

World Day for Health & Safety at Work

28 April 2021

Anticipate

Prepare

Respond to Crisis



The World Day for Safety and Health at Work is celebrated annually on 28 April to promote the prevention of occupational accidents and diseases globally. It is an awareness-raising campaign intended to focus international attention on the magnitude of the problem and on how promoting and creating a safety and health culture can help reduce the number of work-related deaths and injuries.

The ILO's campaign for the 2021 World Day for Safety and Health at Work is Anticipate, prepare and respond to crises - Invest Now in Resilient Occupational Safety and Health Systems. Therefore, focus on strategies to strengthen occupational safety and health (OSH) systems to build resilience, in order to face crises now and in the future, drawing on lessons earned and experiences from the world of work.

Get involved and promote the importance of a safe and healthy workplace this World Day for Safety and Health at Work on 28 April by:

- Using posters, photos to raise awareness in your workplace.
 - Using #worldWHSday2021, #SafeDay2021, #worldsafetyandhealthday2021#supportsafeworkplace on social media.
 - Prioritizing work health and safety discussions in your physical or virtual work meetings.
 - Reward safe behavior by giving out small rewards to employees who follow safety procedures provides them with recognition, which in turn keeps them thinking about keeping safe.
 - Comprehensive training is a must for preventing workplace injury. Make sure that all your employees have access to—and complete—all the training for their positions.
 - Spend some time with workers brainstorming for their safety ideas, and then act on their suggestions.
- Arranging a safety expert to speak in your workplace.



International
Labour
Organization

► Anticipate, prepare
and respond to crises



**INVEST NOW
IN RESILIENT
OSH SYSTEMS**

**World Day for Safety
and Health at Work**

28 April 2021

ilo.org/safeday

UK NEWS

April 2021

The WSO London (UK) Chapter in collaboration with AJP Safety will host several small-scale (socially distanced!) events on 28th & 29th April 2021 in London, Reading & Basingstoke.

The safety events will be based on the World Safety Day theme of Investing and Building Resilience in OSH systems in mitigating and preventing the spread of COVID-19 at the workplace. Our events will include a combination of free advice for charitable based organisations, providing information & training.

In the past few months, I have engaged with a range of business organisations from Retailers, Construction and Office-based companies by carrying out thorough Risk Assessments of working from home and at work during the COVID-19 pandemic. The objective of the assessments was to provide clearer guidance during this coronavirus pandemic and the steps the organisations could take to limit the spread of the outbreak and mitigate the risks for those involved.

In short summary, in the UK, employers are responsible for ensuring:

- a specific Covid-19 Risk Assessment is completed
- any control measures required must be implemented
- relevant staff are consulted and informed of the findings of the Risk Assessment. This should also consider employee Mental Health and Well-being.

On the vital issue of Well-being and Mental health I would like to introduce below, my colleague [Mr Scott Crump](#), a recent [Affiliate WSO UK Member](#), who has written a frank and honest insight of his own experience on the next page which has led him to become a Mental Health Awareness trainer.



Scott Crump's experience: *"Many years ago, and unfortunately still today, if you said you had/have any form of mental health concern or need you were probably looked at as being weak and a failure. This is not true, you have just reached your limit, and different people have different limits."*

After 23 years working as a Special Constable you get to see a few "things". Some, unfortunately, do stick with you and resurface after many years of being blocked, thankfully these have been identified by myself and others and the appropriate support has been offered, and importantly, the triggers that started it all off. To start with, I did feel I had failed myself, my family and colleagues and I did start to go to a very dark place. I had become withdrawn, angry at the smallest of things and quick to explode, this is not normally me.

But thanks to a very good support councillor and a phenomenal and supportive wife & family, I can now start to talk about it.

I can now see Mental Health as the same as Health & Safety, both need to be looked at and appropriate support given to those that need and want it. I am on the slow road to recovery and this is a fight that I am determined to not let beat me.

My advise is - Please do not bury your head in the sand or brush issues under a carpet, instead, let's talk....."

Scott Crump TechIOSH AIIRSM

Affiliate Member Of The World Safety Organisation

A word from our London Chapter President, **George Mathew, MA**

"The only thing in life that is certain, is it's uncertainty. Work to learn & embrace the unexpected. Being safe is not just a physical idea but also a mental one"

Now more than ever, if anything, the pandemic has underscored that employers in particular need to have robust health and safety frameworks in place.

I would like to end on a recent conversation I had with a OSH fellow professional of long experience and great insight where he said something that I now carry as a matter of principle and I quote, *"Safety and Health no doubt requires a highly rational and scientific approach yet the COVID-19 pandemic has affirmed that Safety and Health should also be a way of life, a state of being."*

Rasib Hussain, WSO-CSM, EurOSHM, FIIRSM, CMIOSH

Director, AJP Safety Ltd, Vice President, WSO London Chapter

Scott's Safety share

Submitted by Scott Masters, WSO-CSM; Contract Employee, Construction Lead Safety Specialist, Alliant Corporation; Tennessee and South Carolina USA

Top FIVE Heavy Equipment Construction Site Safety Tips

A construction site is a dangerous place to work. Between falling objects, heavy equipment malfunction and multiple tasks being performed at once, there are many ways construction workers can get hurt. That's why construction safety is important. Here are the top five construction site safety tips for heavy equipment operators and other construction workers to abide by.

Wear personal protective equipment

The first step to being as safe as possible at a construction site is wearing the right gear. Such gear that you wear on your body is known as personal protective equipment (PPE). PPE includes hard hats, which are an item that is required to be worn by everyone at all construction sites. PPE can help minimize bodily harm in the event that something goes wrong.

Follow OSHA rules and regulations

In addition to establishing protective equipment rules, the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) sets forth safety regulations for construction workers to follow. These rules apply to everyone at the construction site and cover many different areas, from specific types of heavy equipment operation to more general construction safety guidelines. This includes OSHA guidelines regarding PPE.

OSHA regulations are updated from time to time to reflect best practices, so you will want to stay in the loop so as to be in compliance with the most current regulations.

Clear job site of hazards

Clearing the construction site of any hazards goes a long way toward preventing injuries. This is done by inspecting the construction site before starting work. If there are hazards that can't be removed, such as electrical wires and trenches, you will want to provide sufficient warning to your coworkers of those hazards.

It also includes being aware of any weather conditions that might make certain tasks or operating certain equipment dangerous. Your safety and the safety of others at the work site is of the utmost importance.

Communicate with others

Construction is a team effort. Working as a team requires effective communication among everyone at the construction site. Not only is it important from an efficiency standpoint, but a safety standpoint as well. Following communication protocol will go a long way toward the prevention of construction site injuries.

Education is key

Learning the right way to be as safe as possible at a construction site is the most important thing you can do. Heavy equipment training programs make safety a high priority. As such, safety technique tends to be a large part of the curriculum for a given program. Such programs are the best way to build a foundation of safety knowledge to use throughout your career.

Safety education typically doesn't stop for heavy equipment operators at the end of a training program. Completing continuous training in current construction safety techniques will help you do your part in making the construction site as safe as possible.

With these tips in tow, you can make the construction site a safer place to work for yourself and your coworkers.

EVERYONE, EVERYWHERE, EVERY DAY: **SAFE HOME**