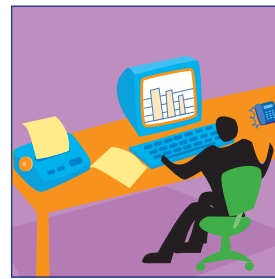
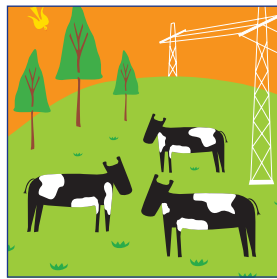




HEALTH AND SAFETY
AUTHORITY



Annual Report 2003

*Achieving a
Healthy
and Safe
Working Life
-Together*



HEALTH AND SAFETY AUTHORITY
(NATIONAL AUTHORITY FOR OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY AND HEALTH)

ANNUAL REPORT 2003

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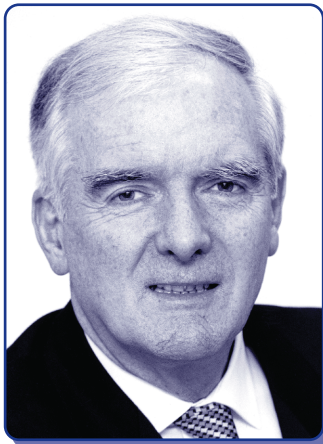
Achieving a
Healthy
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CHAIRMAN'S REPORT TO MR FRANK FAHEY TD, MINISTER FOR LABOUR AFFAIRS



Minister, the year 2003 was an important year for the Authority. The Authority undertook a demanding programme of legislative initiatives, substantially reorganised its management structures and processes and delivered a successful programme of enforcement, promotion, information and advice.

Sadly, however, 65 people died in work-related accidents in 2003, and most of these deaths were avoidable. Even where an injury is not fatal it can have serious consequences for the victim, his or her family, employer and the Irish economy.

Despite the still unacceptably high number of deaths and injuries, the movement is in the right direction. There has been a 15% reduction in the rate of workplace injuries and ill-health since 1999 according to the Central Statistics Office. This trend is reflected in reduced rates of occupational injury benefit claims and employer's liability claims.

The Authority cannot achieve its goal of achieving a safe and healthy working life on its own - it needs the active involvement of all parties. I am pleased to be able to say that important co-operative approaches were forthcoming from the construction, quarrying and agriculture sectors. The Authority also progressed its agenda of putting health and safety management at the core of operations in the healthcare and local authority sectors. A notable element of 2003 was the leading role the Authority took in the public consultation and preparation for the smoke-free workplaces initiative.

The Authority ran awareness-raising campaigns in the agriculture and construction sectors and it is heartening that, although construction injuries are at too high a level, there has been a reduction in the rate of injury. It is disappointing, however, that there has been no improvement in the agriculture sector. On a more positive note, the new Farm Safety Partnership promises improvements in this area.

The success of the Authority in raising awareness has understandably resulted in greater recognition of hazards in the workplace. This has in turn increased expectations, and complaints made to the Authority about unsafe practices in workplaces are now at record levels.

The Authority has successfully implemented the recommendations of its management review and these have helped maintain and improve its effectiveness. Board members, management and staff alike have all shouldered increased demands on their time and efforts.

Looking forward to 2004, I am very conscious that we all face continuing challenges to maintain improvements in workplace health and safety in a more complex and diverse environment. I am confident, however, that the Authority will do its utmost, with your support, to help achieve the safer Irish workplace we all desire.

Frank Cunneen

Frank Cunneen
Chairman



INTRODUCTION AND SUMMARY

This Annual Report to the Minister for Labour Affairs, Mr Frank Fahey, TD, is written as a commentary on the extent to which the Authority achieved its objectives or carried out specific activities that were set out in the Authority's Programme of Work for 2003.

WHO WE ARE AND WHAT WE DO

The Health and Safety Authority is the national statutory body with responsibility for enforcement of occupational safety and health law, the promotion and encouragement of accident prevention and the provision of information, advice and research. The Authority is a state-sponsored body, established under the Safety, Health and Welfare at Work Act (1989), and it reports to Mr Frank Fahey TD, Minister of State at the Department of Enterprise, Trade and Employment.

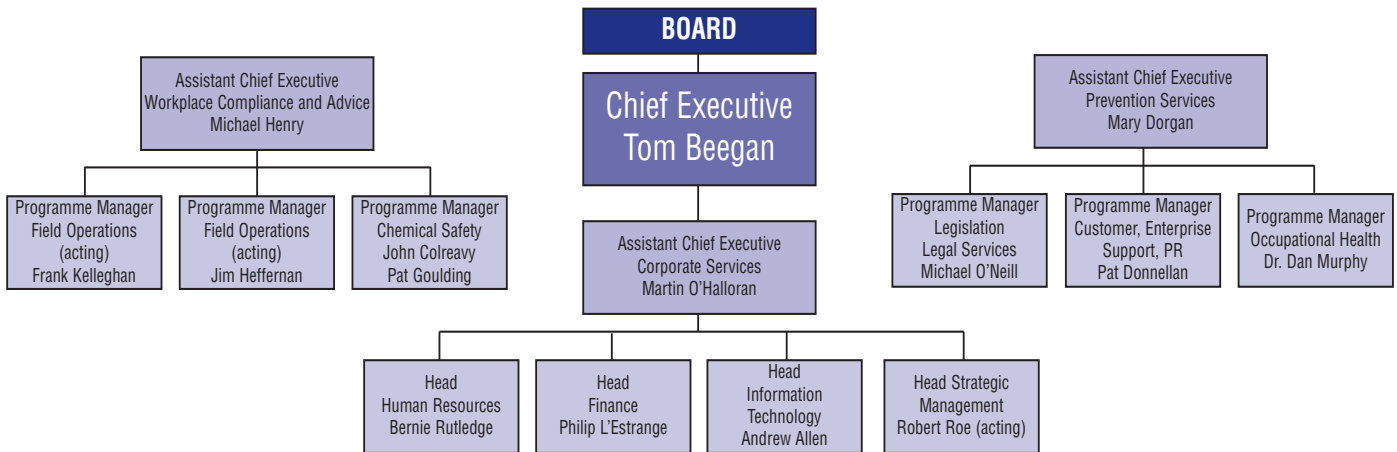
THE BOARD

The Board of the Authority comprises 11 members consisting of a Chairman and ten members appointed by the Minister for Labour Affairs. The Minister appoints members nominated by organisations representative of employees, employers and other bodies. The Board determines Authority policy. The membership of the Board at the end of 2003 was as follows:

| <u>CHAIRMAN</u> | | |
|-------------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------|
| Frank Cunneen | | |
| <u>EMPLOYEE NOMINEES</u> | <u>MINISTER'S NOMINEES</u> | <u>EMPLOYER NOMINEES</u> |
| Sylvester Cronin (Vice-Chair) | Joe Hegarty | Tony Briscoe |
| Fergus Whelan | Sue Corbett | Peter McCabe |
| Louise O'Donnell | Martin Lynch | Marie Rock |
| | Desmond Gilroy | |

MANAGEMENT TEAM

The Chief Executive Officer manages and controls the administration and business of the Authority. Members of the Authority's management team as of 31 December 2003 were as follows:



STAFF

The Authority employs 164 staff as inspectors, professional specialists, administrators or clerical support. The Authority has 100 inspectors carrying out a range of roles including the development of legislative proposals at EU and national level, development of guidance, liaison with representative bodies, inspection, promotion, information and advisory activities, management and development of staff, investigation of complaints and accidents and the prosecution of offenders.

OUR VISION

To achieve a healthy and safe working life – together

OUR PRINCIPLES

In all our work and interactions we will:

- Develop and use best practices and procedures to maintain recognised standards of excellence and quality
- Consult our customers to identify their needs and develop our services to meet those needs
- Deal with our customers in a straightforward, polite, helpful, open and professional manner
- Treat our customers fairly and consistently
- Value dignity at work
- Support open communications and teamwork and use performance management in a positive and accountable working environment
- Lead by example through the provision of good working conditions for our staff.

OUR KEY GOALS

To achieve our vision we have set ourselves the following key goals:

- Actively communicate with and influence our customers
- Value knowledge as a central resource within our organisation
- Use best practice in our inspection, investigation and enforcement processes
- Monitor and review health and safety legislation to make it relevant and accessible, and to protect the national interest
- Manage our people and resources effectively.

SUMMARY OF ACHIEVEMENTS IN 2003

2003 was a rewarding year for the Authority during which a major programme of work was carried out. The year saw the delivery of tangible benefits across a range of areas both for the customers of the Authority and in terms of the programme of continuous improvement within the Authority. The Authority achieved all of its major targets as well as effectively dealing with a number of important new challenges.

There was a major focus on preventive campaigns in the agriculture and construction sectors. These programmes were aimed at raising awareness in the sectors and among the working population as a whole. Good national impact was achieved through active engagement of the major stakeholders in the sectors by means of the Construction and Farm Safety Partnership groups.

There was a significant policy-driven workload involving the preparation for the smoke-free workplaces initiative and the major new EU chemicals strategy (REACH: Registration, Evaluation and Authorisation of Chemicals).

Comprehensive support was provided to the Department of Enterprise, Trade and Employment in preparing for the EU presidency and the hosting of a number of international conferences and meetings in occupational safety and health. Technical guidance was also provided on the preparation of the new Safety Health and Welfare at Work Bill. Professional technical analysis and advice was provided for some national infra-structural and commercial projects as part of the Authority's advisory role in the planning process with regard to major chemical hazards. This role has seen activity at an unprecedented level in 2003.

There was a continuing upward trend in the number of prosecutions being heard on indictment. There were 15 cases on indictment successfully completed, with a further 33 pending. A number of these required significant investigative resources and in some cases involved close liaison and joint investigation with the Gardai.

Notwithstanding the allocation of resources to emerging national issues, more than 10,700 workplace inspections were completed.

During 2003 the Authority implemented a number of changes to its operational procedures, which led to improved performance, and enabled it to achieve its objectives. New enforcement procedures were introduced. An intensive training programme supported the rollout programme for inspectors and key staff in the authority. These new procedures will enhance the quality of inspections, investigations and prosecution file preparation.

A major organisational restructuring was successfully carried out during 2003. Improved communications and performance management systems delivered and will continue to deliver improvements in team working. The first phase of a two-year programme of introducing best-in-class financial management systems was completed. A new records management system was successfully introduced and a new three-year strategy for the ongoing development of the Authority's Information System for Field Enforcement (SAFE) was initiated.

The impact of the ongoing achievements in the Authority was reflected in an improvement (downward trend) in national performance indicators in safety and health. There was a measurable reduction in the rate of accidents and ill-health reported to the authority while the Central Statistics Office figures show a reduction in the rate and numbers of workplace injury and ill-health over the same period. The rate of occupational injury benefit claims accepted also fell.

SPECIFIC INITIATIVES

Workplace Injury and Ill-health: There was a sustained downward trend in Occupational Disability and Insurance claims. A reduction of 15% was noted in the rate of injuries and ill health for workers in the period 1999-2003 as reported by the Central Statistics Office in its quarter 1 survey for 2003.

Smoke-free Workplaces: The national policy on the introduction of a smoke-free workplace emerged in 2003. The Authority provided a significant strategic input to the Departments of Enterprise, Trade and Employment (DETE) and Health and Children to facilitate the introduction of the smoke-free initiative. The Authority also took the lead role in the national consultative process.

New EU Chemicals Strategy: During 2003 the EU brought forward a new initiative in the area of chemical safety (REACH). The Irish interest was represented and supported by professional, specialist technical advice from the Authority. Two specialist inspectors from the Hazardous Substances unit in the Authority support this programme.

Construction and Farm Safety Plans Launched: Two major initiatives were launched during 2003 viz. the Construction and Farm Safety Partnership plans. These plans are being led by the Authority and are actively supported by the key sectoral stakeholders with a view to improving safety and health awareness and performance in these sectors.

Forestry: The Authority published a Code of Practice for Managing Safety and Health in Forestry Operations in 2003 with the support of the forestry interest groups.

Awareness Raising Campaign in Farming: A one-month focused promotional, advertising and media campaign was run in November 2003 with a view to improving farm safety awareness and standards. The main elements of the campaign were an intensive two-week TV campaign followed by the circulation of guidance and assessment material for completion by the farming community. All stakeholders in the farming sector supported the programme. The main weekly farming publication embraced the programme.

Two High-profile Construction Campaigns: There were 2 major construction campaigns held in June and September 2003. The programmes involved an enhanced inspection programme, public information and advertising focused on falls from heights. The campaigns were part of a trans-European campaign organised by senior labour inspectors across Europe. Arising from the campaign, a report detailing a comparative analysis will be published to inform future programmes.

Small Contractor Toolkit: A document providing practical guidance for small construction contractors was published and distributed as part of the construction safety campaigns in 2003.

Construction Research Published: A detailed research project was commissioned by the Authority to identify the factors associated with fatalities in the construction industry. The completed published research will inform forthcoming regulations and strategies.

Manual Handling: Agreement was reached with cement manufacturers to replace 50kg bags with 25kg bags thus reducing a major risk factor in manual handling injury. This will be of primary benefit in the construction sector.

Chemical Safety Seminars: A number of chemical safety seminars were hosted, organised and supported by the Authority with active involvement by the chemical and pharmaceutical industries, and

other relevant workplaces. The seminars were informative and consultative and were focused on achieving increased awareness and improved compliance.

Training of Dangerous Goods Drivers: 1,477 drivers were assessed and successful candidates were licensed in 2003 under the Carriage of Dangerous Goods by Road Regulations. This represents an increase of 9% on 2002.

Land-use Planning: The land-use planning workload in 2003 was at an unprecedented level. The Authority provided professional technical advice in two notable land-use planning cases which were the subject of appeals under the planning processes. In addition, 283 cases (planning applications or development plans) were processed.

Inspections: The authority met the target for workplace inspections carrying out over 10,700 inspections nationally.

Prosecutions: Fifteen prosecutions on indictment and 61 prosecutions in the District Court were completed, involving fines of up to €200,000. A record 33 prosecutions on indictment are currently pending with others awaiting decision by the DPP.

Draft Safety Health and Welfare at Work Bill: The Authority provided technical advice to the Department of Enterprise Trade and Employment (DETE) based on its practical experience obtained from 14 years working within the framework of the Safety, Health and Welfare at Work Act, 1989.

Freedom of Information: The Authority successfully managed nearly 300 requests for information under the FOI legislation in 2003, which represents a 20% increase on 2002 – one of the highest levels among civil and public service organisations.

Information: The volume of calls to the INFOTEL office for information purposes rose to approximately 24,000. There has been a major increase in call volumes over the last year.

Seminars and Annual Conference: The Authority held a successful annual conference and a series of successful and well-attended seminars on stress in the workplace.

Young Scientists and Technology Exhibition: The Authority sponsored two awards at the ESAT Young Scientist and Technology exhibition. The awards sought novel and innovative approaches to preventing accidents in the workplace. One related specifically to the agriculture sector, while the other was a more general award. The Authority was delighted with the standard of entries received.

North-South Co-operation: Meetings were held with the HSENI to develop co-ordinated approaches.

CAPABILITY ENHANCING ACHIEVEMENTS

Sustaining Progress: The Authority delivered a demanding programme of productivity improvements as set out in its sustaining progress action plan.

Restructuring: A major restructuring programme was successfully implemented with active management of industrial relations.

Management Development: During 2003 a management development programme was rolled out for all senior managers with the objective of improving managers' strategic and operational skills.



Staff Survey: The second staff survey was carried out and showed a consistent improvement across a number of parameters particularly in relation to role clarity. An action plan has been developed for 2004 based on the results.

Excellence Through People: An independent external audit was carried out on the Authority's training and development programmes and continued registration to the standard was assured through achievement of a high score.

Enforcement Processes: The programme of continuous improvement in the enforcement processes was progressed with the introduction of new investigation, file preparation and prosecution procedures. A comprehensive retraining programme for inspectors and managers supported the rollout of these new procedures.

Enforcement Management Information System (SAFE): Phase 1 of a four-year development plan for the Authority's SAFE system was completed allowing greatly improved information on employers and places of work. A new electronic accident reporting and case management system was commissioned. This system will facilitate easier access and reporting by employers, improved organisational efficiency within the Authority and improved data quality.

Records Management: A new records management system was implemented on budget, on time. The new system facilitates easier access to all records relating to enforcement and other key activities.

Financial Management: The first phase of a new financial management system was introduced. The audit report from the Office of the Comptroller and Auditor General confirmed that good financial management practices were in place. Expenditure for the year was managed within the agreed budget.

Information Systems Security and Development: Enhanced security systems have protected the Authority from interruptions to its business due to incoming Spam or virus attack. The system was upgraded to provide increased availability, functionality and business continuity.

Statistics and Research: Research on fatalities in construction was commissioned, executed and published.

GOAL 1: TO ACTIVELY COMMUNICATE WITH AND INFLUENCE OUR CUSTOMERS

The Authority made specific commitments in its programme of work for 2003. The extent to which the Authority met its commitments is laid out below:

EDUCATION

- Work to mainstream health and safety on the curriculum at all levels in education
The Authority engaged actively at primary, secondary and third level and with the EU to help ensure that health and safety becomes a normal part of the education curricula. An action plan was drafted and will be finalised in 2004.
- Encourage the establishment of an Occupational Safety and Health Award targeted at school pupils
The Authority sponsored two awards in the ESAT Young Scientist and Technology exhibition. One related to agriculture the other was a general award.

BUSINESS SUPPORT

- Support Small and Medium Enterprises through mentoring initiatives such as our Good Neighbour scheme and through our project Taking Ownership of Health and Safety
Good Neighbours: The Authority continued to support this scheme where organisations assist smaller companies and other local groups in health and safety activities.
Louth Pilot Campaign (Taking Ownership of Health and Safety): This campaign involved seminars on procurement and micro-enterprises. A video and cd-rom was presented to all second-level schools in Louth to raise awareness among those entering the workplace for the first time. Discussions took place with local groups focusing on the needs of employers and employees.
- Develop a Joint Committee with the Health and Safety Executive Northern Ireland (HSENI) on small enterprises
Strong links were formed with HSENI in meetings concerning the agriculture and construction sectors.
- Continue Minister's Award for Innovation in Occupational Health and Safety
The Authority supported the Minister's Award, which was presented to Glanbia Ingredients Ltd. The initiative involved the centralised gravity feed distribution of chemicals to various points on the premises and reduced worker exposure by up to 40%. The runner-up award went to Irish Biscuits.

