starts to enforce pesticide safety – Control of Pesticides Regulations 1986 – S.I. 1986 No. 1510

The Control of Pesticides Regulations 1986 (S.I. 1986/1510) conferred authority on HSE to enforce pesticide safety. The Regulations provided a detailed list of those types of pesticides which are subject to control and those which are excluded. They also outlined the approvals required before any pesticides could be sold, stored, used, supplied or advertised. In addition, the Regulations set out the general conditions for pesticides regarding sale, supply, storage, advertisement and use, including aerial application. The Regulations were superseded by the Control of Pesticides Regulations 1997 (S.I. 1997/188).

Control of Asbestos at Work Regulations 1987 – S.I. 1987 No. 2115

These regulations stipulate that an employer 'shall not carry out any work which exposes or is liable to expose any of his employees to asbestos unless either a) before commencing that work he has identified, by analysis or otherwise, the type of asbestos involved in the work; or b) he has assumed that the asbestos is crocidolite or amosite and for the purposes of the Regulations has treated it accordingly'. Under the Regulations, employers must notify the enforcing authority of work with asbestos in certain circumstances. They must also provide information, instruction and training for employees who are liable to be exposed to asbestos during the course of their work. Adequate control measures must be in place and must be adequately maintained to prevent or reduce the spread of asbestos. Other requirements of the regulations include: ensuring cleanliness of plant and premises; designation of areas where asbestos is present; air monitoring including associated record-keeping; medical surveillance and keeping health records; provision of washing and changing facilities; and storage and labelling of raw asbestos and asbestos waste.

1987 - Kings Cross underground station fire (31 fatalities)

The London King's Cross underground station fire occurred on 18 November 1987. Thirty one people died and many more were injured. The fire started when a lighted match which was dropped by a passenger on one of the station's escalators fell through a gap between the treads and skirting boards and set fire to grease and dust that had been allowed to accumulate. The resulting fire spread rapidly, accompanied by thick black smoke. As London Underground's practice was to call the Fire Brigade only when a fire seemed to be getting out of hand, by the time the Fire Brigade arrived, the fire was widespread and out of control. There were no smoke detectors in place in the station and only a manual water spray system. The Fennell Inquiry report noted that the London Underground staff members on duty were poorly trained and "woefully inequipped to meet the emergency that arose". Following the incident, London Underground and the other organisations involved in the incident accepted 157 recommendations for safety improvements outlined in the official report.

Control of Substances Hazardous to Health Regulations – S.I. 1988 No. 1657

The Control of Substances Hazardous to Health Regulations, generally referred to as the COSHH Regulations, were introduced to protect the health of people arising from work activities. Under the Regulations, employers must carry out a risk assessment to ensure that employees are not exposed to substances which will be hazardous to their health. Where exposure to such substances cannot be prevented, employers must provide suitable protective equipment and control measures and they must ensure that such equipment is adequately maintained, examined and tested and the results of tests recorded and kept. RIDDOR stipulates a requirement for monitoring exposure in the workplace and maintaining suitable records. It also sets out requirements for health surveillance and medical surveillance. Employers are also obliged to ensure that where exposure to hazardous substance is unavoidable, workers are made aware of the associated health risks and the precautions that should be taken including any associated instruction and training requirements.

A HEALTH AND SAFETY TIMELINE

1988 - Piper Alpha oil installation fire and explosion (167 fatalities)

A series of catastrophic explosions occurred on the Piper Alpha offshore platform on the evening of 6 July 1988. This lead to a major and sustained gas fire which resulted when the Tartan gas riser ruptured. The majority of the emergency systems including the fire water system failed to operate and the resulting fierce fires and dense smoke made evacuation by helicopter or lifeboats impossible. Structural collapse of the platform quickly followed, causing many of the offshore workers to jump into the sea. Of the 226 people on board the Piper Alpha platform, 165 died and two members of the 'Sandhaven's' fire rescue craft lost their lives. The Lord Cullen inquiry into the incident made a series of recommendations for the future regulation of the offshore installations and appointed the Health and Safety Executive as a single regulatory body to enforce occupational health and safety in the offshore oil and gas industry.

1988 - Clapham train crash (35 fatalities)

A major rail accident occurred on the morning of 12 December 1988 at Clapham junction when two commuter trains collided and were subsequently hit by a third empty train. Thirty five people died in the accident and many other passengers sustained injuries. The Inquiry into the collision concluded that the main cause was 'wiring issues' and it laid the blame on British Rail work practices. The Inquiry also made 93 recommendations for safety improvements to be made. These included a limit to the hours that signalmen should be allowed to work and a system of automatic train protection (ATP) to be installed.

1989 - Hillsborough disaster

The Hillsborough Stadium disaster in which 96 people were killed and 170 injured was one of Britain's worst sporting disasters. The disaster occurred on 15 April 1989 at the Hillsborough football stadium during the FA Cup semi-final match between Nottingham Forest and Liverpool. Football fans were caught up in a massive crush which occurred as a result of too many Liverpool fans being let into a full stand at the Leppings Lane end of the stadium. The resulting surge of fans gaining access to the ground caused the fans already inside the ground to be pushed against the wire safety fences and crushed. Lord Justice Taylor's official Inquiry into the disaster led to many new safety measures being introduced to sporting stadia.

Fire Precautions (Factories, Offices, Shop and Railway Premises) Order 1989 – SI 1989 No. 76

Control of Industrial Air Pollution (Registrations of Works) Regulations 1989 – S.I. 1989 No. 318

Electricity at Work Regulations 1989 – S.I. 1989/635

The Electricity at Work Regulations 1989 had a wide remit, covering: work systems, protective equipment and work activities; adverse or hazardous environments; capability and strength of electrical equipment; earthing and other suitable

precautions; electrical protection, insulation and placing of conductors; connections; integrity of conductors; cutting off electrical supply and isolation; working on dead equipment; working on or in the vicinity of live conductors; working space, lighting and access; and competent persons. A section of the Regulations applied only to Mines, covering areas such as: introduction of electrical equipment; restrictions in certain underground zones; provisions associated with the presence of firedamp; approval of certain equipment in safety-lamp mines; cutting off electricity to circuits underground; oil-filled equipment; electric shock notices; information and records; use of battery-powered locomotives and vehicles into safety-lamp mines; and storage, transfer and charging of electrical storage batteries.

