



Communicating with Micro Businesses in the Mining and Quarrying Sector

The Health & Safety Authority commissioned market research in 2005 to identify the best ways to assist micro-businesses improve their compliance with health and safety regulations.

Specific results for micro-businesses in the Mining and Quarrying sector are presented below. Note that results are based on a survey of 43 businesses with less than 10 employees*.

Methods of Communication

Most helpful communication tools	Least helpful communication tools
Local safety training courses	Training modules on internet
Safety statement template – paper copy	Information on CD ROM
Authority media campaigns	Safety statement template – electronic

Access to Communications Technology

Most accessible technologies	Least accessible technologies
Internet (77%)	Computer at home only (14%)
Email account (72%)	DVD/Video player (57%)
Computer (70%)	

Conditions that Facilitate Compliance: (i.e. where investment has most impact)

1. Emphasise the money-saving aspect of health and safety compliance
2. Make health and safety information available

Risk Assessments: 70% of respondents (with >5 years experience) state that they can conduct a risk assessment

Risk Perception: Relative to other sectors, respondents in the mining and quarrying sector perceive relatively low risk of injury in their work - "most unlikely to get hurt at work". The perception of risk increases with more than 5 years experience in the sector.

Summary based on market research conducted for the Health and Safety Authority by Delve Research (2005). Report available to download at www.hsa.ie – Research and Statistics.

** The relatively small sample size is due to the limited number of qualifying businesses in the sector, i.e. with less than 10 employees.*