COMMUNICATIONS

- Develop a PR strategy for establishing and maintaining effective relationships with key stakeholders so as to facilitate the achievement of our corporate objectives
The Authority carried out a strategic review of public relations policy and practice and an audit of

perceptions among key stakeholders. Arising from the review, a steering group was established to oversee the development of a strategy.

- Issue planned press releases on key topics as well as reactive statements on newsworthy prosecutions, and other issues of public interest
Active communication with the media continued and included the issue of 70 media releases and statements plus a large number of responses to media queries. Substantial coverage was achieved in local, national and trade media.
- Organise attendance at exhibitions and trade fairs in order to disseminate information and communicate with key stakeholders
The Authority participated in key national and regional trade exhibitions and events in 2003 including: Farm Machinery Show, National Quarry Safety Seminar, Building Exhibition and PlanExpo, National Ploughing Championships, PDFORRA Conference, Navan Chamber of Commerce Conference.
- Arrange the design, layout and print of all new publications
The Authority published ten new publications and arranged re-prints and updates of a range of practical leaflets and guides.
- Write, edit and produce a quarterly newsletter
The Authority published and distributed three issues of the Health and Safety Matters newsletter free of charge to over 2,000 people. The summer issue was a European Safety Week special on the theme of "Dangerous Substances".
- Organise an annual conference targeted at smaller enterprises
The Authority held a conference under the banner "Safety at Work – The Wisest Investment You'll Ever Make" in Kilkenny. The change of venue and theme was successful in attracting a new audience.
- Provide information through, for example, our telephone information line Infotel, our web-site, seminars and workplace inspections
The Infotel telephone information service received approximately 24,000 calls, a large increase in call volume over previous years. The web-site also had a high volume of users with 345,000 individual visits made to the site. The exceptionally high demand for information placed great demands on our staff and systems leading to the start of a project to upgrade our customer contact systems. A project to improve the web-site commenced in late 2003. Customers can now purchase Authority publications on-line. As part of European Safety Week, chemical seminars were organised. Although enforcement remained at a high level, the focus of 68% of inspections was on the provision of information and advice.

WORKING WITH BODIES THAT SHARE OUR OBJECTIVES

- Work to influence and motivate those with the ability to influence workplace health and safety, including state agencies and representative bodies
The Authority continued to engage with Local Authorities, Government departments, sectoral, employer and employee representative groups and the Gardai to influence them so that health and safety was placed, or remained, high on their agendae.

- Develop national strategies on workplace health and safety and associated public safety issues in partnership with bodies that share our objectives. We will do this by reviewing the national system which provides first aid at places of work and maintaining ongoing liaison with Workplace Health Promotion Officers attached to the Health Boards
Draft proposals for a new system for First Aid at work were prepared for public consultation. Consultation and liaison continued with Workplace Health Promotion Officers in five health board areas.
- Work to influence and motivate those with the ability to influence workplace health and safety, including state agencies and representative bodies, by carrying out consultations on a National Strategy for Occupational Health
A draft national strategy was produced for consultation in 2004. The Authority participated in the forum on the workplace of the future.
- Continue the project addressing health and safety in the public sector and in public procurement
Meetings were held with senior managers and safety advisors to agree actions in 29 County Councils. Two hundred and fifteen inspections in Local Authorities were also carried out and an average of only 40% compliance was found. A detailed report on the inspection findings will be published in 2004.
- Form strategic alliances and share information with other agencies that have common objectives by giving lectures to appropriate audiences on issues within our areas of competence and organise a conference on patient handling in the healthcare sector
A joint conference on patient handling was held with the Irish Society of Chartered Physiotherapists.
- Act as the National Focal Point for the European Agency for Safety and Health at Work
The European Good Practice Awards were organised and a major award went to Irish Asphalt Ltd for the substitution of methylene chloride in their process. A commendation went to Abbott Ireland. The theme of European Safety Week was "Dangerous Substances – Handle With Care". The Authority distributed 6,000 information packs on this theme.
A number of projects were undertaken using seed funding provided by the Agency. These involved the following organisations: Western Regional Advisory Board, SIPTU, Bord Iascaigh Mhara, Health and Safety Authority, University College Dublin Safety Office, Faculty of Occupational Medicine, Windmill Lane Corporate Communications.

PRODUCE THE FOLLOWING PUBLICATIONS, GUIDELINES AND CODES OF PRACTICE

- Guidance on manual handling to include Agriculture, Construction, Manufacturing, Hotels and Retail sectors
Draft guidance on manual handling was produced for publication in 2004.
- Code of Practice on Roof Work
A draft Code has been prepared for approval.
- Code of Practice on Cranes
A document was approved by the HSA Board, which will form the basis of an Irish Standard to be published by the NSAI.

- Code of Practice on Underground Services
This document has been approved for publication in 2004.
- Guidelines on Chemical Agents including health surveillance
The guidelines were approved for publication in 2004. A short guide to chemical agents and a guide to chemical agent risk assessment were approved for publication in 2004.
- Guidelines on asbestos cement activities
Guidelines were drafted and approved by the Dangerous Substance Advisory Committee for publication in 2004.
- Participate in Electro-Technical Council of Ireland (ETCI) committee work
The Authority participated in the work of the ETCI on electrical safety.
- Information and advice on the transport and storage of dangerous goods (ADR) and on petrol stations
Detailed information was published on the Authority's website.
- Guidelines on the new Diving Regulations
Development of the guidelines was delayed pending Board approval of the Regulations.
- Health and Safety Management Guidelines for the Health Services
Draft Guidelines on Safety and Health Management in the Health Services were produced. They will be published along with an Audit Tool in 2004.
- Basic Health and Safety guidance for small construction firms
Guidance for small contractors was published and distributed during the construction safety campaigns in 2003.
- Guidelines on the new Construction Regulations
The submission to the Minister for Labour Affairs of recommendations regarding the amendment of the Construction Regulations has cleared the way for work to commence on guidelines.
- Guidelines on behavioural aspects of safety management systems
Guidelines were produced and will be published in 2004.
- Guidelines on carrying out a "risk assessment" of workplace stress
Guidelines were produced and will be published in 2004.
- Audiometric guidelines
Progress was made and a new guideline will be available in 2004.
- Revision of the Safety Statement Guidelines
A draft revised guidance document was prepared, but it was decided to postpone publication pending the enactment of the new Safety, Health and Welfare at Work Act so as to take account of any new requirements.
- Annual report for 2002
The annual report was published.

- Programme of Work for 2004
The programme of work was published.
- 4 editions of the HSA newsletter Health and Safety Matters
3 editions of Health and Safety Matters were produced in 2003 and distributed free of charge to a wide readership. The summer issue was a European Safety Week special on the theme "Dangerous Substances".

INITIATIVES

- Construction Safety Campaigns
Two high-profile campaigns were held across the EU, with a particular emphasis on falls from a height.
- Farm Safety Action Week
The Authority co-ordinated Farm Safety Week during which interests in the agricultural sector were encouraged to focus specifically on farm safety. The Authority mounted an intense promotional, information and enforcement campaign. Enforcement action was taken on 25% of farms inspected during the week.
- Quarries Safety Week
A quarries safety week involving a seminar, inspections and the distribution of information to most quarries was held. The seminar attracted over 220 delegates including quarry managers, quarry safety delegates, engineers, safety managers all were encouraged to run in-company safety initiatives for Quarry Safety Week. The theme for the week and for the 2003 seminar was "Practical Safety Management and Worker Training".

CUSTOMER SERVICE

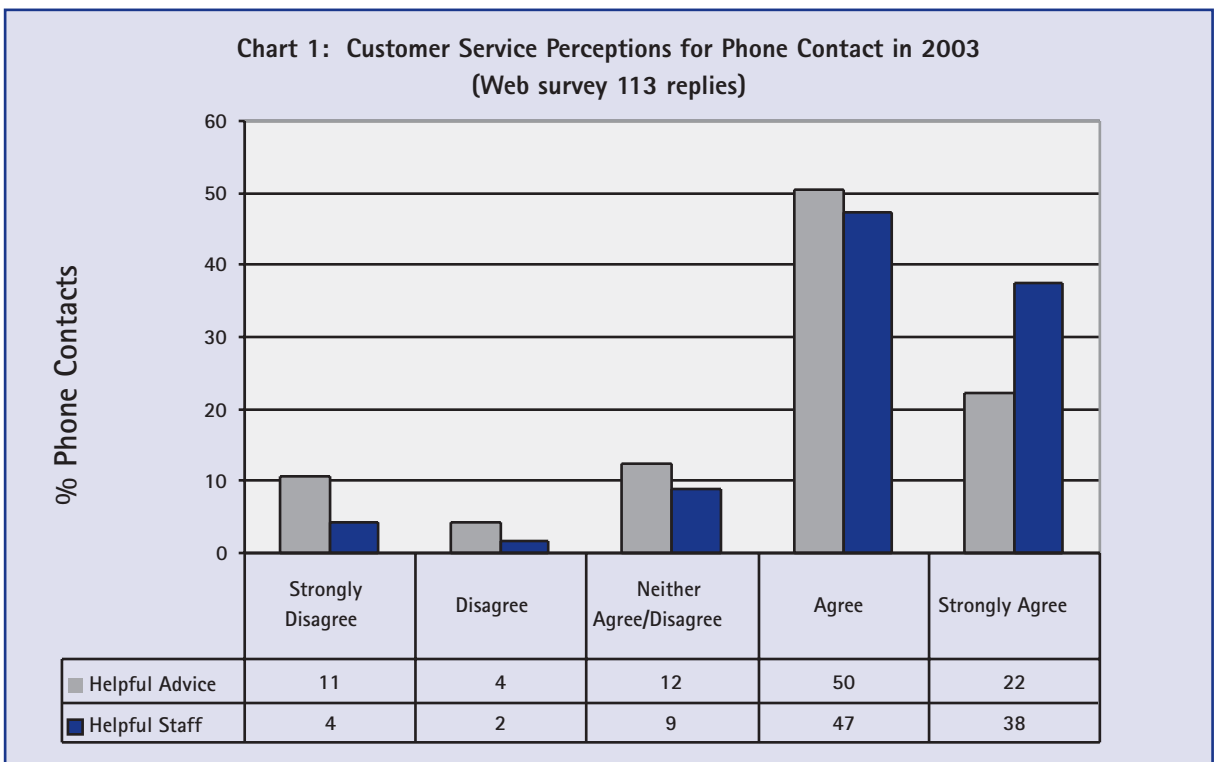
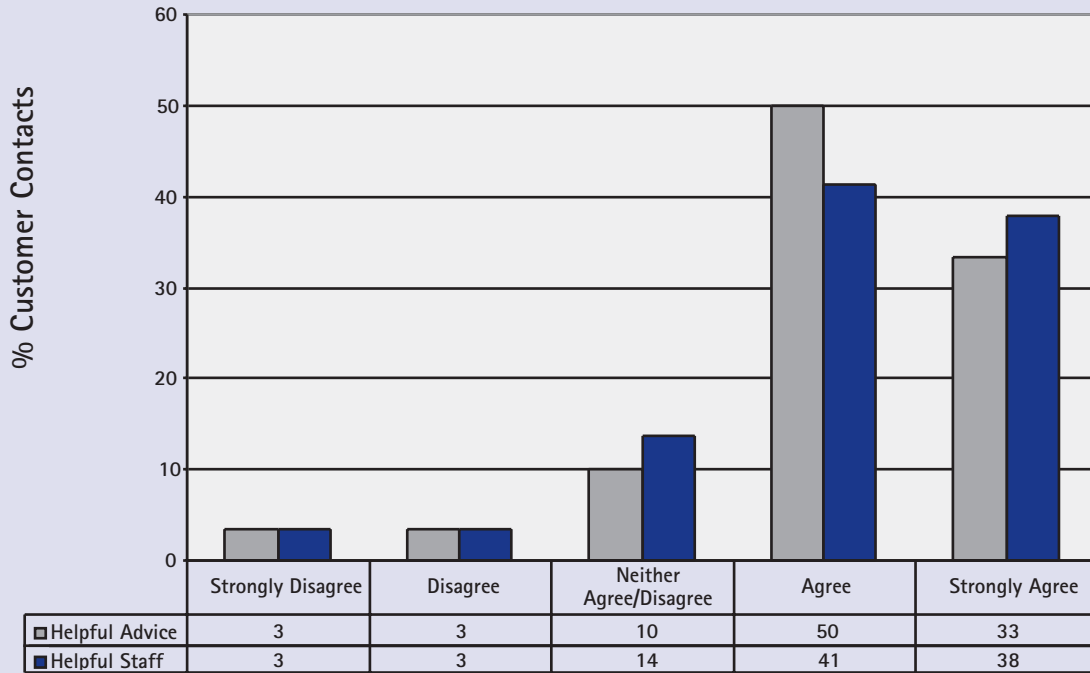


Chart 2: Customer Service Perceptions for Inspection Contact in 2003 (Web survey 30 replies)



GOAL 2: TO VALUE KNOWLEDGE AS A CENTRAL RESOURCE WITHIN OUR ORGANISATION

The Authority made specific commitments in its programme of work for 2003. The extent to which the Authority met its commitments is laid out below:

- Identify, collect, collate and analyse health and safety data and information
Detailed statistical information on workplace accidents and enforcement was published in the annual report and on the web.
- Review Notification of Accident Form to facilitate accident data collection
An intensive public consultation exercise identified many potential improvements to the existing accident reporting systems. These were progressed for implementation in 2004.
- Conduct research and ensure its active dissemination
Research on the factors associated with construction fatalities was published.
- Working as an evidence-based organisation, establish monitoring and evaluation systems to assess performance
The Authority used a range of evaluation systems including customer surveys, a staff survey, media monitoring, monitoring of specific programmes and monitoring of accident and ill-health data. Most of the measures showed improvements in performance.
- Develop systems for the collection, analysis and sharing of information in occupational health through producing a position paper on National Disease Statistics, carrying out a survey of respiratory clinics for occupational asthma cases, carrying out surveys on workplace allergies and continuing with the cement dermatitis survey
A position paper was produced on National Disease Statistics. Clinics were surveyed and subsequent negotiations took place with the University of Manchester Department of Occupational Health, which will directly involve Irish Respiratory Physicians in their survey next year.
- Develop evidence-based and innovative strategies to deal with existing and emerging hazards or changed methods of working, including psychological health issues and environmental tobacco smoke
The issues arising from the "Report on the Health Effects of Environmental Tobacco Smoke (ETS) in the Workplace" were considered. Taking account of the dangers of tobacco smoke in the workplace and the inability of ventilation systems to protect employees, legislative proposals were drafted for Ministerial consideration. A number of ventilation studies submitted to the Authority were examined and responded to.
- Implement a data quality programme
New systems for recording employer information were implemented, dramatically reducing duplicate information on the enforcement management system.



- Implement the Authority's records management programme to enable more efficient and effective storage of the Authority's records

An integrated system for recording and managing the Authority's records was successfully implemented.

- Ensure that information is made available to those who request it in accordance with the terms of the Safety, Health and Welfare at Work Act and the Freedom of Information Acts

The Authority continued to make information routinely available to the public and operated Infotel, a telephone information line where routine queries relating to workplace health and safety are answered. Over 24,000 queries were dealt with in 2003.

The Authority also responds to requests for information which is not routinely available and, in 2003, 294 such requests were processed in accordance with the Freedom of Information Acts, 1997 and 2003, marking a considerable increase over 2002.

- Provide data to Eurostat

Data on workplace accidents was provided to Eurostat to enable comparison with other EU countries.

- Build strategic alliances with nominated bodies

The Authority worked closely with the Gardai at local level in the investigation of serious workplace incidents.

GOAL 3: TO USE BEST PRACTICE IN OUR INSPECTION, INVESTIGATION AND ENFORCEMENT PROCESSES

GENERAL OBJECTIVES

The Authority made specific commitments in its programme of work for 2003. The extent to which the Authority met its commitments is laid out below:

- Target Health and Safety Management during inspections, including the preparation and implementation of safety statements, safety consultation and representation
Safety statement assessment is a core part of the Authority's inspection process. 60% of employers inspected had statements in place and of these statements, 60% were broadly in compliance with the law. Only 54% of workplaces with statements were deemed to have adequately implemented them. Safety consultation was found in 56% of workplace visits, while safety representatives were in place in 25%.
- Investigate serious accidents and respond to complaints
456 incidents were investigated – about 9% of those reported. 781 inspections were carried out in relation to these investigations. The Authority targets employers who have not reported accidents. 3,137 complaints were recorded by the Authority of which 1,797 (57%) were investigated, while 482 (15%) were resolved without a visit. The large increase in investigations over the last three years has required a reduction in the number of other inspections.
- Target repeat inspections at employers who have been served with enforcement notices
10% of inspections were follow-up visits on foot of enforcement notices being served. A total of 662 Improvement Notices and 639 Prohibition Notices were served during or after inspections.
- Focus on the use of Chemical Agents and Carcinogens during appropriate inspections
21% of inspections monitored chemical agents and carcinogens. About 27% of chemical agent risk assessments were in broad compliance with legal requirements, while 28% of risk assessment recommendations were adequately implemented.
- Train inspectors in the use of the revised enforcement manual, and information technology. Implement the review of our inspection and enforcement processes to achieve best practice
Inspectors were trained in the revised procedures for evidence handling, prosecution file preparation and dealing with complaints. Revised procedures were necessary to take account of the increased number of prosecutions being heard in the higher courts. Inspectors also received training to ensure high quality information is recorded on the enforcement management system.

AGRICULTURE AND FORESTRY

- Address during inspections the following issues: machine operation, manual handling, livestock handling, working at heights and child safety.
The Authority conducted 856 agriculture inspections in 2003. Of these, 80% were focused on machinery, livestock handling, manual handling, working at height and child safety. 14% were follow-up inspections, and 5% were complaint and accident investigations. Enforcement action was taken in 17% of farms inspected.