Health and Safety Information for Employees Regulations 1989 – S.I. 1989 No. 682

Noise at Work Regulations 1989 – S.I. 1989 No. 1790

The Noise at Work Regulations 1989 stipulate that 'Every employer shall reduce the risk of damage to the hearing of his employees from exposure to noise to the lowest level reasonably practicable'. To this end, the Regulations require that a noise assessment should be made if employees are likely to be exposed to the first action level or above or to the peak action level of noise. The assessment should be reviewed as appropriate and adequate assessment records kept.

Where employees are exposed to noise, adequate ear protection must be provided and ear protection zones set up where necessary. Any equipment provided must be carefully maintained and used and employees should be given information on the steps they can take to protect their hearing in the workplace. The Regulations also outline the particular modifications of the duties of manufacturers of articles for use at work and articles of fairground equipment in relation to the Regulations.

Health and Safety (Enforcing Authority) Regulations 1989 – S.I. 1989 No. 1903

Construction (Head Protection) Regulations 1989 – S.I. 1989 No. 2209

A HEALTH AND SAFETY TIMELINE

1990 - 1999

1990 - 1990 - HSE starts to enforce rail safety

Responsibility for railway safety passed from the Department of Transport to HSE in 1990. This took place because the Department of Transport's Railway Inspectorate was heavily criticised for their poor protection of rail passengers and for not employing modern risk assessment techniques. The transfer was also seen as beneficial because it passed the responsibility for safety to the main Government health and safety regulator and away from the transport industry's representative government department. The privatisation of British Rail during the period 1993 to 1996 saw a hundred companies taking charge of the rail industry. HSE introduced a new regulatory framework to manage the challenges to railway safety culture and risk management that took place during this period. The key components of the regulatory framework included new safety cases and permissioning regimes. From 1 April 2006 the Railway Inspectorate moved to the Office of Rail Regulation (ORR).

HSE starts to carry out nuclear safety research

Responsibility for nuclear research passed from the Department of Energy to the Health and Safety Commission (HSC) on 1 April 1990. The Nuclear Safety Research Management Unit (NSRMU) was established to manage the nuclear safety research programme on behalf of HSC. Its work was reviewed by the Advisory Committee on Safety in Nuclear Installations' (ACSNI) Subcommittee on Research. ACSNI was particularly concerned with the reductions in nuclear research among the current nuclear licensees due to commercial pressures, and consequently stressed the need for HSC to support key areas of nuclear research. ACSNI recommended that more research into the effects of nuclear plant ageing, human factors and future reactor designs would be beneficial. It also welcomed the fact that HSC's research programme was being opened up to competition and that customer-contractor arrangements were being strengthened to ensure better targeting of research priorities.

Control of Asbestos in the Air Regulations 1990 – S.I. 1990 No. 556

Health and Safety (Training for Employment) Regulations 1990 – S.I. 1990 No. 1380

1991 - HSE starts to enforce offshore safety

HSE'S Offshore Division was established at the recommendation of Lord Cullen's Inquiry into the Piper Alpha offshore explosion in 1988. This change in responsibility brought about a shift in emphasis for the industry as prescriptive regulations which set specific requirements on duty holders were replaced by goal-setting regulations. One of the main requirements of the new regime was the introduction of a safety case system in which each installation is required to demonstrate that major hazards are adequately controlled and that a suitable management system is in place. Safety cases are submitted to HSE for approval and approval must be obtained

before an offshore company is allowed to operate on the UK continental shelf. Today's challenge for the offshore industry and for HSE is to manage the integrity of an ageing infrastructure while improving health and safety for the offshore workforce.

1992 - Major Review of Regulation completed

In 1992, the Health and Safety Commission was charged with undertaking a review of extant health and safety legislation. The purpose of the review was to check whether existing legislation was still relevant and necessary in its current form. In addition the review aimed to reduce the administrative burdens that legislation can place on small businesses and also examine HSE's general approach to enforcement. The review found that, while there was widespread support for the framework of health and safety legislation, much of the current law was seen as 'too voluminous, complicated and fragmented'. When the finding of the report was published in 1994, it recommended the removal of 100 sets of regulations and seven pieces of primary legislation as well as the simplification of many of the 340 requirements and recommendations for associated administrative paperwork. A comprehensive programme was put into place to achieve the necessary reforms and the ongoing process to reduce the burdens on business is described in HSE's Simplification Plan.

1992 - 'Six pack' regulations

Framework Directive 89/391 - Management of Health and Safety and at Work Regulations – S.I. 1992 No. 2051

There are 6 "daughter" directives/regulations:

- Workplace (the First) Directive 89/654 - Workplace (Health, Safety and Welfare) Regulations 1992 – S.I. 1992 No. 3004
- Work Equipment (the second) Directive 89/655
  Provision and Use of Work Equipment Regulations 1992 – S.I. 1992 No. 2932
- Personal Protective Equipment (the third) Directive 89/656
  Personal Protective Equipment at Work Regulations 1992 – S.I. 1992 No. 2966
- Manual Handling of Heavy Loads (the Fourth) Directive 90/269
  Manual Handling Operations Regulations 1992 – S.I. 1992 No. 2793
- Display Screen Equipment (the Fifth) Directive 90/270
  Health and Safety (Display Screen Equipment) Regulations 1992 – S.I. 1992 No. 2792
- Carcinogens (the Sixth) Directive 90/394
  Control of Substances Hazardous to Health (Amendment) Regulations 1992 – S.I. 1992 No. 2382

Genetically Modified Organisms (Contained Use) Regulations 1992 – S.I. 1992 No. 3217

A HEALTH AND SAFETY TIMELINE

Diving Operations at Work (Amendment) Regulations 1992 – S.I. 1992 No. 608

The Notification of New Substances Regulations 1993 – S.I. 1993 No. 3050

Chemicals (Hazard Information and Packaging) Regulations 1993 – S.I. 1993 No. 1746