- Promote the Code of Practice on Managing Health and Safety in Forestry.
This Code was published in 2003. The Authority actively supported the dissemination of the Code by providing information and advice to the Society of Irish Forestry Consultants, Teagasc Forestry Advisers, Coillte, harvesting contractors and sawmillers.
- Promote and enforce the Code of Practice on Preventing Accidents to Children and Young Persons in Agriculture
The Code was provided to farmers during inspections and was highlighted as part of the Farm Safety Campaign, and distributed during the National Ploughing Championships.
- Promote and enforce the Guidelines on the Preparation of a Safety Statement for a Farm
Guidance on farm Safety Statement preparation was provided as part of the inspection programme. The Guidelines on the Preparation of a Safety Statement for a Farm were distributed during the National Ploughing Championships.
- Promote and evaluate a farm safety resource pack for primary schools
This pack was promoted at the National Ploughing Championships.
- Develop initiatives with the Health and Safety Executive Northern Ireland (HSENI) as part of the Joint Working Group on Agricultural Safety
The HSA/HSENI continued to exchange information on farm safety issues. A joint review of child fatalities in Agriculture highlighted this as an issue of mutual concern and the two bodies strongly urged the farming communities North and South to act in order to ensure child safety on farms.
- Pilot and evaluate benchmarking in relation to Irish Farms
The lessons learned during the 2002 pilot were applied to inspections during 2003.
- Promote the inclusion of health and safety in all Farm Quality Assurance Schemes
Those developing Quality Assurance Schemes have been encouraged to integrate safety and health into the schemes by making the completion of a Safety Statement a requirement in such schemes.
- Commence the action plan designed by the Farm Safety Action Group
The Farm Safety Action Plan 2003–2007 was published and implementation started. The plan identified an approach to farm safety and health based on education, engineering and enforcement, and involving a range of farming, state, training and other groups.
- Pilot innovative ways to achieve compliance in agriculture
An innovative farm safety initiative was undertaken with the support of the Department of Agriculture and key groups. The core of the initiative was a Farm Safety Self-Assessment document produced by the Authority and distributed to the majority of farmers in the country. This one-month campaign has generated a significant response from farmers.

CONSTRUCTION

- Address during our inspections the following issues: site safety representation, Safe Pass and CSCS (Construction Skills Certification Schemes) training implementation, welfare facilities,

notification and appointment of duty holders, site-specific safety and health plans and Safety Statements, asbestos problems, working at heights, site traffic and plant
Over 4,600 inspection visits to construction sites were carried out in 2003 against a target of 4,500 and two inspection campaigns were held specifically targeting the topics listed above. Enforcement action was necessary in 14% of inspections. Two High Court Closure Orders were sought and an additional 38 sites agreed to close following inspection.

- Maintain co-operation with social partners and key professional bodies through the Construction Safety Partnership and the Construction Advisory Committee
The year was marked by a high level of consultation involving the new construction regulations and involved 9 meetings of the Construction Advisory Committee and 5 meetings of the Construction Safety Partnership. The Construction Safety Partnership launched a new and demanding plan for the years 2003 to 2005 and implementation commenced.
- Carry out two promotional and inspection campaigns
Two successful construction campaigns were held in June and September 2003. These involved an enhanced inspection programme, public information and advertising focused on falls from heights. The campaigns were part of a pan-European initiative. A report detailing findings and comparative analysis across Europe will be published in 2004.
- Participate with FÁS in the development of health and safety programmes
Inspectors participated in meetings of the FÁS Construction Industry Group and in working groups on the development of Construction Skills and Safe Pass programmes. To date over 300,000 persons have completed the FÁS Safe Pass programme.
- Visit architectural and engineering practices to review compliance with the design and management part of the 2001 Construction Regulations
Thirty-four inspection visits were addressed at design practices. The inspections found a low level of awareness by designers of their duties under the regulations and a lack of implementation of safety principles in their work.
- Publish a safety toolkit for smaller contractors
A pocket-sized document providing practical guidance on basic essentials for small construction contractors was published and distributed.
- Develop initiatives with the Health and Safety Executive Northern Ireland (HSENI) as part of the Joint Working Group on Construction Safety
Three meetings were held with HSENI during which matters of common concern were discussed and possible common strategies were explored.

CHEMICAL SAFETY OBJECTIVES

In respect of chemical safety and providing for the protection of people and the environment from the effects of chemical agents, including major accidents in premises involving dangerous substances, to fulfill our National Competent Authority roles by:

- Carrying out the necessary activities to fulfill our obligations in respect of major accident hazards, classification, packaging, labelling and notification of dangerous substances and

preparations, evaluation of safety reports and chemical notifications and carrying out necessary risk assessments

All notified Major Accident Hazard "Seveso II" establishments were inspected and 15 detailed Safety Reports were assessed. The Authority processed a high level of new substance notifications and research and development exemptions during 2003 reflecting ongoing innovation by the pharmaceutical industry in Ireland.

- Providing land-use planning advice to planning authorities and An Bord Pleanála in respect of major accident hazard establishments and developments in their vicinity
In respect of land-use planning advice, 283 cases (planning applications or development plans) were processed in addition to participation at a number of An Bord Pleanála hearings. The extent of planning advice was at a very high level.
- Contributing to the progress of the new EU Chemical Policy, Marketing and Use Directives and Export/Import Regulations in respect of dangerous substances
The new EU Chemical Policy is known as the REACH system (Registration, Evaluation, and Authorisation of Chemicals). The involvement of the Authority included providing briefings, speaking notes, updates for government departments and the Dangerous Substances Advisory Committee, as well as consultation with industry representative groups, attendance at EU meetings, and providing seminars and workshops in relation to REACH.
The Authority acts as national authority for the marketing and use of certain dangerous substances and preparations. The Authority serviced discussions of these in the European Council, arranged national consultation on Irish sensitivities and provided initial drafts of implementing legislation.
The Authority is the nominated Competent Authority for the notification of new substances. The Authority is also the national authority for the classification, packaging and labelling of dangerous preparations and represented Ireland at EU meetings in this regard.
The Authority continues to represent Ireland at meetings of the EU authorities for the evaluation and control of risks of existing substances. The Authority is currently involved in the risk assessment of three substances.
- Carrying out inspections, issuing licences and consents, dealing with appeals against licence refusals and providing expert occupational hygiene input and support in respect of chemical agents, carcinogens and asbestos related inspections. (DS)
88 specialist chemical agents inspections and 86 specialist asbestos inspections were undertaken in addition to the completion of a detailed asbestos training programme for construction inspectors, who carry out the majority of asbestos inspections.. Guidance on asbestos cement products and compliance with the Chemical Agents Regulations documents were produced.
669 road checks were carried out which resulted in detailed inspection of 362 dangerous goods vehicles. 70 petrol stations were inspected. Regulations governing the Carriage of Dangerous Goods by Road and associated Fees regulations were drafted.
- Developing necessary initiatives in respect of controlling workplace exposure to hardwood dusts and environmental tobacco smoke
The national policy on the introduction of a smoke-free workplace emerged in 2003. The Authority provided a significant strategic input to the Department of Enterprise Trade and Employment and facilitated the Department of Health and Children and the Office of Tobacco Control in progressing the introduction of a smoking ban in workplaces. The Authority took the

lead role in the national consultative process, which reflected a significant policy-driven workload involving the preparation for the smoking ban. The Authority contributed to an EU survey as a preliminary stage in developing enforcement policy.

- Organising and running dangerous goods driver-training examinations, approving dangerous goods driver-training courses and co-ordinating dangerous goods safety advisor examinations. *In connection with the carriage of dangerous goods by road, 1,477 drivers were examined and 15 driver-training courses were approved. A total of 41 inspections were carried out in relation to the appointment of dangerous goods safety advisors.*

- Providing for such internal and external training requirements as are appropriate and necessary for the implementation of the programme. *A number of chemical safety seminars were hosted, organised and supported by the Authority with active involvement from the chemical, pharmaceutical industries and other relevant workplaces.*

- Meeting the relevant legislative and related objectives
Regulations to give effect to Council Directive 94/55/EC on the Transport of Dangerous Goods by Road (ADR) were signed.
Draft regulations were finalised to implement Directive 1999/45/EC on the Classification, Packaging and Labelling of Dangerous Preparations. The European Communities (Classification, Packaging, Labelling and Notification of Dangerous Substances) Regulations 2003 (SI No. 116 of 2003) were finalised.

- Participating in and contributing to such National, EU and International forums as are relevant to the Authority's chemical safety objectives and arranging for the necessary consultation and the provision of advice.
Authority staff participated in and contributed to 26 national and international health and safety groups and committees, representing the national interest, as follows:
EU National Expert Working Group (NEWG) on Occupational Exposure Limit Values
EU Working Group on Social Questions (re new Asbestos Directive for the protection of workers)
EU National Competent Authority meetings on New & Existing Substances Legislation
EU Working Groups on new Chemicals Policy
EU Technical Working Group Meetings on New Substances legislation
EU Technical Working Group Meetings on Existing Substances legislation
EU Technical Working Groups for Classification & Labelling of new substances for Health Effects and Environmental Effects
EU Technical Working Group for Classification of substances in respect of Carcinogen, Mutagen & Reproductive (CMR) effects
EU network of enforcers of chemical legislation (CLEEN)
EU Risk Reduction Strategy Group on Existing Chemicals
EU Technical Working Group on testing methods for dangerous substances
EU Land Transport of Dangerous Substances Committee, Road/Rail/ADN/TPED
UN/ECE Joint Committee on RID/ADR (WP15)
UN/ECE Inland Transport Committee Working Party on the Transport of Dangerous Goods (WP 15)
UN/ECE Safety Advisors Working Group (RID/ADR)
EU Committee of Competent Authorities (CCA) Responsible for the Implementation of Directive 96/82/EC on the Control of Major-Accident Hazards Involving Dangerous Substances (Seveso II)

EU Working Group on Land-Use Planning in the Context of Art.12 of Directive 96/82/EC (Seveso II)
EU Project Group on Accidental Risk Assessment Methodology for Industries in the context of the Seveso II Directive (ARAMIS)
EU Council and Commission Working Groups on Technical Harmonisation (Dangerous Substances)
EU Project Group on acute chemical exposure levels for emergency and land-use planning (ACUTEX)
HSA Dangerous Substances Advisory Committee (DSAC)
HSA Dangerous Goods Safety Advisers Examination Review Committee
UK/NI/IRL Tripartite Meetings on ADR
NSAI Gas Technical Standards Committees
NSAI Technical Standards Committee on LGP equipment and accessories (TC9)
Occupational Hygiene Society of Ireland (OHSI)
UK Health and Safety Executive Asbestos Licensing Principal Inspectors Group (ALPI)

INSPECTIONS AND ENFORCEMENT

- Ensure that our inspection, investigation and enforcement policies, procedures and work processes are recognised as meeting best practice standards by providing expert support to the noise in entertainment programme
New inspection and investigation procedures were introduced based on recognised best practice. Progress was made with preparing a draft guideline on Noise in Entertainment for publication early in 2004.
- Use our inspection process to communicate with and influence managers and workers by organising a manual handling inspection programme
760 manual handling inspections were completed.
- Continue to develop preventive strategies for dealing with occupational stress and bullying, and carry out proactive inspections to check the quality of stress and bullying risk assessments
Preventive strategies in the area of stress and bullying were further developed and, a draft Stress Risk Assessment was prepared for publication in 2004.
- Develop and implement annual work programmes of targeted inspections, investigations, enforcement and other workplace interventions by continuing organisational (management system) intervention in the health care sector, contributing expertise to the health care sector inspection programme, carrying out reactive inspections in occupational health and proactive inspections under the Chemical Agents Regulations.
A total of 129 inspections were carried out in the health care sector and work continued on the development of Safety Management Systems for the sector. Twenty-nine inspections were carried out in the specific area of occupational health.

MINES AND QUARRIES

- Carry out mines inspections addressing: safety-critical areas of fire and rescue below ground, strata control, inrushes and falls of ground, plant safety, explosive safety, assessment of mine rescue exercises. assessment of shift bosses
The 29 mines' inspections exceeded our target of 16 inspections. The Authority also dealt with planning and exemption applications.

- Carry out quarries inspections addressing: safety management falls management, falls from heights, strata control, traffic management, plant safety and, explosive use and handling. *A total of 410 inspections were carried out compared to a planned 415 inspections. Enforcement action was necessary in 13% of visits. Following several years of active intervention by the Authority, standards are improving in the sector but machine guarding and mobile plant safety are still areas of concern.*
- Consolidate mining and quarrying legislation. *The consolidated quarries regulations were drafted and approved and are currently with the Parliamentary Counsel. These regulations will assist in the eventual revocation of the Mines and Quarries Act.*
- Hold "Quarry Safety Week". *As well as a seminar and information activities, 172 inspections of quarries, sand and gravel pits and associated manufacturing units were carried out during Quarry Safety Week. Promotional material on Quarry Safety Week was distributed to quarries. Some improvements were noted across a range of issues during inspections. There were two agreed closures of workplaces and inspectors issued nine Prohibition Notices and 17 Improvement Notices during the week.*
- Issue simple guidance to employers dealing with priority issues. *Draft guidance has been produced for publication in 2004.*
- Continue provision of IOSH accredited management training in quarrying course. *The Authority continued to support this training but the participation rate was low.*
- Finalise explosives safety video. *The "All-Clear Best Practice in Surface Blasting Operations" video and CD-Rom was launched in association with Irish Industrial Explosives.*

WORKPLACE VEHICLE MOVEMENTS

- Promote the Code of Practice on Rider-operated Lift Trucks: Operator Training. Produce and disseminate guidance on transport hazards. Prioritise workplace transport risks in all priority sectors. *196 inspections were carried out focussing on workplace vehicle issues. Issues reviewed included driver competency and training, the carrying out of appropriate risk assessments, pedestrian segregation and designated traffic routes, safe vehicle activities and maintenance and driver visibility.*

MACHINERY

- CE Marking of machinery at the workplace *A target of 218 machinery inspections was met, with an average compliance rate of 63%. A pilot project on impact measurement was launched in the south-east region during the last quarter of the year. This project, which is aimed at suppliers and manufacturers, is to be rolled out on a national basis in 2004.*

- Liaison with the Office of Consumer Affairs
The Authority consulted with Consumer Affairs in relation to specific cases.
- Establish a CE Mark National Interest Group
A national interest group was set up to facilitate consultation on any proposed changes to the directive.
- Attend EU meetings and prepare for Ireland's EU presidency
The proposed revision of the Machinery Directive progressed well under the Italian Presidency and a total of 8 meetings were attended in 2003. Extra time and resources were committed to this area towards the end of the year in preparation for the Irish Presidency.
- Develop contacts with HSENI in relation to Market Surveillance of Machinery
The development of contacts with HSENI in relation to Market Surveillance was postponed until 2004 because of the extra resources committed to preparation for the Irish Presidency as well as other commitments.

MANUAL HANDLING

- Train inspectors in manual handling inspection
Three seminars for inspectors aimed at developing their skills in relation to manual handling inspection were held.
- Carry out manual handling inspections in Agriculture, Construction, Healthcare, Wholesale and Retail
A total of 760 inspections were carried out. The inspections found that almost half of employers were in broad compliance in relation to the provision of training. However, most of the training was wasted as only 25% were in broad compliance with the requirement to carry out a risk assessment in relation to manual handling issues at their place of work.
- Continue research into aircraft baggage handling
The Authority met on a quarterly basis with the researchers.
- Research in construction area in relation to 50kg bags to continue
An agreement was reached with suppliers to market cement in 25kg bags.

OTHER AREAS

- Inspections at ports and airports, with particular emphasis on the risk of injury from container handling
140 inspections were carried out. These concentrated mainly on the east coast docks and Dublin Airport. The issues reviewed included cargo handling and containers, noise assessment, safe handling of chemicals, safe machinery use and safe vehicle movements. Ports and airports had a broad compliance level of only 42% for the above issues.
- Inspections to measure noise in places of entertainment
73 noise-control inspections were carried out, of which 10 were as a result of follow-up inspections in places of entertainment. Noise measurements were taken and the results showed

that 50% of the premises had noise levels above the 85dBa threshold while 35% were above 90dBa. The compliance rate was found to be only about 30%.

- Each offshore installation will be inspected in 2003.
Seven offshore installation inspections were carried out in 2003.

- Commercial diving facilities inspections will be carried out and new regulations will be implemented
30 commercial diving inspections were performed. Draft new diving regulations were prepared for approval.

GOAL 4: TO MONITOR AND REVIEW HEALTH AND SAFETY LEGISLATION IN ORDER TO MAKE IT RELEVANT AND ACCESSIBLE, AND TO PROTECT THE PUBLIC INTEREST

The Authority made specific commitments in its Programme of Work for 2003. The extent to which the Authority met its commitments is laid out below:

- Follow, and make input into, the progress of the new Safety, Health and Welfare at Work, *The Authority advised the Department of Enterprise, Trade and Employment, as required, in the development of the new Safety, Health and Welfare at Work Bill.*
- Work towards the revocation of parts of the Mines and Quarries Act, 1965 and its regulations
 - (i) *Draft Safety, Health and Welfare at Work (Quarries) Regulations and an associated draft Repeals and Revocations Order were submitted to the Department of Enterprise, Trade and Employment.*
 - (ii) *First drafts of Safety, Health and Welfare at Work (Mines) Regulations and associated Repeals and Revocation Order were progressed for finalisation in 2004 for consultation with relevant interests.*
- Consult on the Draft Diving Regulations
Draft Heads of Regulations were developed for consultation with relevant interests in 2004.
- Draft Carriage of Dangerous Goods Regulations
Draft regulations, designed to implement the 2003 ADR, were finalised and submitted to the Department of Enterprise, Trade and Employment. The resultant Carriage of Dangerous Goods Regulations 2004 (SI No. 29 of 2004) were made on 21 January 2004.
- Draft regulations to implement the 1st amendment of Major Accident Hazards (Seveso II) Directive
Directive 2003/105/EC of the European Parliament and Council amending Council Directive 96/82/EC on the control of major-accident hazards involving dangerous substances was not adopted until 16 December 2003. The Directive is to be brought into force before 1 July 2005 and draft Regulations will be developed during 2004.
- Finalise new regulations on Classification, Packaging and Labelling of Dangerous Preparations to implement the new Preparations Directive
Work progressed during the year on the finalisation of the regulations. The resultant European Communities (Classification, Packaging and Labelling of Dangerous Preparations) Regulations 2004 (S.I. No. 62 of 2004) were signed on 19 February 2004.
- Finalise new regulations to implement the 28th Adaptation To Technical Progress (ATP) to Directive 67/548/EEC on Dangerous Substances
The European Communities (Classification, Packaging, Labelling and Notification of Dangerous Substances) Regulations 2003 (S.I. No. 116 of 2003) were signed on 27 March 2003.

- Draft regulations to implement adaptations to technical progress (ATP) of Marketing and Use Regulations
 - (i) *The European Communities (Dangerous Substances and Preparations) (Marketing and Use) Regulations 2003 (S.I. No. 220 of 2003) were signed on 4 June 2003.*
 - (ii) *European Communities (Dangerous Substances and Preparations) (Marketing and Use) (Amendment) Regulations, 2003 (S.I. No. 503 of 2003) were signed on 24 October 2003.*
- Draft regulations to implement Import/Export Regulations
 - Drafting of Enforcement Regulations relating to Regulation (EC) No. 304/2003 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 28 January 2003 concerning the export and import of dangerous chemicals to be finalised in 2004.*
- Draft new regulations relating to licensing of asbestos contractors and others
 - First draft of regulations to transpose Directive 2003/18/EC of the EP and Council on the protection of workers from the risks related to exposure to asbestos at work (transposition due before 15 April 2006) to be finalised by end of 2004.*
- Draft new Construction Regulations
 - (i) *The Safety, Health and Welfare at Work (Construction) (Amendment) Regulations 2003 (SI No. 277 of 2003) were signed on 30 June 2003.*
 - (ii) *Draft revised Safety, Health and Welfare at Work (Construction) Regulations were submitted to the Department of Enterprise, Trade and Employment during the year for legal settlement.*
- Draft regulations to implement the Working at Heights (Scaffolding) Directive - Council Directive 2001/45/EEC
 - Draft Heads of Regulations were developed for consultation with relevant interests in 2004.*
- Draft Safety, Health and Welfare at Work (Explosive Atmospheres) (ATEX) Regulations
 - The Safety, Health and Welfare at Work (Explosive Atmospheres) Regulations 2003 (SI No. 258 of 2003) were signed on 27 June 2003.*
- Identify gaps or areas of concern in the administration and enforcement of health and safety law and make recommendations to address these by approving Irish Diving Medical Examiners and by working towards mutual recognition with UK Diving Medical Examiners
 - Six diving examiner doctors were approved. Meetings were held with counterparts in the UK with a view to achieving mutual recognition.*
- Draft reports on the practical implementation of EU Directives
 - Work on the finalisation of draft reports on the implementation of the Manual Handling and Display Screen Equipment Directives was put on hold due to other work pressures in 2003 and these are due to be finalised in 2004.*
- Implement Consultation/Oireachtas Scrutiny arrangements relating to EU legislative proposals
 - This was done in relation to all new proposals for relevant EU Directives which arose during the year.*

For further details on regulations signed and implemented during 2003 see Appendix D.

GOAL 5: TO MANAGE OUR PEOPLE AND RESOURCES EFFECTIVELY

HUMAN RESOURCES

- Implement, through a process of consultation, a HR and Training Strategy which will provide the framework and parameters to manage and develop our staff so that the future needs (internal and external) of the Authority are met
A Human Resource Strategy was developed in consultation with the partnership and industrial relations committees. Specific action plans will be implemented over a three-year period.
- Develop as a learning organisation so that staff receive a high level of training and development linked to achievement of the strategic aims of the Authority
Significant resources were allocated to training and development. The Authority retained the Excellence Through People Award and improved on its target of a score of 90%.
- Operate a performance management and development system based on mutual trust between the parties which aligns individual and Authority objectives
An audit was carried out in early 2003 and, based on the findings, existing documentation was revised by staff and management. Plans commenced for the introduction of upward feedback into the process beginning in 2004.
- Implement best practice in staff industrial relations
The Authority's Industrial Relations Council met on a bi-monthly basis and significant organisational restructuring was agreed.

CHANGE

- Implement year 1 of our Corporate Plan and reorganise the management structures and management processes of the Authority
The first year of the plan was successfully completed with significant changes in structures and systems smoothly implemented.
- Implement planned improvements in our business processes
Improvements were implemented in the investigations, prosecution, records management, finance, IT and HR areas.
- Implement the key recommendations of the staff survey
An action plan that addressed prioritised issues was put in place including the delivery of a comprehensive management development programme and increased emphasis on cross-functional team-working.
- Implement the recommendations linked to our "Excellence Through People" award from FÁS
Recommendations were addressed on a priority and cost-benefit basis.
- Implement the new procedures set out in the revised enforcement manual
New procedures were implemented and training provided.

- Implement a new records management system
A new records management system was successfully introduced.

BOARD OF AUTHORITY AND ADVISORY COMMITTEES

- Provide support to the Board of the Authority and co-ordinate the work of the Advisory Committees and Task Forces
Ten Board meetings were held and serviced, in addition to the work of the Planning and Finance, Legislation and Guidance and Audit Sub-Committees.

INFORMATION, COMMUNICATION AND TECHNOLOGY SYSTEMS

- Undertake a strategic review of the Information Technology system in line with the Core Business Process Re-design
A new three-year strategy for the ongoing development of the Authority's Enforcement Management Information System (SAFE) was initiated.
- Support best practice in records management
A new electronic file management system was developed and implemented.
- Manage and maintain existing Information Technology systems within the Authority
Availability of a wide range of IT systems was maintained during 2003. A significant effort was involved in protecting our systems against virus attack.
- Investigate and analyse best practice approaches to our IT needs
We implemented a number of significant projects aimed at delivering a best practice service to our users including:
A fundamental review of our internal and external security systems
A review and update of our Acceptable Use of Computers Policy
The installation a new firewall to allow secure Internet access for all staff
The implementation of new web-filtering to allow us to control and monitor web activity
The implementation of a system to facilitate video-conferencing between our Dublin, Cork and Waterford offices.
- Implement disaster recovery procedures
Disaster Recovery procedures were reviewed and a strategy was developed for implementation in 2004.
- Substantially modify and upgrade the SAFE system
The SAFE system was upgraded to facilitate an enhanced data entry and search system and existing data was cleansed. 15 training sessions were delivered to all system users.

FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

- Deliver an effective budgeting and management-reporting framework
The Authority successfully implemented a new Financial Reporting and Accounting System in 2003. This new system, which went live on 1st January 2004, will greatly improve the efficiency, speed and flexibility of accounting and management reporting within the Authority.



- Implement devolved budgeting across the organisation
Devolved budgeting has been implemented across all functions within the Authority. Budget owners, cost centres and expense classifications have been reclassified and improved within the new financial reporting system. This will improve budgetary ownership, financial and management reporting and allow greater accountability .

- Drive a value for money approach across the Authority
The Authority revised its purchasing guidelines in 2003 to promote and ensure value for money is obtained in all of the Authority's procurement activities. Separately identifiable performance indicators have been implemented to regularly assess process improvements and savings in this area.

- Increase income generation activity
An internet-based system was implemented in March 2003 to facilitate sales of publications online. This system affords customers more flexibility and a faster service when purchasing the Authority's publications. It also provides the Authority with another cost-effective channel to promote and increase sales of its publications.

CHAIRMAN'S FINANCIAL REPORT

On behalf of the Board of Directors of the Health and Safety Authority I acknowledge our responsibility for ensuring that an effective system of internal financial control is maintained and operated by the Authority.

The system works to ensure that assets are safeguarded, transactions authorised and properly recorded, and that material errors or irregularities are either prevented or would be detected within a timely period.

The Board has taken steps to ensure an appropriate control environment is in place by:

- *Clearly defining management responsibilities and powers*
- *Establishing formal procedures for monitoring the activities and safeguarding the assets of the organisation*
- *Developing a culture of accountability across all levels of the organisation.*

The Board has established processes to identify and evaluate business risks by:

- *Identifying the nature, extent and financial implication of financial risks facing the Authority*
- *Assessing the likelihood of identified risks occurring*
- *Working closely with Government and various agencies to ensure that there is a clear understanding of the Health and Safety Authority's goals and support for the strategies to achieve those goals.*

The system of internal financial control is based on a framework of regular management information, administration procedures including segregation of duties, and a system of delegation and accountability. In particular it includes:

- *A comprehensive budgeting system with an annual budget which is reviewed and agreed by the Board of Directors;*
- *Regular reviews by the Board of Directors of periodic and annual financial reports which indicate financial performance against forecasts;*
- *Setting targets to measure financial and other performance;*
- *Clearly defined purchasing and approval guidelines;*
- *Formal project management disciplines.*

The Authority has an Internal Audit function. The function operates in accordance with the Framework Codes of Best Practice set out in the Code of Practice on the Governance of State Bodies and reports directly to the Audit Committee of the Health and Safety Authority. The work of internal audit is informed by analysis of the risk to which the body is exposed, and annual internal audit plans are based on this analysis. The analysis of risk and the internal audit plans are endorsed by the Audit Committee. At least annually, the Internal Auditor provides the Audit Committee with a report of internal audit activity. The report includes the Internal Auditor's opinion on the adequacy and effectiveness of the system of internal financial control.

The Board's monitoring and review of the effectiveness of the system of internal financial control is informed by the work of the internal auditor, the Audit Committee which oversees the work of the



internal auditor, the management within the Health and Safety Authority who have responsibility for the development and maintenance of the financial control framework, and comments made by the Comptroller and Auditor General in the management letter.

I confirm that in the year ended 31 December 2003 there was a review of the effectiveness of the system of internal financial controls.

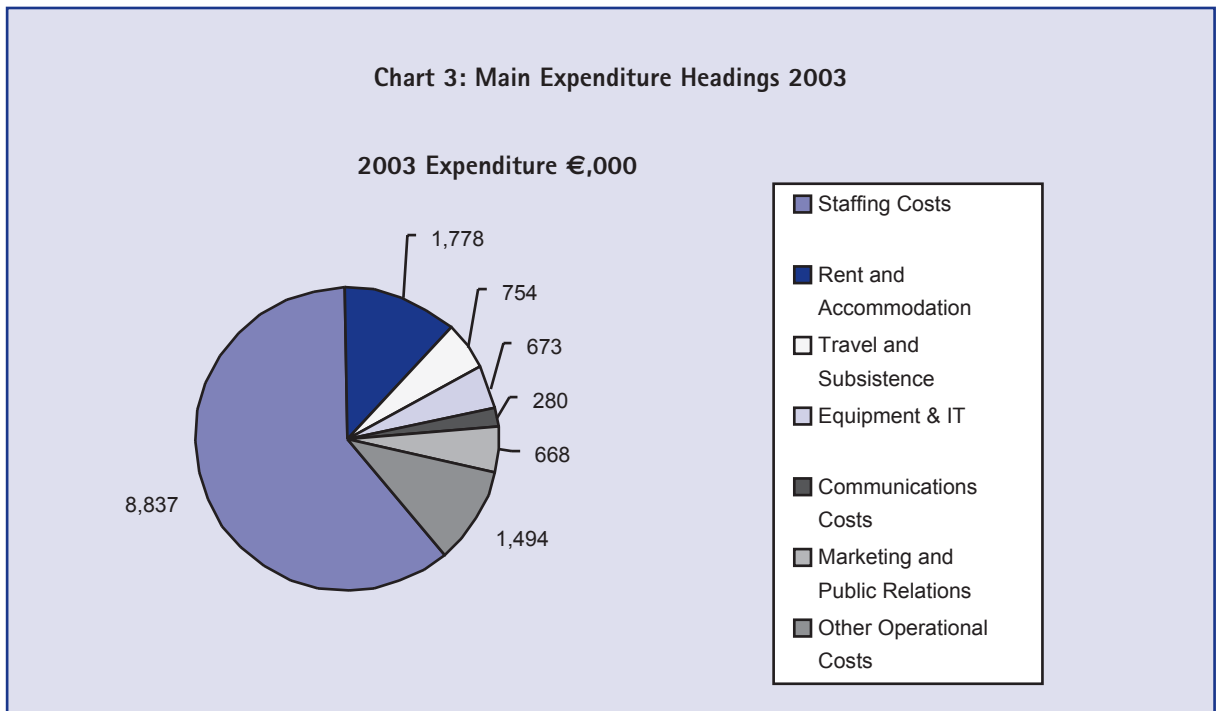
Signed on behalf of the Board
Mr Frank Cunneen
Chairman

FINANCIAL SUMMARY 2003

The Authority's Income and Expenditure for 2003 is broken down as follows:

| | €K | |
|-------------------|-----------------|----------------|
| Income | | |
| Annual Grant | 13,453 | <i>(Note1)</i> |
| Other Income | 1,012 | |
| Total Income | <u>14,465</u> | |
| Expenditure | <u>(14,483)</u> | <i>(Note1)</i> |
| Surplus/(Deficit) | (18) | <i>(Note2)</i> |

Chart 3: Main Expenditure Headings 2003



Note 1: The above figures for income and expenditure are based on actual cash amounts received and expended for the year ended 2003.

Note 2: The €18k variance represents total spending coming within 0.1% of annual budget.

APPENDIX A: INSPECTION AND ENFORCEMENT

Table A1.1: Inspections and enforcement actions 2003 (HSA)

| Economic sector | Number of Inspections | Number of Notices (2002) | | | % of Visits where enforcement action taken |
|--|-----------------------|--------------------------|---------------------|------------------------|--|
| | | Prohibition Notices | Improvement Notices | Improvement Directions | |
| A - Agriculture, Hunting and Forestry | 856 | 56 | 88 | 0 | 17 |
| B - Fishing | 11 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| C - Mining and Quarrying | 439 | 21 | 37 | 0 | 13 |
| D - Manufacturing | 1757 | 35 | 211 | 1 | 14 |
| E - Electricity/gas/water | 54 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| F- Construction | 4615 | 489 | 148 | 4 | 14 |
| G - Wholesale/Retail trade; repair of motor vehicles, personal and household goods | 654 | 4 | 61 | 2 | 10 |
| H - Hotels/Restaurants | 127 | 2 | 7 | 1 | 8 |
| I - Transport, Storage, Communication | 1077 | 4 | 24 | 0 | 3 |
| J - Financial Intermediation | 30 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 3 |
| K - Real Estate, Renting, Business | 333 | 11 | 21 | 0 | 10 |
| L - Public Admin./Defence | 265 | 6 | 14 | 2 | 8 |
| M - Education | 103 | 2 | 21 | 2 | 24 |
| N - Health/Social Work | 129 | 0 | 7 | 0 | 5 |
| O - Community/Social/ Personal Services | 253 | 9 | 22 | 0 | 12 |
| P - Private households with employed persons | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Totals | 10,704 | 639 | 662 | 12 | 12 |

Table A2 Inspections by type and sector 2003 (HSA)

| Economic Sector | Percentage Inspections by Visit Type | | | | | Total no. of inspections |
|--|--------------------------------------|----------------------|-------------------------|-----------|-----------|--------------------------|
| | Compliance | Injury Investigation | Complaint Investigation | Follow-up | Other | |
| A - Agriculture, Hunting and Forestry | 80 | 2 | 2 | 14 | 2 | 856 |
| B - Fishing | 91 | 9 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 11 |
| C - Mining and Quarrying | 66 | 4 | 10 | 12 | 8 | 439 |
| D - Manufacturing | 59 | 14 | 11 | 11 | 6 | 1757 |
| E - Electricity/gas/water | 50 | 9 | 9 | 11 | 20 | 54 |
| F- Construction | 61 | 6 | 22 | 10 | 1 | 4615 |
| G - Wholesale/Retail trade; repair of vehicles, personal and household goods | 49 | 8 | 26 | 10 | 8 | 654 |
| H - Hotels/Restaurants | 45 | 5 | 30 | 15 | 6 | 127 |
| I - Transport, Storage, Communication (including 669 road checks) | 85 | 5 | 6 | 3 | 1 | 1077 |
| J - Financial Intermediation | 33 | 10 | 53 | 3 | 0 | 30 |
| K - Real Estate, Renting, Business | 54 | 10 | 16 | 11 | 10 | 333 |
| L - Public Admin./Defence | 57 | 9 | 20 | 8 | 7 | 265 |
| M - Education | 26 | 5 | 49 | 14 | 7 | 103 |
| N - Health/Social Work | 42 | 17 | 33 | 7 | 2 | 129 |
| O - Community/Social/Personal Services | 51 | 11 | 23 | 11 | 5 | 253 |
| P - Private households with employed persons | 100 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| % Inspections by Type | 56 | 7 | 17 | 10 | 10 | 10704 |

HEALTH AND SAFETY MANAGEMENT

The Authority's inspectors prioritise health and safety management during their inspections. Inspectors normally ask to see Safety Statements and conduct a quick assessment of the extent to which the Statement, in their opinion, is based on a written risk assessment, identifies hazards, and specifies measures, responsible persons, resources and the co-operation required.

Many of the Authority's inspections are targeted at specific sectors and organisations, often on the basis of poor health and safety performance or the receipt of complaints. The tables below may not be representative of other organisations.

60% of the employers inspected in 2003 had a Safety Statement and of these 60% had a Statement that was deemed to be in full or broad compliance with the legal requirements.