Management and Administration of Safety and Health at Mines Regulations 1993 – S.I. 1993 No. 1897

Ionising Radiations (Outside Workers) Regulations 1993 – S.I. 1993 No. 2379

Personal Protective Equipment (EC Directive) (Amendment) Regulations 1993 – S.I. 1993 No. 3074

Control of Industrial Major Accident Hazards (Amendment) Regulations 1994 – S.I. 1994 No. 118

Batteries and Accumulators (Containing Dangerous Substances) Regulations 1994 – S.I. 1994 No. 232

Carriage of Dangerous Goods by Road and Rail (Classification, Packaging and Labelling) Regulations 1994 – S.I. 1994 No. 669

Construction (Design and Management) Regulations 1994 – S.I. 1994 No. 3140

Control of Substances Hazardous to Health Regulations 1994 – S.I. 1994 No. 3246

1995 - 100th anniversary of the Quarry Inspectorate

1995 - Health and Safety Laboratory (HSL) becomes an agency of HSE

An experimental station to investigate explosions in coal mines was set up at Eskmeals in Cumberland in 1911 by the UK government. Over the next few years, this area of research continued to grow and after the formation of the Safety in Mines Research Board in 1921, a site at Harpur Hill was acquired in 1924 for large scale mining safety work.

The Safety in Mines Research Establishment (SMRE) was formed in 1947 and this combined the work of the Buxton site with the central laboratories which had opened in Sheffield in 1928. In 1959 the Occupational Medicine Laboratory was opened in London in 1959 and in 1975 the three organisations were merged to form the Health and Safety Executive's Research and Laboratory Services Division (RLSD).

A HEALTH AND SAFETY TIMELINE

RLSD's laboratories were integrated into one laboratory, the Health and Safety Laboratory in 1995.

Reporting of Injuries, Diseases and Dangerous Occurrences Regulations 1995 – S.I. 1995 No. 3163

Chemicals (Hazard Information and Packaging for Supply (Amendment) Regulations 1996 – S.I. 1996 No. 1092

Construction (Health, Safety and Welfare) Regulations 1996 – 1996 No. 1592

Carriage of Dangerous Goods by Rail Regulations 1996 – S.I. 1996 No. 2089

Packaging and Labelling and Carriage of Radioactive Material by Rail Regulations 1996 – S.I. 1996 No. 2090

Carriage of Dangerous Goods (Classification, Packaging and Labelling) and Use of Transportable Pressure Receptables Regulations 1996 – S.I. 1996 No. 2092

Carriage of Explosives by Road Regulations 1996 – S.I. 1996 No. 2093

Carriage of Dangerous Goods by Road (Driver Training) Regulations 1996 – S.I. 1996 No. 2094

Carriage of Dangerous Goods by Road Regulations 1996 – S.I. 1996 No. 2095

Health and Safety (Repeals and Revocations) Regulations 1996 – S.I. 1996 No. 3022

Control of Substances Hazardous to Health (Amendment) Regulations 1996 – S.I. 1996 No. 3188

1997 - Southall rail accident

The UK Southall rail accident occurred when the 10.35 high speed train from Swansea to London Paddington collided with a freight train operated by English Welsh and Scottish Railway. The incident happened at 13.15 on 19 September 1997 at Southall East Junction. Seven people died in the accident and 139 people were injured, some of these sustaining serious injuries. HSE's Railway Inspectorate investigated the incident and an official inquiry was conducted by Professor John Uff.

A HEALTH AND SAFETY TIMELINE

Control of Substances Hazardous to Health (Amendment) Regulations 1997 – S.I. 1997 No. 11

Lift Regulations 1997 – S.I. 1997 No. 831

Confined Spaces Regulations 1997 – S.I. 1997 No. 1713

Chemicals (Hazard Information and Packaging for Supply) (Amendment) Regulations 1997 – S.I. 1997 No. 1460

Diving at Work Regulations 1997 – S.I. 1997 No. 2776

Managing Occupational Road Risk (MORR) guidance published.

Health and Safety (Enforcing Authority) Regulations 1998 – S.I. 1998 No. 494

Control of Lead at Work Regulations 1998 – S.I. 1998 No. 543

Control of Substances Hazardous to Health (Amendment) Regulations 1998 – S.I. 1998 No. 1357

Electrical Equipment for Explosive Atmospheres (Certification) (Amendment) (No. 2) Regulations 1998 – S.I. 1998 No. 1469

Genetically Modified Organisms (Contained Use) (Amendment) Regulations 1998 – S.I. 1998 No. 1548

Provision and Use of Work Equipment Regulations 1998 – S.I. 1998 No. 2306

Gas Safety (Installation and Use) Regulations 1998 – S.I. 1998 No. 2451

The first of the general provisions of the Regulations covered qualification and supervision and states that 'No person shall carry out work in relation to a gas fitting or gas storage vessel unless he is competent to do so'. The Regulations imposed a duty on employers to ensure that people carrying out work on gas installations have been approved by HSE under regulation 3(3) of these Regulations. Requirements for materials and workmanship, protection against damage, existing gas fittings as well as general safety precautions are also outlined in the Regulations.

Chemicals (Hazard Information and Packaging for Supply) (Amendment) Regulations 1998 – S.I. 1998 No. 3106

A HEALTH AND SAFETY TIMELINE

Control of Asbestos at Work (Amendment) Regulations 1998 – S.I. 1998 No. 3235

Control of Major Accident Hazards Regulations 1999 – S.I. 1999 No. 743

The Control of Major Accident Hazards Regulations 1999 (CIMAH) set out the responsibilities of operators of plants where scheduled hazardous chemicals are used, to prevent major accidents and limit the consequences of major accidents to people and the environment. The regulations require operators to formulate a major accident prevention policy and also to notify the competent authority at the start of the construction of a plant handling scheduled chemicals and at the end, when the plant is being decommissioned or the chemicals are no longer present on site. The regulations also require retailed safety reports to be sent to the competent authority and for operators to produce emergency plans in consultation with local authorities. In addition, operators must provide information to the public with regard to local safety measures and actions to take in the event of a major accident at a CIMAH site.

1999 - Ladbroke Grove train crash (31 fatalities)

Thirty-one people died and over 400 were injured when a passenger train passed a red signal and collided with a high-speed passenger train at Ladbroke Grove in West London on 5 October 1999. The Health and Safety Executive's Railway Inspectorate investigated the incident and Lord Cullen chaired a Public Inquiry into the causes of the crash as well as wider issues relating to regulatory matters and safety management. In 2004 HSE won a prosecution against Thames Trains for breaches of Section 2 and 3 of the Health and Safety at Work etc. Act relating to driver training. Following this, in 2005 the Crown Prosecution Service successfully prosecuted Network Rail Infrastructure (formerly Railtrack Plc) under Section 3 of the Health and Safety at Work etc. Act.

A HEALTH AND SAFETY TIMELINE

2000 - 2009

2000 - 'Revitalising health and safety strategy' launched

The Revitalising Health and Safety Strategy Statement was published in June 2000 to mark the start of the ten year campaign of the same name. The Revitalising health and safety strategy was launched at a time when the same proportion of people had been injured at work since the early 1990s. The aim of the Revitalising health and safety strategy was to help people at work to protect themselves and their business, to improve the quality of life in the workplace and to help employers and employees to make work safer and healthier. Measurable targets were set and reviewed at regular intervals.

2000 - 'Securing health together occupational health strategy for Great Britain' launched

The 'Securing health together occupational health strategy for Great Britain' was launched in 2000 as a ten year strategy for reducing high levels of occupational ill-health and the resulting costs to families, employers and society. The Strategy was based on several main targets: to reduce ill health in workers and the public that had been caused or affected by work; to help people who had been ill to return to work, whether or not their work had caused their absence; to improve work opportunities for people not in work, due to illness or disability; to use the work environment to help people improve or maintain their health. A number of measurable targets were at the heart of the Strategy and the contemporary estimated gross benefits of reaching the targets were estimated to be 6.6 to 21.8 billion pounds sterling by 2010. Find out more about Securing Health Together.

Pressure Systems Safety Regulations 2000 – S.I. 2000 No. 128

Ionising Radiation (Medical Exposure) Regulations 2000 – S.I. 2000 No. 1059

Chemicals (Hazard Information and Packaging for Supply) (Amendment) Regulations 2000 – S.I. 2000 No. 2381

Dangerous Substances and Preparations (Safety) (Consolidation) and Chemicals (Hazard Information and Packaging for Supply) (Amendment) Regulations 2000 – S.I. 2000 No. 2897

Batteries and Accumulators (Containing Dangerous Substances) (Amendment) Regulations – S.I. 2000 No. 3097

Biocidal Products Regulations 2001 – S.I. 2001 No. 880

Health and Safety at Work etc. Act 1974 (Application outside Great Britain) Order 2001 – S.I. 2001 No. 2127

A HEALTH AND SAFETY TIMELINE

Batteries and Accumulators (Containing Dangerous Substances) (Amendment) Regulations 2001 – S.I. 2001 No. 2551

Radiation (Emergency Preparedness and Public Information) Regulations 2001 – S.I. 2001 No. 2975

Health and Safety at Work etc. Act 1974 (Application to Environmentally Hazardous Substances) Regulations 2002 – S.I. 2002 No. 282

Personnel Protective Equipment Regulations 2002 – S.I. 2002 No. 1144

Pressure Equipment (Amendment) Regulations 2002 – S.I. 2002 No. 1267

Chemicals (Hazard Information and Packaging for Supply) Regulations 2002 – S.I. 2002 No. 1689

Packaging, Labelling and Carriage of Radioactive Material by Rail Regulations 2002 – S.I. 2002 No. 2099

Control of Lead at Work Regulations 2002 – S.I. 2002 No. 2676

Control of Substances Hazardous to Health Regulations 2002 – S.I. 2002 No. 2677

Dangerous Substances and Explosive Atmospheres Regulations 2002 – S.I. 2002 No. 2776

2003 - *Driving at Work* published

On 17 September 2003, the HSE published a Guide for employers, *Driving at Work* (INDG382) which alerts employers to their responsibilities for at-work driving under existing Health and Safety at Work law. It states: "health and safety law applies to on-the-road work activities... and the risks should be effectively managed within a health and safety system".

Fireworks Act 2003

Biocidal Products (Amendment) Regulations 2003 – S.I. 2003 No. 429

Control of Substances Hazardous to Health (Amendment) Regulations 2003 – S.I. 2003 No. 978

Carriage of Dangerous Goods and Transportable Pressure Vessels (Amendment) Regulations 2003 – S.I. 2003 No. 1431

Management of Health and Safety at Work and Fire Precautions Workplace) (Amendment) Regulations 2003 – S.I. 2003 No. 2457

A HEALTH AND SAFETY TIMELINE

2004 - Morecambe Bay: death of cockle-pickers (21 fatalities)

An incident occurred on the night of 5-6 February 2004 when 35 cockle pickers, most of whom were Chinese, were cut off by the tide as they worked on the cockle banks on Morecambe Bay. It is thought that 23 of the workers died, although only 21 bodies were recovered. HSE inspectors joined with the police in a major investigation into the incident. The Crown Prosecution Service brought criminal charges of manslaughter and facilitation against a number of individuals. Following the incident, HSE produced some practical guidelines for safe working in tidal areas and estuaries. Some organisers of cockling work also introduced some improvements to their work processes including: providing protective clothing and high-visibility garments; using better vehicles; and carrying dinghies, lifejackets and life rafts.

HSC's 'Strategy for workplace health and safety to 2010 and beyond' launched

A Strategy was launched in February 2004 to set a new direction for the role of the Health and Safety Commission, Health and Safety Executive and Local Authorities. The Strategy aimed to improve poor safety performances, engender a greater participation of workers in workplace health and safety, build closer involvement between stakeholders and HSE and provide clearer and simple information and advice in a more accessible way. More information about the 2004 Strategy is available. You may also be interested in the later 2009 Strategy.