Table A 3 Percentage of Employers Inspected who had Safety Statements (HSA)

| Economic Sector | Percentage of inspections where Safety Statement was in place |
|--|---|
| A – Agriculture/ Hunting/ Forestry | 18.5 |
| B – Fishing | - |
| C – Mining/Quarrying | 76.3 |
| D – Manufacturing | 71.6 |
| E – Electricity/Gas/Water | 61.5 |
| F – Construction | 62.5 |
| G – Wholesale/Retail/Repair | 50.7 |
| H – Hotels/Restaurants | 59.3 |
| I – Transport/Storage/Communication | 65.1 |
| J – Financial Intermediation | - |
| K – Real Estate/Renting/Business | 48.8 |
| L – Public Admin./Defence | 68 |
| M – Education | 66.6 |
| N – Health/Social Work | 82.7 |
| O – Community/Social/Personal Services | 55.8 |
| Average | 60.0 |

Table A4 Safety Statements assessed by Inspectors – compliance with legal requirements (HSA)

| Number Employed | Percentage Compliance | | |
|-----------------|--------------------------|-----------------|----------------------|
| | Full or Broad Compliance | Some Compliance | Almost No Compliance |
| 0-5 | 51.3 | 27.3 | 21.5 |
| 6-20 | 60.0 | 32.1 | 7.8 |
| 21-50 | 62.0 | 31.4 | 6.3 |
| Plus 50 | 70.9 | 25.6 | 3.5 |
| Average | 60.3 | 29 | 10.7 |

Chart A4: Inspections by number employed at place of work (HSA)

Inspections by Number Employed (by Employer) at Place of Work 2003

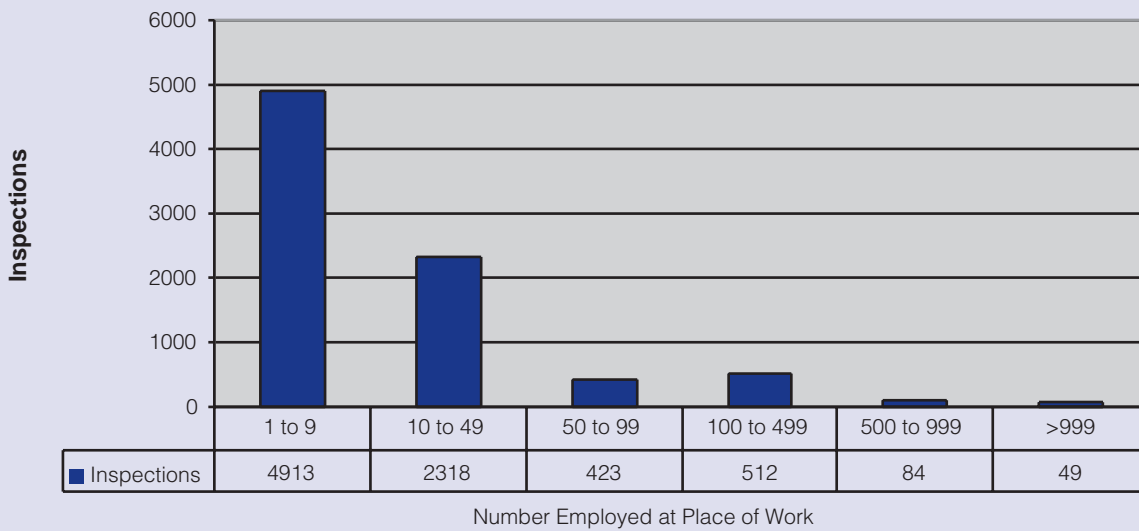
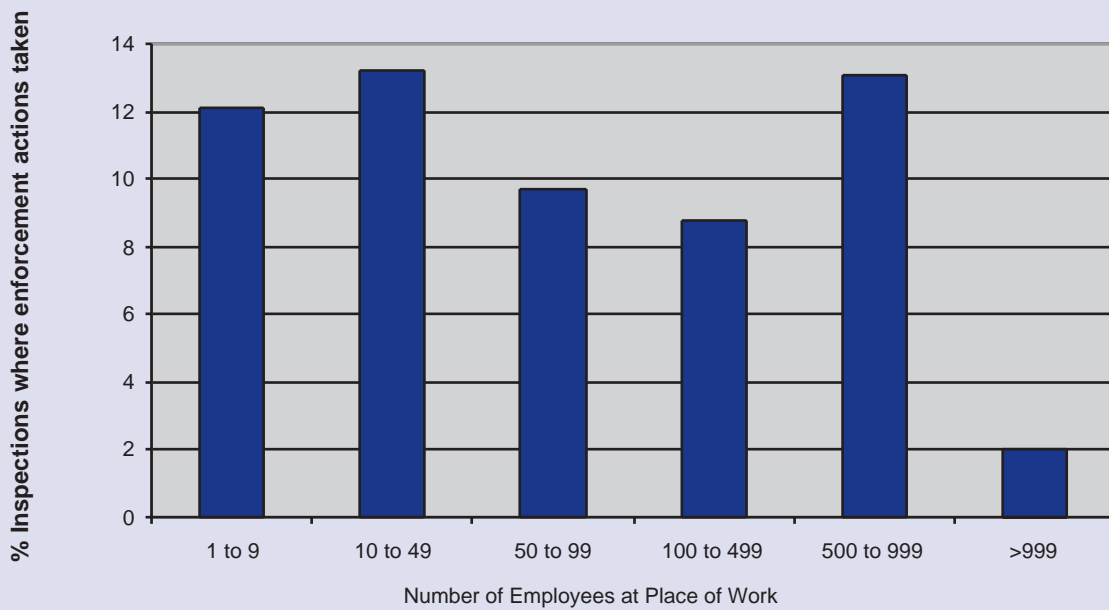


Chart A5: Percentage of Inspections where Enforcement Action Taken by Number Employed 2003 (HSA)



APPENDIX B: COURT OUTCOMES

A total of 76 prosecutions were completed, of which 69 (91%) were successful. A feature of the cases was the increasing number tried on indictment in the higher courts. At the end of 2003 a total of 33 cases were proceeding on indictment.

11 convictions were obtained against individual directors, managers or employees, with the remainder relating to corporate organisations, of which 5 were public sector organisations.

53 (69%) of the convictions related to incidents involving injuries.

In many cases, convictions were obtained in relation to several breaches of legislation. Of the 76 successful outcomes:

47 (62%) related to the Safety, Health and Welfare at Work Act, 1989

21 (28%) related to the Safety, Health and Welfare at Work (Construction) Regulations, 2001 and 1995

14 (18%) related to the Safety, Health and Welfare at Work (General Applications) Regulations, 1993

12 (16%) related to other legislation, of which 3 related to asbestos, 3 to the carriage or use of dangerous substances and 3 related to the use of work equipment

29 (38%) of the convictions were associated with construction work involving organisations in the construction and other sectors.

Table B1 Prosecution Outcomes in 2003

| Type of Proceedings | Total Completed | Type of Case % | Dismissals | % Convictions | Probation of Offenders Act applied | Fines |
|---------------------|-----------------|----------------|------------|---------------|------------------------------------|-----------------|
| Summary | 61 | 80% | 7 | 89% | 1 | €101,450 |
| Indictment | 15 | 20% | 0 | 100% | 0 | €596,500 |
| Total | 76 | 100% | 7 | 91% | 1 | €697,950 |

Table B2: Details of Prosecutions completed in 2003

Adston Ltd

Adston Ltd of Kwelagh, Ballyhaise, Co. Cavan was fined a total of €500 at Cavan District Court on the 11th December, 2003 having pleaded guilty to the following charges:

Section 6 (2) (d) of the Safety, Health and Welfare at Work Act, 1989 and Regulation 51 of the Safety, Health and Welfare at Work (Construction) Regulations, 2001.

This trial arose following the collapse of a pre-cast flooring system on a construction site at Kilmore Business Park, Dublin Road, Cavan, which resulted in an injury to an employee of Adston Ltd.

AIBP Ltd trading as Munster Proteins

Case on Indictment

AIBP Ltd was fined a total of €12,000 at Clonmel Circuit Criminal Court on the 25th July, 2003 having pleaded guilty to the following charges:

Sections 7 and 6 (1) of the Safety, Health and Welfare at Work Act, 1989.

This trial arose as a result of a fatal accident to a lorry driver at the premises of Munster Proteins at Kalsomine, Cahir, Co. Tipperary on the 7th September 2001 while delivering a load of pig offal.

Aicon Construction Ltd

Aicon Construction Ltd, of 13 Laurence Street, Drogheda was fined a total of €4,500 at Dublin District Court on the 11th February 2003 having pleaded guilty to the following charges:

Section 6(2)(d) of the Safety, Health and Welfare at Work Act, 1989, Regulation 48(a) of the Safety, Health and Welfare at Work (Construction) Regulations 2001 and Regulation 10(a) of the Safety, Health and Welfare at Work (General Applications) Regulations 1993.

The trial arose from the death of an employee who was working on the demolition of a structure to the rear of a terraced house.

Alliance System Manufacturing Ltd

Alliance System Manufacturing Ltd of Masseytown, Macroom, Co. Cork was fined a total of €475 at Macroom District Court on the 9th June, 2003 having pleaded guilty to the following charges:

Section 6 (2) (c) and Section 6 (2) (d) of the Safety, Health and Welfare at Work Act, 1989 and Regulation 15 (2) of the Factories (Woodworking Machinery) Regulations, 1972.

This trial arose when an employee suffered serious injury to the left hand as a result of getting it caught in a machine.

Alpaco Foil Ltd

Alpaco Foil Ltd of Rathnew, Co. Wicklow was fined €800 at Wicklow District Court on the 16th of May 2003 when it pleaded guilty to the following charge:

Regulation 19 of the Safety, Health and Welfare at Work (General Application) Regulations 1993.

This trial arose from an accident where an employee lost her right thumb in an unguarded power press.

Ambrose Facilities Services Ltd

Ambrose Facilities Services Ltd of Mount Kennett House, Henry Street, Limerick was fined a total of €1,500 when it pleaded guilty to four charges at Thurles District Court on October 10th 2003. These were:

Sections 6 (2) (d), 6 (2) (e), 12(3) and 48(17) of the Safety, Health and Welfare at Work, Act 1989.

The trial resulted when an employee of Ambrose Facilities Services Ltd suffered serious injuries. The employee was working as an industrial cleaner removing adhesive glue, using an electrically operated buffing machine, and highly flammable thinner.

Amco Drilling International Ltd

Amco Drilling International Ltd of Rotherham, England was fined €2,500 at Dublin District Court on the 4th March 2003 having pleaded guilty to the following charges:

Section 7(1) of the Safety, Health and Welfare at Work Act, 1989 (in relation to an incident on the 6th September 2000) and Regulation 6 of the Safety, Health and Welfare at Work (General Application) Regulations, 1993 (in relation to an incident on the 21st March 2001).

The trial resulted from two incidents where explosives were destroyed in an unsafe manner following unplanned blasts at a construction site at Ballinteer, Co Dublin.

See also Michael Allen.

Andrews Construction Ltd Case on Indictment

Andrews Construction Ltd of Lynn Industrial Estate, Mullingar, Co. Westmeath, was fined €25,000 in the Dublin Circuit Criminal Court on the 21st January 2003, having pleaded guilty to the following charge:

Section 6(1) of the Safety, Health and Welfare at Work Act, 1989.

The trial arose following a trench collapse on a construction site in Dublin on 2nd April 2001, while a worker was in the trench. The worker survived the collapse.

Ascon Ltd Case on Indictment

Ascon Ltd of Kill, Co. Kildare was fined €7,500 at Dublin Circuit Criminal Court on the 26th of May 2003 when it pleaded guilty to the following charge:

Regulation 6(2)(e) of the Safety, Health and Welfare at Work (Construction) Regulations, 1995.

This trial arose following an accident where a worker suffered severe burns to his hands and feet when he was electrocuted as a result of an electrical arc that occurred when a crane came into close proximity with overhead power lines.

Brendan Sammon (Aughnasheelin) Ltd

Brendan Sammon (Aughnasheelin) Ltd, of Aughnasheelin, Ballinamore, Co. Leitrim was fined a total of €2,000 at Ballinamore District Court on the 28th March 2003 having pleaded guilty to the following charges:

Regulation 69(1) and Regulation 3(1) of the Safety, Health and Welfare at Work (Construction) Regulations, 2001, Section 7(1) and Section 8(2) of the Safety, Health and Welfare at Work Act, 1989.

The trial arose as a result of an accident in which a worker (who was employed on a sub-contract basis by the company) was fatally injured when he fell from a scaffolding platform at roof level of a lean-to shed under construction in the company's yard.

Brian Frarey

Brian Frarey, of Abbeyleix Road, Portlaoise, Co. Laois was fined €500 at Bray District Court on the 14th February 2003 having pleaded guilty to the following charges:

Sections 7 and 12 of the Safety, Health and Welfare at Work Act, 1989

Regulations 8 and 15 of the European Communities (Protection of Workers)(Exposure to Asbestos) Regulations 1989, as amended.

The trial arose following the unsafe removal of asbestos containing materials at Bray, Co. Wicklow in September, 2001.

See also Mark Frarey.

C-Clad Construction Ltd

Case on Indictment

C-Clad Construction Ltd of North West Business Park, Ballycoolin, Dublin 15 pleaded guilty on the 13th November, 2003 at Naas Circuit Criminal Court to the following charge and was fined €25,000:

Regulation 69 (1) of the Safety, Health and Welfare at Work (Construction) Regulations, 1995.

The trial arose following a fatal accident at the Curragh Army Camp on the 12th March 2001 when a construction worker fell off a roof that was under construction.

See also Collen Construction Ltd and Seán Mortimer.

CCW Engineering Ltd

CCW Engineering Ltd of Ardee Road, Dundalk, Co. Louth was fined a total of €4,000 at Dundalk District Court on the 7th April 2003 having pleaded guilty to the following charges:

Sections 6(2)(e) and 12(2) of the Safety, Health and Welfare at Work Act, 1989, Regulations 13(1)(a) and 77(2) of the Safety, Health and Welfare at Work (Construction) Regulations, 2001.

The trial arose as a result of a worker falling approximately 25 feet through a skylight on a roof on the 21st March, 2002, sustaining serious injuries.

Chilton Electric Ltd

Chilton Electric Ltd of Ardee Road, Dunleer, Co. Louth was fined €500 at Ardee District Court on the 8th May 2003 having pleaded guilty to the following charge:

Section 6(2)(c) of the Safety, Health and Welfare at Work Act 1989.

The trial arose following an accident where an employee had part of her index finger amputated.

Collen Construction Ltd

Case on Indictment

Collen Construction Ltd of East Wall, Dublin 3 pleaded guilty to the following charge on the 13th November, 2003 at Naas Circuit Criminal Court and was fined €60,000:

Regulation 6 (2) (c) of the Safety, Health and Welfare at Work (Construction) Regulations, 1995.

The trial arose following a fatal accident at the Curragh Army Camp on the 12th March 2001 when a construction worker fell off a roof that was under construction.

See also C-Clad Construction Ltd and Seán Mortimer.

Con Kelleher

Con Kelleher of Clondrohid, Macroom, Co. Cork was fined €900 at Waterford District Court on the 5th December, 2003 having pleaded guilty to the following charge:

Regulation 12 (1) (a) of the Carriage of Dangerous Goods by Road Regulations, 2001.

The trial arose from the non-payment of an on-the-spot fine issued under the Carriage of Dangerous Goods by Road Act, 1998 in respect of a failure to display warning signs on a vehicle carrying ammonium nitrate fertiliser.

Continuous Communications Systems Ltd

Continuous Communications Systems Ltd, Arthur Cox Buildings, Earlsfort Terrace, Dublin 2 was fined €1,900 at Midleton District Court on the 20th March 2003 having pleaded guilty to the following charges:

Sections 6(2)(e) and 12(2) of the Safety, Health and Welfare at Work Act, 1989.

This trial arose following an accident at Sifco Turbine Components Ltd, where an employee of Continuous Communications Systems Ltd fell from a height due to the use of an unsecured cage on the forks of a forklift truck as a means of access. The employee sustained serious injuries.

See also Sifco Turbine Components Ltd.

Croom Concrete Ltd

Croom Concrete Ltd, Croom, Co. Limerick was fined a total of €6,200 at Rathkeale District Court on the 16th June, 2003 having pleaded guilty to 13 charges under the Safety, Health and Welfare at Work Act, 1989 and the Safety, Health and Welfare at Work (General Application) Regulations, 1993.

At Listowel District Court on the 7th August, 2003, the Judge applied the Probation Act in relation to a charge under Regulation 13 (b) of the Safety, Health and Welfare at Work (General Application) Regulations, 1993.

The trial arose following breaches of health and safety legislation observed by the Inspector upon his visits to the factory in November 2001.

See also Matthew Costello.

Delaney-Ryan Ltd

Delaney-Ryan Ltd, of 36 Strand Road, Clonakilty, Co. Cork was fined a total of €2,625 at Cashel District Court on the 19th February 2003 having pleaded guilty to the following charges:

Section 12(8) of the Safety, Health and Welfare at Work Act, 1989 (on the 29th November 2001)

Section 12(8) of the Safety, Health and Welfare at Work Act, 1989 (on the 3rd December 2001),

Regulation 6(1) of the Construction Regulations, 1995.

The trial arose following a structural collapse of part of a bed and breakfast establishment. Work was being carried out to underpin the gable wall of the bed and breakfast (which bordered the site at Dominic's Court, Bank Place, Cashel, Co. Tipperary) when the wall collapsed. Nobody was injured as one of the workers had alerted others to the fact that he had noticed movement in the structure before it collapsed.

Denis McSweeney & Son Ltd

Denis McSweeney & Son Ltd, of Enniskeane, Co. Cork, was fined €750 at Clonakilty District Court on the 30th January having been found guilty of the following charge:

Section 6(2)(c) of the Safety Health and Welfare at Work Act, 1989.

The trial arose following an accident in which the injured person got his hand caught in an unguarded drive belt of a belt conveyor.

Dublin Bus Ltd – Bus Atha Cliath

Case on Indictment

At the Dublin Circuit Criminal Court on the 17th November 2003, Dublin Bus Ltd of 59 Upper O'Connell Street, Dublin 1 pleaded guilty to the following charge and were fined €5,000:

Regulation 17 of the Safety, Health and Welfare at Work (General Application) Regulations 1993.

The trial resulted from the fatal accident to an employee when he was crushed by a bus.

Early Learning Centre

The Early Learning Centre, Eyre Square Shopping Centre, Galway was fined a total of €600 in Galway District Court on the 22nd January, 2003 having pleaded guilty to the following charges:

Regulation 28 (b) of the Safety, Health and Welfare at Work (General Application) Regulations, 1993, Section 12 (1) of the Safety, Health and Welfare at Work Act, 1989.

This trial followed an investigation into an incident in which an employee sustained a serious injury while moving large quantities of stock to a storeroom on the 28th November, 2001.

ESB

At Dublin District Court on October 13th 2003, the ESB of 27, Lower Fitzwilliam Street, Dublin 2 pleaded guilty to the following charge:

Regulation 15 of the European Communities (Protection of Workers) (Exposure to Asbestos) Regulations 2000, as amended.

The company was fined €500.

The trial arose following the unsafe removal of asbestos-containing ceiling tiles.

Frank Berkery Engineering Ltd

At Limerick District Court on 18th September 2003, Frank Berkery Engineering Ltd of Patrick's Court Business Centre, St Patrick's Court, Limerick pleaded guilty to the following charges and was fined a total of €1,000:

Sections 6(2) (a) and 6(2) (d) of the Safety, Health and Welfare at Work Act, 1989 and Regulations 15(1) and 69(1) of the Safety, Health and Welfare at Work (Construction) Regulations, 2001.

The trial arose following an accident where a worker was fatally injured by falling over 2 metres through a perspex skylight on a roof on the 8th May, 2002.

See also Michael Parkes.

Genfitt (Mayo) Ltd

Genfitt (Mayo) Ltd of Greyfield, Kiltimagh, Co. Mayo was fined a total of €2,950 at Kiltimagh District Court on the 27th June, 2003 having pleaded guilty to the following charges:

Sections 6 (2) (e) and 12 (8) of the Safety, Health and Welfare at Work Act, 1989

Regulation 29 of the Safety, Health and Welfare at Work (General Application) (Amendment) Regulations, 2001

The trial arose following an accident on the 20th July, 2002 where an untrained 17 year old was seriously injured when he became trapped between the mast cross bar and the frame of a fork-truck while he was lubricating the fork lift truck chains.