Explosion at ICL Plastic factory, Maryhill, Glasgow: 9 killed many more suffered injuries

An explosion occurred at the ICL Plastics factory in Maryhill, Glasgow, UK on 11 May 2004. Nine people were killed in the incident and many more suffered injuries. The explosion occurred when liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) leaked from an underground metal pipe in the basement of the factory. The LPG ignited and the resulting explosion caused the building to collapse.

Lord Brian Gill was appointed to hold an Inquiry into the events that led up to the disaster. HSE inspectors and retired inspectors and the Chief Executive and the then Deputy Chief Executive gave evidence in the formal hearings. Lord Gill's report was published in July 2009 and outlined various recommendations for HSE as the body which (together with Local Authorities) regulates LPG hazards in industrial and commercial premises

Health and Safety at Work etc. Act 1974 (Application to Environmentally Hazardous Substances) (Amendment) Regulations 2004 – S.I. 2004 No. 463

Good Laboratory Practice (Codification Amendments Etc.) Regulations 2004 – S.I. 2004 No. 994

Control of Substances Hazardous to Health (Amendment) Regulations 2004 – S.I. 2004 No. 3386

A HEALTH AND SAFETY TIMELINE

Carriage of Dangerous Goods and Use of Transportable Pressure Equipment Regulations 2004 – S.I. 2004 No. 568

2005 - Buncefield explosion on 11 December 2005: more than 50 injured

A series of explosions occurred at the Buncefield Oil Storage Depot at Hemel Hempstead in Hertfordshire on 11th December 2005. A large area of the site was engulfed by a fire which resulted from one of the initial massive explosions. Although more than 50 people were injured in the incident, no-one died. A large area around the Buncefield site was evacuated as a precaution. Many of the commercial and residential properties in the vicinity were damaged in the incident. The fire, which burned for several days, destroyed most of the site and released large plumes of black smoke into the atmosphere. The Health and Safety Executive and the Environment Agency launched a joint investigation into the incident. Five companies were prosecuted as a result of the incident.

A series of recommendations from HSE was published under the title "Recommendations on land use planning and the control of societal risk around major hazard sites" PDF and the investigation culminated in the publication of the Final report in December 2008.

Work at Height Regulations 2005 – S.I. 2005 No. 735

Equipment and Protective Systems Intended for Use in Potentially Explosive Atmospheres (Amendment) Regulations 2005 – S.I. 2005 No. 830

Supply of Machinery (Safety) (Amendment) Regulations 2005 – S.I. 2005 No. 831

Export and Import of Dangerous Chemicals Regulations 2005 – S.I. 2005 No. 928

Manufacture and Storage of Explosives Regulations 2005 – S.I. 2005 No. 1082

Control of Vibration at Work Regulations 2005 – S.I. 2005 No. 1093

Health and Safety at Work etc. Act 1974 (Application to Environmentally Hazardous Substances) (Amendment) Regulations 2005 – S.I. 2005 No. 1308

Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order 2005 – S.I. 2005 No. 1541

Control of Noise at Work Regulations 2005 – S.I. 2005 No. 1643

Control of Major Accident Hazards (Amendment) Regulations 2005 – S.I. 2005 No. 1088

Carriage of Dangerous Goods and Use of Transportable Pressure Equipment (Amendment) Regulations 2005 – S.I. 2005 No. 1732

A HEALTH AND SAFETY TIMELINE

2006

Transfer of responsibility for railway safety from HSE to the Office of the Rail Regulator

HSE assumed responsibility for railway safety in 1990 when the Railway Inspectorate moved from the Department of Transport. The move took place following criticism of the Inspectorate for not protecting passengers adequately and for not using modern risk assessment techniques.

During the period 1993 to 1996, British Rail was privatised and over a hundred companies took charge of the railways. This resulted in a major change to railway safety culture and risk management. HSE introduced a new regulatory framework to manage these changes and the key elements of the framework included new safety case and permissioning regimes. On 1 April 2006 railway safety passed to the Office of Rail Regulation (ORR).

Management of Health and Safety at Work (Amendment) Regulations 2006 – S.I. 2006 No. 438

Ionising Radiation (Medical Exposure) (Amendment) Regulations 2006 – S.I. 2006 No. 2523

Control of Asbestos Regulations 2006 – S.I. 2006 No. 2739

The Corporate Manslaughter and Corporate Homicide Act 2007 is a landmark in law

The Corporate Manslaughter and Corporate Homicide Act was given Royal assent on 26 July 2007. The offence came into force on 6 April 2008 and is called corporate manslaughter in England, Wales and Northern Ireland, and corporate homicide in Scotland. 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.

2007 - Responsibility for the Adventure Activities Licensing Authority (AALA) passes to HSE

The Adventure Activities Licensing Authority (AALA) was launched in 1996 and became HSE's responsibility in 2007. The AALA controls the licensing regime for the provision of adventure activities for young people within the scope of the Adventure Activities Licensing Regulations 2004 (AALR). HSE's Field Operations and Policy Group work with organisations in this sector to provide guidance, advice and support and to improve health and safety. More information about the work of the AALA is available via the

HSE takes on responsibility for the security activities of the Office for Nuclear Security (OCNS) and UK Safeguards Office (UKSO)

A HEALTH AND SAFETY TIMELINE

On 1 April 2007 the security activities of the Office for Civil Nuclear Security (OCNS) transferred to the Health and Safety Executive. This happened as a result of recommendations in the 2005 Hampton report. This means that HSE's Nuclear Directorate became the single point of contact for operational matters relating to nuclear safety, security and safeguards.

Work at Height (Amendment) Regulations 2007 – S.I. 2007 No. 114

Construction (Design and Management) Regulations (CDM 2007) – S.I. 2007 No. 320

The CDM Regulations combine the CDM Regulations 2004 and the Construction (Health Safety and Welfare) Regulations 1996 into one regulatory package, aimed at alleviating the previous complex and at times, bureaucratic approach taken by many duty holders. The aim of the CDM Regulations is to reduce the risk of harm to workers who build, use, maintain and demolish structures. Effective planning and management of construction projects, from design concept onwards is at the heart of the Regulations. The aim is for health and safety considerations to be treated as a normal part of a project's development, not an afterthought or bolt-on extra.