One Defendant (conviction dismissed on appeal in 2004)

One Defendant was convicted at Dublin District Court and fined €500 on 15th September, 2003 in relation to the following charge:

Section 6 (2) (d) of the Safety, Health and Welfare at Work Act, 1989.

The trial arose following an accident at a site in Clondalkin when a construction worker sustained serious injuries.

See also South Dublin County Council.

The conviction originally recorded against this Defendant in Dublin District Court on the 15th September 2003, was dismissed at an appeal hearing at the Dublin Circuit Court on the 10th June 2004.

Highway Services Bailieborough Ltd

At Bailieboro District Court on 17th November, 2003 Highway Services Bailieborough Ltd of Carnaveagh, Bailieboro, Co. Cavan pleaded guilty to the following five charges and was fined €5,000:

Sections 6(2) (d), 6(2)(e) and 12(1) of the Safety, Health and Welfare at Work Act, 1989 and Sections 12(1) and 27 of the Mines and Quarries Act, 1965.

The trial arose following a fatal accident where a man was dragged by the dipper arm of an excavator and crushed between the arm and the floor of the lorry. The accident occurred on the 12th September 2002.

Iarnród Eireann

Iarnród Eireann, of Connolly Station, Amiens Street, Dublin 1 was fined €1,900 at Drogheda District Court on the 24th March 2003 having pleaded guilty to the following charge:

Regulation 10(a) of the Safety, Health and Welfare at Work (General Applications) Regulations, 1993.

The trial arose following the fatal injury of an employee. The victim was involved in uncoupling a locomotive from a carriage when he was caught between the buffers of both.

Irish Cement Ltd

Case on Indictment

At Trim Circuit Criminal Court on 21st October 2003, Irish Cement Ltd of Stillorgan Road, Dublin were fined a total of €17,000 having pleaded guilty to the following charges:

Section 8(3)(b) of the Safety, Health and Welfare at Work Act, 1989 and Regulation 13(3) of the Safety, Health and Welfare at Work (General Application) Regulations 1993.

The trial arose following a fatal accident to an employee of P. Fallon Construction Ltd when on labour contract for Irish Cement Ltd on the 15th August, 2001. The employee was cleaning a conveyor and got dragged into the conveyor belt.

See also P Fallon Construction Ltd.

Irish Flexible Packaging Ltd

Irish Flexible Packaging Ltd, of Orchard House, Clonskeagh Court, Dublin 14, was fined €1,400 at Gory District Court on the 13th February having pleaded guilty to the following charge:

Regulation 19 (a) of the Safety, Health and Welfare at Work (General Application) Regulations, 1993.

The trial arose following an accident involving an employee who suffered injuries to his hand and arm when he became trapped in a machine.

Irish Ispat Ltd

Case on Indictment

Irish Ispat Ltd of Haulbowline, Cobh, Co. Cork was fined €5,000 at Cork Circuit Criminal Court on the 3rd March 2003 having been found guilty of the following charge:

Section 12 of the Safety Health and Welfare at Work Act, 1989.

The trial arose following an accident in which an employee lost his life as a result of a fire in a building at the factory.

Joseph Grace

Joseph Grace of Strand Street, Kanturk, Co. Cork was fined a total of €1,250 at Kanturk District Court on the 4th June, 2003 having pleaded guilty to the following charge:

Section 6 (2) (d) of the Safety, Health and Welfare at Work Act, 1989.

The trial arose following an accident in which an employee suffered injury to his left hand while operating a circular saw that did not have the appropriate protection.

KMK Construction Ltd

KMK Construction Ltd, of Wine Tavern, Stratford-on-Slaney, Baltinglass, Co. Wicklow was fined a total of €6,000 at Dublin District Court on the 5th February 2003 having been found guilty of the following charges:

Sections 6(2)(b), 6(2)(d) and 6(2)(e) of the Safety, Health and Welfare at Work Act, 1989 and Regulation 67(1) of the Safety, Health and Welfare at Work (Construction) Regulations, 1995.

The trial arose following an accident in which an employee of KMK Construction Limited fell from a height of 11 metres on a construction site sustaining serious personal injuries.

Lynham Brothers Ltd

Lynham Brothers Ltd of Gainsborough Avenue, Malahide, Co. Dublin was fined a total of €3,500 in Dunshaughlin District Court on the 15th July, 2003 having pleaded guilty to the following charges:

Sections 6 (2) (d) and 48 (6) of the Safety, Health and Welfare at Work Act, 1989 and Regulations 11 (b), 52 (1), 53 (2), 55 and 69 (1) of the Safety, Health and Welfare at Work (Construction) Regulations, 2001.

This trial arose following breaches of health and safety legislation observed by the Inspector upon his visits to the site.

Mark Frarey

Mark Frarey, of Abbeyleix Road, Portlaoise, Co. Laois was fined €500 at Bray District Court on the 14th February 2003 having pleaded guilty to the following charges:

Section 6 of the Safety, Health and Welfare at Work Act, 1989,

Regulation 9 of the European Communities (Protection of Workers) (Exposure to Asbestos) Regulations, 1989 as amended.

The trial arose following the unsafe removal of asbestos containing materials at Bray, Co. Wicklow in September, 2001

See also Brian Frarey.

Matthew Costello

Matthew Costello, a Director of Croom Concrete Ltd, was fined a total of €2,000 at Rathkeale District Court on the 16th June, 2003 having pleaded guilty to the following two charges:

Sections 48(19) and 48(5) of the Safety, Health and Welfare at Work Act, 1989.

This trial arose as a result of breaches of health and safety legislation observed by the Inspector upon his visits to the factory in November 2001.

See also Croom Concrete Ltd.

McCory Scaffolding (NI) Ltd

On the 25th November 2003 at Dublin District Court McCory Scaffolding (NI) Ltd of Silverwood Industrial Estate, Lurgan, Craigavon, Co. Armagh was found guilty of the following charge and fined €500:

Section 10(1)(a) of the Safety, Health and Welfare at Work Act, 1989.

The trial arose following an incident where a work platform holding three men collapsed at a Dublin construction site. This trial is currently the subject of an appeal by McCory Scaffolding (NI) Ltd.

Michael Allen

Mr Michael Allen was fined €750 at Dublin District Court on the 6th May 2003 having pleaded guilty to the following charge:

Section 9(1)(a) of the Safety, Health and Welfare at Work Act, 1989.

Michael Allen was prosecuted in his capacity as an employee in relation to an explosion incident at Ballinteer Co. Dublin when, on 21st March 2001, a quantity of explosives was destroyed in an unsafe manner.

See also Amco Drilling International Ltd.

Michael Higgins & Co. Ltd

Michael Higgins & Co. Ltd of the Lock, St Mullins, Co. Carlow was fined €1,000 at Rathdrum District Court on December 18th, 2003 having pleaded guilty to the following charge:

Section 6 (2) (d) of the Safety, Health and Welfare at Work Act, 1989.

This trial arose following a flash fire incident during a planned shutdown of the Schering Plough P3 Production Plant in Rathdrum in August, 2002. Two employees suffered minor burns.

See also Schering Plough Ltd.

Michael McGinley

Case on Indictment

Michael McGinley, Croaghlin, Teelin, Carrick, Co. Donegal was fined €500 at Castlebar Circuit Court on the 20th January, 2003 having pleaded guilty to a charge under the Safety, Health and Welfare at Work Act, 1989.

This trial arose following the death of a crew member of a fishing trawler when he fell overboard while guiding in a trawl.

Michael Parkes

Mr Parkes of Patrick's Court, Patrick's Road, Limerick pleaded guilty to the following charge at Limerick District Court on 18th September 2003 and was fined €1,000:

Regulation 3(1) of the Safety, Health and Welfare at Work (Construction) Regulations, 2001.

The trial arose following an accident where a worker was fatally injured by falling over 2 metres through a perspex skylight on a roof on the 8th May, 2002.

See also Frank Berkery Engineering Ltd.

Niall Montgomery & Partners

Niall Montgomery & Partners were fined €500 at the District Court having pleaded guilty to the following charge:

Regulation 5(1) of the Safety, Health and Welfare at Work (Construction) Regulations, 2001.

The trial arose following an incident where two workers were removing asbestos containing tiles from an office block under renovation without the necessary safety measures in place.

Nigel Coffey

Mr Coffey of Rathmore Road, Fiddown, Co. Kilkenny was found guilty at Kilkenny District Court and fined €100 for a breach of:

Regulation 19(1)(a) of the Carriage by Road of Dangerous Goods Regulations 2001.

Mr Coffey was stopped at a road check in January 2003 and issued with an on-the-spot fine for his rear orange plate being dirty. He declined to pay this and was subsequently brought to Court for this offence.

O'Flynn Construction Co. Ltd

Case on Indictment

O'Flynn Construction Co. Ltd of Melbourne House, Model Farm Road, Cork was fined €200,000 at Cork Circuit Criminal Court on the 20th February 2003 having pleaded guilty to the following charges:

Section 7(1) of the Safety, Health and Welfare at Work Act, 1989 and Regulation 8(2) (in relation to paragraph 18 of the Fourth Schedule) of the Safety, Health and Welfare at Work (Construction) Regulations, 1995.

The trial arose following the death of a boy on a construction site in Rochestown, Cork. A fire had been lit close to a leaking drum of wood preservative by one of a group of youths (of which the victim was part) resulting in explosion of the drum.

This trial is currently the subject of an appeal by O'Flynn Construction Co. Ltd.

Oran Pre-Cast Ltd

Case on Indictment

Oran Pre-Cast Ltd of Deerpark Industrial Estate, Oranmore, Co. Galway was fined €500,000 at Castlebar Circuit Court on the 3rd July, 2003 having pleaded guilty to the following charges:

Section 6 (2) (d) and Section 6 (2) (e) of the Safety, Health and Welfare at Work Act, 1989,

Regulation 8 (1) (d) and Regulation 14 and Regulation 79 of the Safety, Health and Welfare at Work (Construction) Regulations, 1995.

The trial arose as a result of a fatal accident to a worker when he fell approx. 9 metres from a roof while endeavouring to replace a damaged roof gutter.

Oran Pre-Cast Ltd appealed the sentence imposed in the Circuit Criminal Court to the Court of Criminal Appeal. This hearing took place on the 16th December, 2003. On appeal, the amount of the fine was reduced to €100,000.

P Fallon Construction Ltd

Case on Indictment

At Trim Circuit Criminal Court on 21st October 2003, P. Fallon Construction Ltd of 11, Bridge Street, Balbriggan, Co. Dublin was fined €5,000 having pleaded guilty to the following charge:

Section 12(3) of the Safety, Health and Welfare at Work Act, 1989.

The trial arose following a fatal accident to an employee of P. Fallon Construction Ltd when on labour contract for Irish Cement Ltd on August 15th 2001. The employee was cleaning a conveyor and got dragged into the conveyor belt.

See also Irish Cement Ltd.

Portroe Stevedores Ltd

Portroe Stevedores Ltd, of Berth 32, Ocean Pier, Alexandra Road, Dublin 1 was fined a total of €3,800 at Dublin District Court No. 54 on the 24th March 2003 having pleaded guilty to the following charges:

Sections 7(1) and 48(17) of the Safety, Health and Welfare at Work Act, 1989.

The trial arose following an accident at a berth on Ocean Pier at Dublin Port. A forklift truck was in the process of loading bundles of timber onto a lorry when one of the bundles slipped off the forklift's blades and struck the lorry driver who was attempting to assist in the loading operation. He sustained serious injuries.

Readi-Bake Ltd

Readi-Bake Ltd of Century House, Harold's Cross Road, Dublin was fined a total of €1,000 at Dublin District Court on the 7th April 2003 having pleaded guilty to the following charges:

Section 23(1) of the Factories Act, 1955 and Section 6(2)(d) of the Safety, Health and Welfare at Work Act, 1989.

The trial arose following an accident involving an employee, which resulted in the amputation of a portion of his thumb. The employee was attempting to clear a blockage from a moving conveyor when his hand got caught in the mechanism, which was driving the conveyor.

Red Lodge Homes Ltd

At Portlaoise District Court on the 12th September 2003, Red Lodge Homes Ltd of Kilminchy, Dublin Road, Portlaoise, Co. Laois was fined € 4,500 having pleaded guilty to the following charges:

Section 7(1) of the Safety, Health and Welfare at Work Act, 1989,

Regulations 62 (d), 62 (e) and 62 (f) of the Safety, Health and Welfare at Work (Construction) Regulations, 2001.

The trial arose following a fatal accident on the 8th May, 2002 when an employee fell approx 30 feet from a roof ladder.

Redbrook Flavours & Colours Ltd

Redbrook Flavours & Colours Ltd of Blyry Road Industrial Estate, Athlone, Co. Westmeath was fined a total of €750 at Athlone District Court on 14th October 2003. The company pleaded guilty to the following charge:

Regulation 19 (a) of the Safety, Health and Welfare at Work (General Application) Regulations, 1993.

The trial followed a serious accident in which a company employee suffered the amputation of the top section of three fingers when he came in contact with moving parts of a rotary valve device on 3rd May 2002.

Roadstone Dublin Ltd

Case on Indictment

Roadstone Dublin Ltd of Clondalkin, Dublin was fined €12,000 at the Dublin Circuit Criminal Court on the 19th February 2003 having pleaded guilty to the following charges:

Section 6(1) of the Safety, Health and Welfare at Work Act, 1989, Regulation 20 (with reference to paragraph 1(3) (b) of the fifth schedule) of the Safety, Health and Welfare at Work (General Applications) Regulations, 1993 and Regulation 20 (with reference to paragraph 16 of the fifth schedule) of the Safety, Health and Welfare at Work (General Applications) Regulations, 1993.

The trial arose following an accident at the company's Belgard Quarry paving plant. An employee's fingers were amputated while carrying out maintenance on machinery.

Ryan Insulations Ltd

At Templemore District Court on the 12th May 2003, Ryan Insulations Ltd of Borrisoleigh, Co Tipperary pleaded guilty to the following charges and was fined €1,000:

Sections 48(17) and 12(3) of the Safety, Health and Welfare at Work Act, 1989.

The trial arose following an incident on 6th December 2001 when an apprentice sheet metal fabricator suffered hand injuries while operating an unsafe press brake machine.

Schering Plough Ltd

Schering Plough Ltd of Rathdrum, Co. Wicklow was fined €1,000 at Rathdrum District Court on the 18th December, 2003 having pleaded guilty to the following charge:

Section 7 (1) of the Safety, Health and Welfare at Work Act, 1989.

This trial arose following a flash fire incident during a planned shutdown of the company's P3 Production Plant at Rathdown, Co Wicklow in August, 2002. Two employees suffered minor burns.

See also Michael Higgins & Co. Ltd.

Sean Carroll Garages Ltd

Sean Carroll Garages Ltd of Howth Road, Raheny, Dublin was fined a total of €1,500 at Dublin District Court on the 20th October 2003 having pleaded guilty to the following charges:

Sections 6(2)(d) and 7(1) of the Safety, Health and Welfare at Work Act, 1989.

The trial arose following an incident at Raheny, Dublin where petroleum class 1 was inadvertently disposed of in a surface water gully. The petrol vapour was ignited and resulted in a series of explosions.

Sean Mortimer

Sean Mortimer of Lacken, Mountrath, Portlaoise, Co. Laois was fined a total of €8,000 at Naas District Court having pleaded guilty to the following charges:

Section 6 and Section 12 of the Safety, Health and Welfare at Work Act, 1989.

The trial arose following a fatal accident at the Curragh Army Camp on the 12th March 2001 when the employee of a sub-contractor, whose Managing Director was Mr Sean Mortimer, fell off a roof that was under construction.

See also C-Clad Construction Ltd and Collen Construction Ltd.

Select Service Partners Ireland Ltd

Select Service Partner Ireland Ltd, of Level 5, Terminal Building, Dublin Airport, Co. Dublin was fined a total of €2,000 in Dublin District Court on the 18th March 2003 having pleaded guilty to the following charges: Sections 6(2)(d) and 6(2)(e) of the Safety, Health and Welfare at Work Act, 1989.

The trial arose following an accident at the Mezz Food Court run by Select Service Partner Ireland Ltd at Dublin Airport. An employee engaged in removing and cleaning filters from a canopy above two deep fat fryers slipped on the ledge between the two fryers resulting in his right foot entering the hot oil in one of the them.

Shannonside Building Supplies Ltd

Shannonside Building Supplies Ltd, Fort Road, Kilrush, Co. Clare was fined a total of €6,000 at Kilrush District Court on the 22nd January 2003 having pleaded guilty to the following charges:

Sections 6(2) (c), 12(3) and 48(17) of the Safety, Health and Welfare at Work Act, 1989 and Section 23(1) of the Safety In Industry Acts, 1955 & 1980.

The trial arose following the amputation of an employee's arm whilst guiding a rope onto the unprotected drive end of an electric motor.

Sifco Turbine Components Ltd

Sifco Turbine Components Ltd, Arthur Cox Building, Earlsfort Terrace, Dublin 2 , was fined €1,900 at Midleton District Court on the 20th March 2003 having pleaded guilty to the following charge:

Section 8(2) of the Safety, Health and Welfare at Work Act, 1989.

This trial arose following an accident at Sifco Turbine Components Ltd, where an employee of Continuous Communications Systems Ltd fell from a height due to the use of an unsecured cage on the forks of a forklift truck as a means of access. The employee sustained serious injuries.

See also Continuous Communications Systems Ltd.

SmithKline Beecham (Cork) Ltd

Case on Indictment

SmithKline Beecham (Cork) Ltd of Currabinney, Carrigaline, Cork was fined €15,000 at Cork Circuit Court on November 20th 2003 having pleaded guilty on four counts:

Regulations 5(1)(a)(ii), 4(1)(d) and 6(1)(a)(ii) of the Safety, Health and Welfare at Work (Chemical Agents), Regulations, 2001 and Regulation 10(a) of the Safety, Health and Welfare at Work (General Application) Regulations, 1993.

The trial arose following release of a dangerous substance into the workplace atmosphere at the company's plant on May 30th, 2002.

South Dublin County Council

South Dublin County Council was fined €1,000 at Dublin District Court on the 11th February 2003 having pleaded guilty to the following charge:

Regulation 3(1) of the Safety, Health and Welfare at Work (Construction) Regulations 2001.

The trial arose following an accident at a site in Clondalkin when a construction worker sustained serious injuries.

Southern Health Board

The Southern Health Board, Cork Farm Centre, Dennehy's Cross, Wilton Road, Cork was fined €1900 at Mallow District Court on the 18th February 2003 having pleaded guilty to the following charge:

Section 6(2)(e) of the Safety, Health and Welfare at Work Act, 1989.

The trial arose following an accident where a worker in a hospital laundry was pulled onto a machine when an item of her clothing got caught in the machine. The worker had not received any training or instruction on the safety features of the equipment.

Sutton Plant Hire (Wexford) Ltd

Case on Indictment

Sutton Plant Hire (Wexford) Ltd of Broomhill, Fethard on Sea, Co. Wexford was fined €100,000 at the Waterford Circuit Criminal Court on the 3rd December, 2003 having pleaded guilty to the following charges:

Section 6 (2) (c) of the Safety, Health and Welfare at Work Act, 1989,

Regulation 8 (1) (a) of the Safety, Health and Welfare at Work (Construction) Regulations, 1995.

The trial arose following a serious accident on a construction site on the 2nd November, 2001. The bucket of an excavator became detached and fell on top of two pipe layers in a trench. One man died and another man was seriously injured.

Timothy Joseph O'Donovan

Mr Timothy O'Donovan of Ardnagashel, Ballylickey, Bantry, Co. Cork was fined a total of €1,500 when he pleaded guilty at Bantry District Court on 26th September 2003 to the following three charges:

Regulations 73(5) and 74(2) and 15(2) of the Safety, Health and Welfare at Work (Construction) Regulations, 2001.

The trial arose following an accident on a construction site on the 10th May 2002 at Barrick Street, Bantry. An employee was seriously injured in a fall from a second floor stairwell.

Tom Cussen

Mr Tom Cussen of Granard, Adare, Co. Limerick was fined €250 at Adare District Court (sitting at Rathkeale) on the 8th April 2003 having pleaded guilty to the following charge:

Section 12(7) of the Safety Health and Welfare at Work Act, 1989.

The trial arose as a result of Mr Cussen's failure to have a Safety Statement for his farm.

Trimfold Ltd

Trimfold Ltd of Duggan Industrial Estate, Athboy Road, Trim, Co. Meath was fined €1 and were also ordered to pay €5,000 to Navan Rehab at Trim District Court on the 25th July, 2003 having pleaded guilty to the following charges:

Section 6 (2) (d) and Section 6 (2) (e) of the Safety, Health and Welfare at Work Act, 1989 as they relate to both Section 48 (1) and Section 48 (17) of the same Act.

This trial arose following an accident to an employee on the 21st May, 2002, whilst working on a machine, which resulted in the amputation of three fingers & tip of the index finger on the left hand.

Vitra Tiles (Ireland) Ltd

Vitra Tiles (Ireland) Ltd of South Quay, Arklow, Co. Wicklow was fined a total of €2,100 at Arklow District Court on the 16th April 2003 having pleaded guilty to the following charges:

Regulations 10(a) and 17(1) of the Safety, Health and Welfare at Work (General Applications) Regulations, 1993.

The trial arose following an accident involving a worker at the company's plant. Three pallets loaded with bags of clay fell on top of the worker when he was walking along the passageway where they were stored. He suffered severe personal injuries.

Webaven Ltd t/a D & D Construction

Webaven Construction Ltd was fined a total of €3,000 at Cork District Court on the 16th April 2003 having pleaded guilty to the following charges:

Regulations 52(1), 65(1) and 76(5) of the Safety, Health and Welfare at Work (Construction) Regulations, 1995.

The trial arose following an accident when a worker fell from a sloping roof suffering injuries.

Whelan's Limestone Quarries (Contracts) Ltd

Whelan's Limestone Quarries (Contracts) Ltd of Mount Kennett House, Henry St, Limerick was fined a total of €750 at Limerick District Court on the 20th March 2003 having pleaded guilty to the following charges:

Section 6(2)(d) of the Safety, Health and Welfare at Work Act, 1989 and Regulation 8(1) and Regulation 41 (1) (c) of the Safety, Health and Welfare at Work (Construction) Regulations, 1995.

The trial arose as a result of an accident on the N7 realignment project, Dublin Road, Limerick. An employee was laying pipes in a trench when a bucket of an excavator separated itself from the excavator hitting the victim on the back, which resulted in him sustaining serious injuries.

William O'Brien Plant Hire Ltd

William O'Brien Plant Hire Ltd, Bishopstown, Cork was fined €1,900 at Ennis District Court on the 14th March 2003 having pleaded guilty to two charges under the Safety, Health and Welfare at Work Act, 1989.

The trial arose following an accident when a crane driver, employed by the company, received fatal injuries as a result of the tyre on a mobile crane exploding when he was inflating it.

APPENDIX C: SUMMARY INJURY AND ILLNESS STATISTICS

INJURY STATISTICS SUMMARY

There has been a continued downward trend in the rate of workplace injury and illness.

NON-FATAL INJURY AND ILLNESS

The quarterly national household survey (QNHS), conducted by the Central Statistics Office during December 2002 to February 2003, shows a significant reduction in both the number and rate of workplace injuries for those at work despite a growth in the labour force of 168,900 persons since 1999. When the large increase of those in employment is taken into account, 14,000 fewer workers (half of these in construction) were injured than would have been the case had the injury and illness rate stayed the same.

Occupational Injury Benefit (OIB) was paid to 11,096 claimants in 2003. Benefit is paid where the absence lasts at least 4 days. The rate of claims allowed for Occupational Injury Benefit reduced by 24% between 1998 and 2003.

An estimated 43,100 persons incurred at least one injury at work. Of these, an estimated 20,900 persons were absent for more than three days (QNHS). An estimated 38,100 persons suffered an illness caused or made worse by their work.

FATAL INJURY AND ILLNESS

There were 65 reported deaths due to workplace injury, 19 of these being in the agriculture sector and 17 being in the construction sector. There were four fatalities involving persons employed in other sectors but carrying out construction work. The most common causes of death were falling from a height, transport (excluding road traffic) and being struck by something overturning or collapsing.

Two additional fatalities were associated with occupational illnesses. One death was due to flour exposure and the other involved death from mesothelioma, a disease almost exclusively associated with past exposure to asbestos.

The rate of work-related fatality shows a 25% reduction since 1998. This reduction was achieved despite the large increase in employment over the period. Rapid expansions in employment are normally associated with increases in the rate of death and injury. Had the fatality rate stayed at the 1998 rate of four per 100,000 an extra 18 workers would have died in 2003.

INJURY DETAILS

The most common non-fatal incident types reported to the Authority for all sectors were injuries involving handling, lifting and carrying (34%) and slips, trips and falls on the level (26%). In the public administration, defence and health sectors the next most common incident type of non-fatal injury was violence in the workplace. In other sectors the next most common incident types involved falling objects, hand-tools, machinery and falls from a height.

The most common body parts injured reported to the Authority were back and spine (26%), fingers (13%), leg (12%) and hand (9%). The most common injury types were sprains (33%), bruising, contusion (25%), open wounds (15%) and closed fractures (13%).

Back injury was most common in the transport, storage and communication sector, and the healthcare sector. Fractures were the second most common injury in the construction sector, 60% more common than in other sectors.

MAIN SOURCES OF INFORMATION ON OCCUPATIONAL INJURIES AND ILL-HEALTH

A number of sources are used to complete the picture of occupational injury and ill-health in any year. Each source has strengths and weaknesses but all sources indicate that there has been a downward trend in occupational injury and ill-health.

QUARTERLY NATIONAL HOUSEHOLD SURVEY (QNHS)

The Central Statistics Office (CSO) estimates the number of persons who suffered a work-related injury or ill-health through the Quarterly National Household Survey (QNHS). The QNHS is a source for the number of workers who self-report occupational injury and ill-health. The CSO asks persons whether they have suffered an injury incurred at work or an illness that the respondent believes was caused or made worse by their work in the past 12 months.

Changes in survey methodology mean that the results of all QNHS surveys cannot be compared with one another. However, the survey carried out in Q1 2003 for the previous 12-month period is comparable to that carried out for the 1999 period. These two surveys show a reduction in the number of persons injured or becoming ill despite the large increase in the workforce during this period. This reduction is similar to reductions noted in other comparable QNHS survey periods since 1998.

The QNHS shows Ireland as having the lowest rate of occupational injury compared to other EU countries using the same survey methodology. The QNHS for Q1 2003 estimated that there were 43,100 persons injured, of which 20,900 involved an absence of more than 3 days. An additional 38,100 suffered an occupational illness.

QNHS Q1 2003 Accidents and Illnesses Module questions were as follows:

Persons aged 15 or over were asked the following questions:

- *Have you worked in the past 12 months?*
- *How many, if any, injuries did you incur at work (excluding commuting) in the past 12 months?*
- *How many working days were lost within the past 12 months as a result of your most recent injury at work?*
- *Have you ever worked?*
- *How many, if any, illnesses or disabilities have you experienced in the past 12 months, that you believe were caused or made worse by your work (either the work that you are doing at the moment or work that you have done in the past)?*
- *How many working days were lost within the past 12 months as a result of your most recent work-related illness?*
- *What was your most recent work-related illness?*
 1. *Bone, joint or muscle problem*
 2. *Breathing or lung problem*
 3. *Skin problem*
 4. *Hearing problem*
 5. *Stress, depression or anxiety*

6. *Headache and/or eyestrain*
7. *Heart disease or attack, or other problems in the circulatory system*
8. *Disease (virus, bacteria, cancer or other type of disease)*
9. *Other types of complaint*
10. *Not applicable.*

OCCUPATIONAL INJURY BENEFIT CLAIMS ALLOWED (OIB)

This source is used to obtain the overall trend of work-related injuries since the criteria for payment of the benefit has not changed over time. The number of claims paid is likely to be less than the actual number of work-related injuries because not all workers are covered by social insurance and not all injuries result in claims. OIB statistics relate to payments by the Department of Social and Family Affairs to insurable persons injured in the course of their work. The injury has to last at least four days and a medical certificate and claim form must be sent within 21 days of the injury. OIB figures include a smaller proportion of cases of illness than the QNHS.

During 2003 a total of 11,096 claims were allowed. There has been a downward trend in the rate of OIB claims paid since 1998.

INJURIES REPORTED TO THE HEALTH AND SAFETY AUTHORITY

Employers and the Department of Social and Family Affairs forward information to the Authority on injuries where there is an absence of more than three days. Due to under-reporting of injuries the Authority does not use these statistics to estimate the number of injuries. These statistics are, however, a valuable source of information on both injury and incident type. Employers reported in excess of 6,600 occupational injuries for the year.

NATIONAL ROADS AUTHORITY (NRA)

Two goods vehicle user deaths were reported to the Authority in 2003 but the actual number of such deaths may be in the region of twenty, based on National Roads Authority (NRA) data for 2002.

NATIONAL CANCER REGISTRY (NCR)

One death known to the Authority resulted from mesothelioma, a disease almost exclusively associated with past exposure to asbestos. The number of deaths resulting from this occupational disease is likely to be higher as 18 cases of mesothelioma were diagnosed in 1999 (NCR) and those contracting the disease have a poor survival rate.

CLASSIFICATION OF INJURIES

The Health and Safety Authority uses standard international classifications for its statistics according to the recommendations of Eurostat.

Economic activity classification – NACE (Nomenclature statistique des activités économiques dans la Communauté européenne: Statistical Classification of Economic Activities in the European Community), which is maintained by Eurostat.

Occupation classification – ISCO (International Standard Classification of Occupations), which is maintained by ILO.

Table C1: Persons Incurring Injury and Illness (QNHS)

| | ILO economic status | 1999 | 2002 ¹ |
|--|-----------------------|-----------|-------------------|
| Number of persons incurring injury and illness | In labour force | 89,100 | 83,700 |
| | In employment: | 85,600 | 81,200 |
| | full-time | - | 69,900 |
| | part-time | - | 11,300 |
| | Unemployed | 3,500 | 2,500 |
| | Not in labour force | 21,200 | 34,100 |
| | Total aged 15 or over | 110,200 | 117,800 |
| Total persons | In labour force | 1,688,100 | 1,857,000 |
| | In employment: | 1,591,100 | 1,772,000 |
| | full-time | 1,324,600 | 1,473,500 |
| | part-time | 266,500 | 298,500 |
| | Unemployed | 96,900 | 84,900 |
| | Not in labour force | 1,227,400 | 1,266,400 |
| | Total aged 15 or over | 2,915,500 | 3,123,300 |
| Injury/Illness rate per 1,000 | In labour force | 52.8 | 45.1 |
| | In employment: | 53.8 | 45.8 |
| | full-time | - | 47.4 |
| | part-time | - | 37.9 |
| | Unemployed | 36.1 | 29.4 |
| | Not in labour force | 17.3 | 26.9 |
| | Total aged 15 or over | 37.8 | 37.7 |

Note¹ The survey was carried out during December 2002 to February 2003 by the Central Statistics Office (CSO) as part of the quarterly national household survey where respondents were asked whether they had suffered an injury incurred at work or an illness that the respondent believed was caused or made worse by their work in the past 12 months.

Table C1 shows a significant reduction in both the number and rate of workplace injuries to those in the labour force despite a growth in the labour force of 168,900 persons. When the large increase of those in employment is taken into account, 14,000 fewer workers (half of these in construction) were injured than would have been the case had the injury and illness rate stayed the same.

Persons listed as unemployed or not in the labour force in the above table may have become unemployed or retired since suffering their work-related injury.

Table C2: Number of Persons Incurring Occupational Injury and Illness (QNHS)¹

| Economic Sector | Number of Persons Injured | | | | Number of Illness Cases | | |
|-----------------|---------------------------|---------------|---------------|------------------|-------------------------|---------------|---------------|
| | Males | Females | Total | Total +3 days | Males | Females | Total |
| A-B | 3,200 | 300 | 3,600 | 2,000 | 4,400 | 400 | 4,800 |
| C-E | 6,600 | 1,600 | 8,200 | 4,000 | 4,300 | 1,400 | 5,600 |
| F | 7,500 | - | 7,500 | 4,200 | 4,400 | 100 | 4,500 |
| G | 3,100 | 1,900 | 5,000 | 2,300 | 2,200 | 1,900 | 4,100 |
| H | 1,900 | 1,300 | 3,300 | 1,400 | 1,300 | 600 | 1,900 |
| I | 2,400 | 400 | 2,700 | 1,700 | 2,200 | 500 | 2,700 |
| J-K | 1,600 | 1,400 | 3,000 | 1,000 | 1,500 | 2,400 | 3,900 |
| L | 1,300 | 500 | 1,800 | 1,000 | 1,300 | 600 | 1,900 |
| M | 600 | 900 | 1,500 | 300 | 800 | 1,900 | 2,700 |
| N | 1,000 | 3,300 | 4,400 | 2,200 | 800 | 3,600 | 4,400 |
| O | 1,200 | 900 | 2,000 | 1,000 | 700 | 1,000 | 1,700 |
| Total | 30,600 | 12,600 | 43,100 | 20,900 | 23,800 | 14,400 | 38,100 |

Table C2 shows the construction, agriculture, hotel and restaurant, and health sectors as having the highest rates of non-fatal injury. Males have a substantially higher rate of workplace injury than females across all sectors. Females have a similar rate of illness to males with the exception of the construction, hotel and restaurant, and public administration and defence sectors where male illness is substantially higher. Tables C1 to C2 are based on the number of persons injured or becoming ill. The total number of injuries and illnesses is higher as some respondents suffered more than one injury or illness.

Table C3: Rate of Occupational Injury and Illness (QNHS) ¹

| Economic Sector | Rate of Persons Injured per 1,000 | | | | Illness Rate per 1,000 | | |
|-----------------|-----------------------------------|-------------|-------------|--------------|------------------------|-------------|-------------|
| | Males | Females | Total Rate | Rate +3 days | Males | Females | Total |
| A-B | 31.3 | 24.8 | 31.5 | 17.5 | 43.1 | 33.1 | 42 |
| C-E | 30.6 | 18.3 | 27 | 13.2 | 19.9 | 16 | 18.5 |
| F | 41.8 | - | 39.8 | 22.3 | 24.5 | 11.1 | 23.9 |
| G | 24.1 | 15.4 | 19.8 | 9.1 | 17.1 | 15.4 | 16.3 |
| H | 40.5 | 20.4 | 29.9 | 12.7 | 27.7 | 9.4 | 17.2 |
| I | 29 | 14.2 | 24.3 | 15.3 | 26.6 | 17.8 | 24.3 |
| J-K | 14 | 12.4 | 13.2 | 4.4 | 13.2 | 21.3 | 17.2 |
| L | 26.6 | 12.6 | 20.3 | 11.3 | 26.6 | 15.1 | 21.4 |
| M | 17.2 | 11.2 | 13 | 2.6 | 23 | 23.7 | 23.5 |
| N | 30.8 | 24.8 | 26.6 | 13.3 | 24.6 | 27 | 26.6 |
| O | 28.4 | 16.7 | 20.8 | 10.4 | 16.5 | 18.5 | 17.7 |
| Total | 29.8 | 16.9 | 24.3 | 11.8 | 23.1 | 19.4 | 21.5 |

Sector: A – Agriculture, hunting and forestry, B – Fishing, C – Mining & Quarrying, D – Manufacturing, E – Electricity/gas/water, F – Construction, G – Wholesale/Retail trade; repair of vehicles, personal and household goods, H – Hotels/Restaurants, I – Transport, Storage, Communication, J – Financial Intermediation, K – Real Estate, Renting, Business, L – Public Admin./Defence, M – Education, N – Health/Social Work, O – Community/Social/Personal Services

Note ¹ The survey was conducted between December 2002 and February 2003 by the Central Statistics Office (CSO) as part of the quarterly national household survey where respondents were asked whether they had suffered an injury incurred at work or an illness that the respondent believed was caused or made worse by their work in the past 12 months.