Manufacture and Storage of Explosives and the Health and Safety (Enforcing Authority) (Amendment and Supplementary Provisions) Regulations 2007 – S.I. 2007 No. 2598

Health and Safety at Work etc. Act 1974 (Application to Environmentally Hazardous Substances) (Amendment) Regulations 2007 – S.I. 2007 No. 1332

Coal Mines (Control of Inhalable Dust) Regulations 2007 – S.I. 2007 No. 1894

The Registration, Evaluation, Authorisation and Restriction of Chemicals (REACH) European Union regulations come into force in the UK and across Europe S.I. 2006 No.

2006 REACH legal text (Regulation (EC) No 1907/2006 – Corrigendum version, 29 May 2007).

Note that the legislation has been amended on a number of occasions since its original publication. The amendments made until the end of February 2012 are listed below.

The Registration, Evaluation, Authorisation and Restriction of CHemicals (REACH) Regulations came into force on 1 June 2007

Replacing several Regulations and European directives with a single system. One of the main requirements of REACH is for importers or manufacturers of substances to register them with the central European Chemicals Agency. The aim of this is to ensure that human health and the environment is protected by ensuring that manufacturers and importers understand and manage the risks associated with

chemicals. REACH also allows substances to move freely on the EU market as well as allowing for free competition and innovation in the European chemicals industry.

Responsibility for the Adventure Licensing Authority (AALA) passes to HSE

2008 - HSC/HSE merges to form one organisation

Health and Safety Commission and Health and Safety Executive took the decision to merge their powers and functions to become a new unitary body with the name 'Health and Safety Executive'. The merger took place following a 2006 consultation exercise setting out the benefits of the merger.

Health and Safety (Offences) Act 2008

The Health and Safety (Offences) Act 2008 came into force on 16 January 2009. Under the provisions of the Act, offenders who break the law will be subjected to higher fines and longer sentences. The Act makes imprisonment an option for more health and safety offences in both the lower and higher courts. It also allows certain offences which at one time could only be tried in lower courts, be tried in the higher courts. However the main change which the Act has brought is to raise the maximum fine which may be imposed in the lower courts to £20,000 for most health and safety offences. Pesticides Safety Directorate transfers to HSE

2008 - The Pesticides Safety Directorate (PSD) transferred from Defra to HSE

Following recommendations of the 2005 Hampton Review of Regulators, the Pesticides Safety Directorate (PSD) transferred from the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra) to HSE on 1 April 2008. The transfer allowed PSD and HSE to explore joint areas of interest for example on regulatory science and policy for chemicals, pesticides, detergents and biocides. PSD has retained a distinct identity in HSE and continues to have its policy set by Defra. More information is available on the PSD website

Supply of Machinery (Safety) Regulations 2008 – S.I. 2008 No. 1597

Health and Safety (Offences) Act 2008

Export and Import of Dangerous Chemicals Regulations 2008 – S.I. 2008 No. 2108

2009 - Gas Safe Register – 10 year contract to Capita

A new registration scheme for gas engineers was launched on 1 April 2009. The scheme is known as the Gas Safe Register and is administered under a 10 year contract by the Capita Group Plc. Under the Gas Safe Register, Capita have made a commitment to deliver improvements to gas safety by raising awareness of domestic gas risks among consumers and by increasing public confidence in registered gas engineers and the safety of public gas work. Gas engineers will also benefit from the Gas Safe Register as they will have more flexible payment and registration options. The administrative burdens on them will also be reduced.

A HEALTH AND SAFETY TIMELINE

2009 - Health and safety law poster replaced – after 10 years service!

A new version of the health and safety law poster was published on 6 April 2009. The poster includes a list of basic points relating to health and safety in the workplace and it outlines what employers and workers must do to comply with the law. The health and safety poster must be displayed in all workplaces or if this is not possible, each employee must be given a copy of the leaflet version. Information about how to obtain the poster or leaflets is available on the HSE Website.

2009 - HSE launches strategy for the health and safety of GB

HSE's new Strategy was launched in 2009 following the aim of the new 2008 Board to develop a 'renewed momentum to improve health and safety performance.' One of the key drivers for this is the fact that the combined rate of illness and injury in Great Britain is the same as it was in 2004. The Board wanted to build on existing strengths, develop new ways of engaging with the workforce and meet continuing challenges for health and safety. The Strategy explains that everyone has a role to play in improving health and safety in the workplace but there must be strong leadership and commitment to drive this forward. Training is described as a key component of the improvement process. The Strategy also reinforces HSE's role in inspection and enforcement along with monitoring hazardous industries to guard against possible catastrophes.

Working Time (Amendment) Regulations 2009 – S.I. 2009 No. 1567

Major Accident Off-Site Emergency Plan (Management of Waste from Extractive Industries) (England and Wales) Regulations 2009 – S.I. 2009 No. 1927

Hazardous Waste (England and Wales) (Amendment) Regulations 2009 – S.I. 2009 No. 507

Fluorinated Greenhouse Gases Regulations 2009 – S.I. 2009 No. 261

Carriage of Dangerous Goods and Use of Transportable Pressure Equipment Regulations 2009 – S.I. 2009 No. 1348

A HEALTH AND SAFETY TIMELINE

2010 - 2017

2010 - HSE introduces new Safety Alerts

In 2010 HSE revised its Safety Bulletin system to improve the way it warns industry about problems with substances, equipment, procedures and processes that may cause injury. The information contained in the bulletins are gathered from a range of sources including inspections, research, investigations, advice from industry and the EU Commission. There are three types of bulletin: Alerts which are immediate and vital; Notice which do not require immediate action but must be dealt with within a given timescale; and Other information which needs to be shared with a wide audience or specific group or sector of industry. Safety Bulletins can be received via email, text message or RSS feed and are also available on the HSE Website.

The Notification of Conventional Tower Cranes Regulations 2010 – S.I. 2010 No. 333

The Notification of Conventional Tower Cranes Regulations 2010 (S.I. 2010/333) came into force on 6 April 2010, requiring employers to inform HSE about conventional tower cranes that have been installed on construction sites. For newly erected cranes, the notification must take place within 14 days of thorough examination of the crane. Existing cranes that were already in place when the Regulations came into force must be registered within 28 days. The registration can be done electronically and must include the following information: details of the site address where the crane is located; name and address of the crane owners or lessors; crane identification details; the date of its thorough examination, details of the employer who commissioned the examination; and if any defects that pose a risk of serious injury were detected.

The Control of Artificial Optical Radiation at Work Regulations 2010 – S.I. 2010 No. 1140

Aims to protect workers from health risks associated with exposure to hazardous sources of artificial optical radiation (AOR). The Regulations require employers who may expose workers to AOR to assess the risk of adverse health effects of AOR to the skin or eyes. This assessment should include measurements or calculations for the levels of radiation to which employees are exposed. It must also assess the level, wavelength and duration of exposure. Employers are require to reduce or eliminate exposure to AOR where practicable, provide appropriate information and training for employees and ensure that exposed employees have their health monitored and receive medical examinations.

2010 - Lord Young's review of health and safety, 'Common Sense – Common Safety' is published

Lord Young's report was published on 15 October 2010 and sets out a series of recommendations for improving the way health and safety is applied in Great Britain

and for reviewing today's 'compensation culture'. The review, commissioned by the Prime Minister, David Cameron, has a wider remit than HSE's sphere of responsibility, however HSE has welcomed Lord Young's review and has continued to offer information and participate in improvements where appropriate. To this end, HSE has co-operated with a number of organisations to develop the Occupational Safety Consultants Register (OSCR).

2011 - Occupational Safety Consultants Register (OSHCR)

The Occupational Safety Consultants Register (OSHCR) provides a source for identifying consultants who are qualified to provide general advice on health and safety to help UK businesses manage workplace risks. While many companies will feel confident about carrying out their own workplace risk assessments and implementing appropriate health and safety measures, those who need additional help can turn to OSHCR. The consultants listed in OSHCR are recognised by the key occupational health and safety organisations who participate in the OSHCR scheme. OSHCR can be used to search for consultants by keyword, industry, topic, county or by provision of free information.

The Office for Nuclear Regulation (ONR) launched 1 April 2011

On 1 April 2011, the Office for Nuclear Regulation (ONR) was established as an agency of the Health and Safety Executive. ONR's objective is to consolidate the functions of HSE's Nuclear Directorate including the Nuclear Installations Inspectorate, the Office for Civil Nuclear Security and the UK Safeguards Office, as well as the Department for Transport's Radioactive Materials Transport Division. ONR is responsible for protecting people from the hazards inherent in the nuclear industry. It does this through enforcing relevant legislation and by encouraging the nuclear industry to aspire to an exemplary health and safety culture. ONR uses specialist advice from HSE and consultants and runs a nuclear safety studies programme to help it with inspection and assessment work. It also provides specialist assistance to various international energy organisations as well as nuclear regulators in a range of countries.

2011 - HSL celebrates 100 years

The Health and Safety Laboratory (HSL) celebrated its centenary this year. HSL is a leading scientific health and safety research organisation specialising in work-related activities. It is based in Buxton and its origins can be traced back to a 1911 Government-funded initiative aimed at investigating explosions in coal mines. The Safety in Mines Research Board was formed 10 years later and its work was conducted in both Buxton and Sheffield. Over the next few years the Buxton site became the Explosion and Flame Laboratory while the Sheffield site focussed on safety engineering. The Occupational Medicine and Hygiene Laboratory in Cricklewood, North London joined the existing research teams in 1966. In 1995 the three laboratories were combined together to form HSL, as an agency of HSE. HSL moved to Buxton in 2004.

2011 - Lőfstedt report published

A HEALTH AND SAFETY TIMELINE

Professor Ragnar Lőfstedt's report: 'Reclaiming health and safety for all: an independent review of health and safety legislation' was published in November 2011. The report was commissioned by Employment Minister Chris Grayling as part of the Government's plan to overhaul the health and safety system in Britain. The report considers ways in which health and safety legislation can be combined, simplified or reduced so that the burden on British businesses can be alleviated. At the same time, it suggests how progress in improving health and safety in the workplace can continue. The report takes into account the views of employers' and employees' organisations, Government bodies, academics and professional health and safety organisations.

2012 - Fee for Intervention (FFI)

HSE's introduced a cost recovery scheme known as Fee for Intervention (FFI) which came into force on 1 October 2012. FFI is administered under the Health and Safety (Fees) Regulations 2012 and is used to recover HSE's costs against those who contravene health and safety laws. The costs that are recouped in this way are those for inspection, investigation and taking enforcement action. FFI is designed to ensure that companies who break health and safety laws quickly put matters right. It will also discourage companies who try to undercut their competitors by flouting health and safety laws and putting people at risk.

Control of Asbestos Regulations 2012 – S.I. 2012 No. 632

The Regulations came into force in April 2012 and updated earlier asbestos regulations to take account of the fact that in the European Commission's view, the UK had not completely implemented the EU Directive on exposure to asbestos as set out in EU Directive 2009/148/EC). The changes brought about by the new Regulations are fairly small and mostly affect some types of non-licensed work with asbestos including medical surveillance, record keeping and notification of work.

Health and Safety (Fees) Regulations 2012 – S.I. 2012 No. 1652

Merchant Shipping (Accident Reporting and Investigation) Regulations 2012 – S.I. 2012 No. 1743

2012 - The Report of the Hillsborough Independent Panel published: Hillsborough: The Report of the Hillsborough Independent Panel by the Hillsborough Independent Panel. London: The Stationery Office; September 2012; 389 pp. ISBN 9780102980356

On 15 April 1989 over 50,000 men, women and children travelled by train, coach and car Semi-Final between Liverpool and Nottingham Forest. It was a sunny, warm, spring day and one of the high points of the English football season. Hillsborough was a neutral venue, like so many stadia of its time a mix of seated areas and modified standing terraces. As the match started, amid the roar of the crowd it became apparent that in the central area of the Leppings Lane terrace, already visibly overcrowded before kick-off, Liverpool fans were in considerable distress. In fact, the small area in which the crush occurred comprised two pens. Fans had entered down a tunnel under the West Stand into the central pens 3 and 4. Each pen was

segregated by lateral fences and a high, overhanging fence between the terrace and the perimeter track around the pitch. There was a small locked gate at the front of each pen. The crush became unbearable and fans collapsed underfoot. To the front of pen 3 a safety barrier broke, creating a pile of people struggling for breath. Despite CCTV cameras transmitting images of distress in the crowd to the Ground Control Room and to the Police Control Box, and the presence of officers on duty on the perimeter track, it was a while before the seriousness of what was happening was realised and rescue attempts were made. As the match was stopped and fans were pulled from the terrace through the narrow gates onto the pitch, the enormity of the tragedy became evident. Fans tore down advertising hoardings and used them to carry the dead and dying the full length of the pitch to the stadium gymnasium. Ninety-six women, men and children died as a consequence of the crush, while hundreds more were injured and thousands traumatised. In the immediate aftermath there was a rush to judgement concerning the cause of the disaster and culpability. In a climate of allegation and counter-allegation, the Government appointed Lord Justice Taylor to lead a judicial inquiry.

What followed, over an 11-year period, were various different modes and levels of scrutiny, including LJ Taylor's Interim and Final Reports, civil litigation, criminal and disciplinary investigations, the inquests into the deaths of the victims, judicial reviews, a judicial scrutiny two most senior police officers in command on the day. Despite this range of inquiry and investigation, many bereaved families and survivors considered that the true context, circumstances and aftermath of Hillsborough had not been adequately made public. They were also profoundly concerned that following unsubstantiated allegations made by senior police officers and politicians and reported widely in the press, it had become widely assumed that Liverpool fans' behaviour had contributed to, if not caused, the disaster. In 2009, at the 20th anniversary of the disaster, Andy Burnham, Secretary of State for Culture, Media and Sport, announced the Government's intention to effectively waive the 30-year rule withholding public records to enable disclosure of all documents relating to the disaster. In July 2009 the Hillsborough Family Support Group, supported by a group of Merseyside MPs, presented to the Home Secretary a case for disclosure based on increasing public awareness of the circumstances of the disaster and the appropriateness of the investigations and inquiries that followed. The Home Secretary met with representatives of the Hillsborough Family Support Group and in January 2010 the Hillsborough Independent Panel, chaired by James Jones, Bishop of Liverpool, was appointed.

The remit of the Hillsborough Independent Panel as set out in its terms of reference was to: oversee full public disclosure of relevant government and local information within the limited constraints set out in the Panel's disclosure protocol; consult with the Hillsborough families to ensure that the views of those most affected by the tragedy are taken into account; manage the process of public disclosure, ensuring that it takes place initially to the Hillsborough families and other involved parties, in an agreed manner and within a reasonable timescale, before information is made more widely available; in line with established practice, work with the Keeper of Public Records in preparing options for establishing an archive of Hillsborough documentation, including a catalogue of all central Governmental and local public agency information and a commentary on any information withheld for the benefit

of the families or on legal or other grounds; and produce a report explaining the work of the panel. The panel's report will also illustrate how the information disclosed adds to public understanding of the tragedy and its aftermath.

Health and Safety (Sharp Instruments in Healthcare) Regulations – S.I. 2013 No. 645

The Health and Safety (Sharp Instruments in Came into effect on 11 May 2013, require employers to ensure that the risks from needles and other 'sharps' used in healthcare are effectively controlled. The regulations stipulate that healthcare employers and contractors must provide suitable arrangements for the safe use and disposal of sharps and must train workers to understand the risks. In addition, the Regulations require employers and contactors to investigate any work-related incidents involving sharps, and to take appropriate action.

Health and Safety (Miscellaneous Repeals, Revocations and Amendments) Regulations 2013 – S.I. 2013 No. 448

The Health and Safety (Miscellaneous Repeals, Revocations and Amendments) Regulations 2013 came into force on 6 April 2013. These Regulations are designed to revoke a series of redundant and / or out of date legislation, including one Act and twelve statutory instruments. HSE has introduced these Regulations as part of a process of ensuring that employers can quickly understand their duty to provide a safe and healthy working environment for employees.

Mesothelioma Act 2014 – 2014 c. 1

Flexible Working Regulations 2014 – SI 2014 No. 1398

Merchant Shipping (International Safety Management (ISM) Code) Regulations 2014 – SI 2014 No. 1512

Explosives Regulations 2014 – SI 2014 No. 1638

Control of Explosives Precursors Regulations 2014 – SI 2014 No. 1942

Modern Slavery Act 2015 – 2015 c. 30

Construction (Design and Management) Regulations 2015 – SI 2015 No. 51

Ozone-Depleting Substances Regulations 2015 – SI 2015 No. 168

Fluorinated Greenhouse Gases Regulations 2015 – SI 2015 No. 310

Control of Major Accident Hazards Regulations 2015 – SI 2015 No. 483

National Minimum Wage Regulations 2015 – SI 2015 No. 621

Planning (Hazardous Substances) Regulations 2015 – SI 2015 No. 627

A HEALTH AND SAFETY TIMELINE

Gangmasters (Licensing Authority) Regulations 2015 – SI 2015 No. 805

Emissions Performance Standard Regulations 2015 – SI 2015 No. 933

Control of Poisons and Explosives Precursors Regulations 2015 – SI 2015 No. 966

Producer Responsibility Obligations (Packaging Waste) (Miscellaneous Amendments) Regulations 2016 – SI 2016 No. 241

Passenger and Goods Vehicles (Tachographs) (Amendment) Regulations 2016 – SI 2016 No. 248

Explosives Regulations 2014 (Amendment) Regulations 2016 – SI 2016 No. 315

Control of Electromagnetic Fields at Work Regulations 2016 – SI 2016 No. 588

Nitrate Pollution Prevention Regulations 2015 – SI 2016 No. 668

Modern Slavery Act 2015 (Code of Practice) Regulations 2016 – SI 2016 No. 823