Table C4: Employment by Economic Sector (QNHS)

| Economic Sector | Male | Female | Total |
|--|------------------|----------------|------------------|
| A-B – Agriculture, hunting and forestry, fishing | 102,200 | 12,100 | 114,300 |
| C-E – Mining & Quarrying, Manufacturing, Electricity/gas/water | 215,800 | 87,400 | 303,200 |
| F – Construction | 179,500 | 9,000 | 188,500 |
| G – Wholesale/Retail trade; repair of vehicles, personal and household goods | 128,600 | 123,700 | 252,300 |
| H – Hotels/Restaurants | 46,900 | 63,600 | 110,500 |
| I – Transport, Storage, Communication | 82,800 | 28,100 | 110,900 |
| J-K – Financial Intermediation, Real Estate, Renting, Business | 113,900 | 112,800 | 226,600 |
| L – Public Admin./Defence | 48,900 | 39,700 | 88,600 |
| M – Education | 34,800 | 80,200 | 115,000 |
| N – Health/Social Work | 32,500 | 133,300 | 165,700 |
| O – Community/Social/Personal Services | 42,300 | 54,000 | 96,300 |
| Total | 1,028,100 | 743,900 | 1,772,000 |

Chart C5: Rate of Occupational Injury Benefit Claims Allowed (OIB)

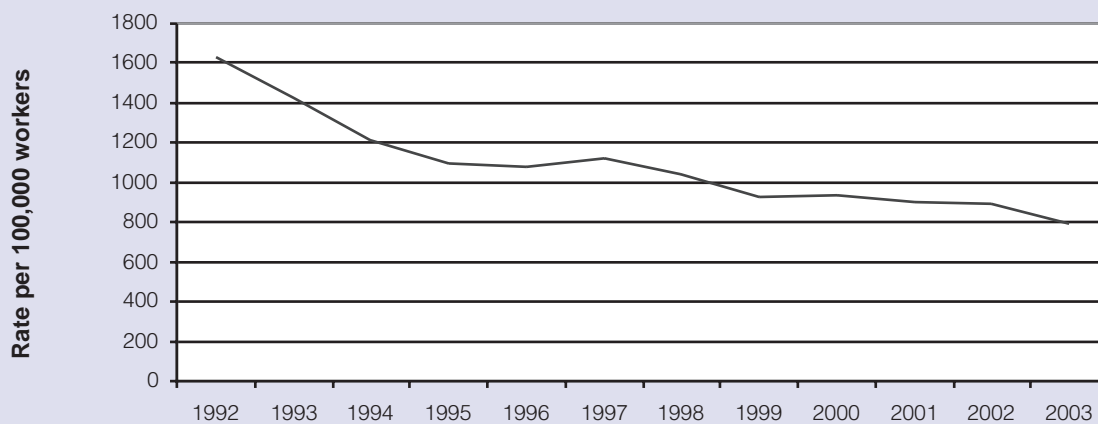


Table C6: Number of Occupational Injury Benefit Claims Allowed (OIB)

| Year | 1992 | 1993 | 1994 | 1995 | 1996 | 1997 | 1998 | 1999 | 2000 | 2001 | 2002 | 2003 |
|----------------|--------|--------|--------|-------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| Claims Allowed | 13,100 | 11,700 | 10,300 | 9,911 | 10,293 | 11,169 | 11,686 | 11,311 | 11,995 | 12,050 | 12,280 | 11,096 |

Occupational injury benefit is the best available trend indicator since the criteria for benefit payment has not changed over time. The number of claims paid is likely to be less than the actual number of work-related injuries since not all workers are covered by social insurance. For claims to be allowed the absence must last at least 4 days and applicants must apply with a medical certificate within 21 days of becoming injured. The Department of Social and Family Affairs administers OIB claims.

Table C7: Percentage Reported Non-fatal Injuries by Selected Sector and Incident Type 2003 (HSA)

| Incident Type | Economic Sector Percentage Incident Type | | | | | | | | |
|--|---|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|-------------|
| | D | F | G | I | K | L | N | O | All sectors |
| Injured while handling, lifting or carrying | 43.2 | 24.6 | 35.3 | 34.5 | 26.6 | 23.9 | 36.0 | 40.6 | 33.8 |
| Slips, trips or falls on same level | 19.9 | 26.8 | 35.8 | 27.9 | 33.7 | 26.9 | 22.0 | 15.6 | 25.5 |
| Injured by a person – malicious | 0.0 | 0.1 | 0.9 | 4.0 | 14.8 | 24.9 | 18.8 | 4.2 | 6.3 |
| Injured by falling objects | 4.8 | 9.0 | 7.5 | 6.1 | 4.7 | 3.5 | 2.0 | 6.3 | 5.6 |
| Injured by hand tools | 7.8 | 9.4 | 4.3 | 3.2 | 1.8 | 2.0 | 2.8 | 5.2 | 5.6 |
| Contact with moving machinery parts | 11.8 | 3.3 | 3.0 | 1.9 | 3.6 | 1.5 | 1.0 | 7.3 | 5.3 |
| Transport (excluding road traffic accidents) | 3.2 | 3.9 | 5.9 | 10.2 | 1.8 | 2.6 | 0.5 | 4.2 | 4.0 |
| Fall from height | 2.2 | 13.6 | 2.3 | 1.5 | 3.6 | 1.7 | 1.5 | 3.1 | 3.9 |
| Exposure/contact with harmful substance | 4.3 | 3.3 | 1.1 | 1.3 | 2.4 | 2.6 | 4.5 | 4.2 | 3.2 |
| Road traffic accidents | 0.2 | 0.7 | 0.2 | 6.5 | 4.7 | 7.0 | 1.8 | 4.2 | 2.4 |
| Struck by something collapsing/overturning | 1.6 | 2.8 | 1.8 | 0.9 | 1.2 | 0.4 | 0.8 | 3.1 | 1.7 |
| Injured by a person – non-malicious | 0.2 | 0.1 | 1.6 | 0.2 | 1.2 | 1.3 | 7.3 | 1.0 | 1.2 |
| Contact with electricity | 0.6 | 1.3 | 0.2 | 0.2 | 0.0 | 0.4 | 0.8 | 1.0 | 0.6 |
| Injured by an animal | 0.1 | 0.4 | 0.0 | 0.9 | 0.0 | 0.4 | 0.3 | 0.0 | 0.5 |
| Fire or explosion | 0.1 | 0.4 | 0.0 | 0.2 | 0.0 | 1.1 | 0.3 | 0.0 | 0.3 |
| Drowning or asphyxiation | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.4 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| Total Percentage | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |

Economic Sector: A – Agriculture, hunting and forestry, B – Fishing, C – Mining & Quarrying, D – Manufacturing, E – Electricity/gas/water, F – Construction, G – Wholesale/Retail trade; repair of vehicles, personal and household goods, H – Hotels/Restaurants, I – Transport, Storage, Communication, J – Financial Intermediation, K – Real Estate, Renting, Business, L – Public Admin./Defence, M – Education, N – Health/Social Work, O – Community/Social/Personal Services

The most common non-fatal incident types reported to the Authority for all sectors were injuries involving handling, lifting and carrying (34%) and slips, trips and falls on the level (26%). These categories alone accounted for 60% of all reported injuries.

In the public administration and defence and health sectors the third most common type was due to violence. In the construction sector the third most common type of reported incident was falls from a height, followed by hand-tools and falling objects.

Table C8: Top Occupations involving Reported Non-fatal Injury 2003 (HSA)

| Victim occupation (ISCO) code description | Percentage |
|--|------------|
| Manufacturing workers, manufacturing operators, plant and machine operators | 22.9 |
| Construction, building and maintenance labourers and builders | 6.3 |
| Shop, stall and market salespersons and demonstrators | 5.1 |
| Non-worker | 4.1 |
| Police officers | 3.8 |
| Nursing and midwifery and associate professionals | 3.0 |
| Carpenters and joiners | 2.1 |
| Heavy truck and lorry drivers | 2.1 |
| Electrical, electronics and telecommunications engineering technicians and engineers | 2.0 |
| Bus drivers | 1.8 |

Table C9: Occupation Groups of persons in employment aged 15 years and over with an injury by gender and occupation (QNHS)¹

| Broad Occupational Group | Injuries '000 | | | Employment | | | Rate per 1,000 | | |
|--------------------------------------|---------------|--------|-------|------------|---------|-----------|----------------|--------|-------|
| | Male | Female | Total | Male | Female | Total | Male | Female | Total |
| Managers and administrators | 4.9 | 1.3 | 6.2 | 217,800 | 89,000 | 306,800 | 22.5 | 14.6 | 20.2 |
| Professional | 1.9 | 1.3 | 3.2 | 105,700 | 93,400 | 199,200 | 18.0 | 13.9 | 16.1 |
| Associate professional and technical | 1.3 | 2.2 | 3.4 | 67,700 | 91,300 | 159,000 | 19.2 | 24.1 | 21.4 |
| Clerical and secretarial | 1.0 | 1.3 | 2.3 | 51,600 | 165,600 | 217,200 | 19.4 | 7.9 | 10.6 |
| Craft and related | 9.3 | - | 9.4 | 227,000 | 14,100 | 241,100 | 41.0 | - | 39.0 |
| Personal and protective service | 3.6 | 2.7 | 6.3 | 72,700 | 107,300 | 180,000 | 49.5 | 25.2 | 35.0 |
| Sales | 0.7 | 1.3 | 2.0 | 55,200 | 91,100 | 146,300 | 12.7 | 14.3 | 13.7 |
| Plant and machine operatives | 5.0 | 0.9 | 5.9 | 138,400 | 36,100 | 174,500 | 36.1 | 24.9 | 33.8 |
| Other | 3.1 | 1.4 | 4.5 | 91,900 | 56,000 | 147,900 | 33.7 | 25.0 | 30.4 |
| Total | 30.6 | 12.6 | 43.1 | 1,028,100 | 743,900 | 1,772,000 | 29.8 | 16.9 | 24.3 |

Note¹ The survey was conducted between December 2002 and February 2003 by the Central Statistics Office (CSO) as part of the quarterly national household survey where respondents were asked whether they had suffered an injury incurred at work or an illness that the respondent believed was caused or made worse by their work. Table C8 shows the percentage of reported injuries associated with different occupation groups. The occupation groups are listed by ISCO code, an international accident classification system used to ensure international comparability of data. The highest percentage of occupations reported relate to workers involved in manufacturing or in the operation of plant or machinery. Construction workers are the next highest category.

Table C9 is based on the quarterly national household survey and can be used to calculate injury rates for broad occupational groups. Male and female workers in the personal and protective service category have the highest rate of workplace injury. This category includes police, prison officers and firefighters.

Another high-risk category is craft-related workers, this category includes building trade workers, miners, quarry workers, metal and machinery trades workers.

Table C10: Number of Reported Incidents by Work Environment 2003 (HSA)

| Work Environment | Economic Sector | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | Total |
|--|-----------------|----------|-----------|-------------|------------|-------------|------------|-----------|------------|------------|------------|------------|-----------|------------|------------|----------|-------------|
| | A | B | C | D | E | F | G | H | I | J | K | L | M | N | O | P | |
| Factory, industrial site, workshop or warehouse | 5 | 1 | 16 | 1669 | 26 | 156 | 225 | 7 | 284 | 30 | 67 | 144 | 3 | 30 | 92 | 0 | 2755 |
| Construction site, trench, opencast quarry or mine | 0 | 0 | 26 | 38 | 25 | 839 | 3 | 1 | 3 | 0 | 11 | 19 | 0 | 0 | 6 | 0 | 971 |
| Area open to public (road, parking, station or waiting room) | 5 | 1 | 2 | 29 | 31 | 75 | 20 | 0 | 212 | 42 | 17 | 223 | 1 | 14 | 19 | 0 | 691 |
| Office, school, shop, restaurant, hotel, theatre etc. | 3 | 0 | 0 | 34 | 2 | 17 | 358 | 37 | 33 | 20 | 25 | 79 | 8 | 12 | 15 | 0 | 646 |
| Health establishment | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 5 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 6 | 54 | 7 | 477 | 1 | 0 | 553 |
| Means of transport (train, bus, car, vessel, etc.) | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 8 | 4 | 0 | 155 | 9 | 1 | 25 | 0 | 4 | 2 | 0 | 210 |
| Other service related area | 0 | 0 | 0 | 11 | 1 | 5 | 4 | 3 | 17 | 16 | 4 | 99 | 1 | 13 | 11 | | 185 |
| Farm, fish farm, forest or park | 53 | 0 | 2 | 10 | 8 | 11 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 19 | 0 | 1 | 11 | 0 | 117 |
| Other | 1 | 0 | 4 | 7 | 3 | 10 | 4 | 2 | 14 | 2 | 2 | 30 | 1 | 4 | 12 | 0 | 96 |
| Educational establishment | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 12 | 53 | 3 | 1 | 0 | 76 |
| Private home or related area | 0 | 0 | 0 | 7 | 0 | 11 | 2 | 0 | 9 | 0 | 1 | 31 | 0 | 13 | 1 | 1 | 76 |
| Transport related area or road | 2 | 1 | 0 | 3 | 6 | 8 | 5 | 1 | 18 | 3 | 1 | 16 | 1 | 1 | 4 | 0 | 70 |
| Restricted zone near area open to public (railway line, apron) | 0 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 37 | 1 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 46 |
| Underground (excl. Construction) | 0 | 0 | 18 | 6 | 0 | 4 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 31 |
| Airborne transport | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 30 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 30 |
| Sports area | 3 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 15 | 1 | 1 | 5 | 0 | 28 |
| At height (mast, pylon, roof) | 0 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 9 | 2 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 18 |
| Other | 2 | 0 | 4 | 13 | 4 | 14 | 4 | 2 | 15 | 2 | 3 | 37 | 1 | 4 | 13 | 0 | 119 |
| Total | 73 | 4 | 68 | 1828 | 104 | 1167 | 628 | 55 | 817 | 124 | 137 | 780 | 77 | 573 | 183 | 1 | 6622 |

Economic Sector: A – Agriculture, hunting and forestry, B – Fishing, C – Mining & Quarrying, D – Manufacturing, E – Electricity/gas/water, F – Construction, G – Wholesale/Retail trade; repair of vehicles, personal and household goods, H – Hotels/Restaurants, I – Transport, Storage, Communication, J – Financial Intermediation, K – Real Estate, Renting, Business, L – Public Admin./Defence, M – Education, N – Health/Social Work, O – Community/Social/Personal Services

The majority of reported incidents were in factories, industrial sites, workshops or warehouses, reflecting better compliance in the manufacturing sector with the accident reporting regulations. The agriculture sector reported very few accidents, reflecting the poor compliance of many self-employed persons with the accident reporting regulations.

Table C11: Percentage Reported Injuries by Age and Economic Sector 2003 (HSA)

| Age Range | Percentage Reported by Economic Sector | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|----------------|--|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------------|
| | A | C | D | E | F | G | H | I | J | K | L | M | N | O | % Reported |
| 0-4 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.2 | 0.0 | 0.2 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.2 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 2.7 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.1 |
| 5-9 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.3 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 5.4 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.1 |
| 10-14 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.1 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.2 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.2 | 5.4 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.1 |
| 15-19 | 7.7 | 7.9 | 3.8 | 2.8 | 7.4 | 9.8 | 12.9 | 1.0 | 1.1 | 2.3 | 1.3 | 2.7 | 1.6 | 8.0 | 4.1 |
| 20-24 | 15.4 | 5.3 | 13.2 | 13.9 | 21.0 | 19.0 | 16.1 | 7.8 | 12.0 | 14.0 | 10.1 | 8.1 | 7.5 | 13.3 | 13.2 |
| 25-29 | 11.5 | 15.8 | 17.8 | 11.1 | 14.5 | 14.0 | 25.8 | 16.5 | 18.5 | 17.4 | 15.7 | 8.1 | 19.1 | 12.4 | 16.4 |
| 30-34 | 15.4 | 7.9 | 17.1 | 11.1 | 16.6 | 15.9 | 9.7 | 14.5 | 12.0 | 10.5 | 16.3 | 2.7 | 14.5 | 14.2 | 15.6 |
| 35-39 | 11.5 | 5.3 | 13.6 | 8.3 | 12.9 | 12.7 | 3.2 | 18.5 | 13.0 | 15.1 | 17.2 | 16.2 | 9.9 | 10.6 | 13.9 |
| 40-44 | 7.7 | 23.7 | 11.6 | 19.4 | 7.6 | 7.6 | 3.2 | 15.1 | 13.0 | 15.1 | 16.1 | 10.8 | 13.4 | 14.2 | 12.1 |
| 45-49 | 7.7 | 0.0 | 8.5 | 16.7 | 8.7 | 6.7 | 9.7 | 11.1 | 9.8 | 8.1 | 9.9 | 10.8 | 14.2 | 9.7 | 9.5 |
| 50-54 | 11.5 | 18.4 | 7.0 | 13.9 | 5.8 | 7.6 | 16.1 | 8.2 | 9.8 | 9.3 | 7.3 | 16.2 | 9.4 | 6.2 | 7.7 |
| 55-59 | 7.7 | 10.5 | 5.2 | 2.8 | 3.5 | 4.4 | 3.2 | 5.2 | 4.3 | 5.8 | 3.2 | 2.7 | 7.0 | 5.3 | 4.8 |
| 60-64 | 3.8 | 5.3 | 1.7 | 0.0 | 1.5 | 1.6 | 0.0 | 1.6 | 6.5 | 2.3 | 2.4 | 8.1 | 2.4 | 6.2 | 2.1 |
| 65+ | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.1 | 0.0 | 0.3 | 0.3 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.4 | 0.0 | 0.8 | 0.0 | 0.2 |
| Total % | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |

Economic Sector: A - Agriculture, hunting and forestry, B - Fishing, C - Mining & Quarrying, D - Manufacturing, E - Electricity/gas/water, F- Construction, G - Wholesale/Retail trade; repair of vehicles, personal and household goods, H - Hotels/Restaurants, I - Transport, Storage, Communication, J - Financial Intermediation, K - Real Estate, Renting, Business, L - Public Admin./Defence, M - Education, N - Health/Social Work, O - Community/Social/Personal Services

The table above includes all injuries with more than 3 days' absence reported by employers to the Authority where the age was recorded. The construction sector had a relatively high number of reported injuries in the 20-24 age group compared to most other sectors where the 25-29 and 30 to 34 age groups tended to be the groups with the highest number of reported injuries.

The age bands with the highest number of reported injuries in the above table are different to the age bands with the highest rate of injury in table C12 below. However, table C12 includes all injuries recorded in the QNHS, whereas table C11 includes only those injuries involving more than 3 days' absence reported to the Authority.

Table C12: Rates of Occupational Injury and Illness (QNHS)¹

| Age Range | Injury rate per thousand | | | Illness rate per thousand | | |
|--------------|--------------------------|--------|-------|---------------------------|--------|-------|
| | Male | Female | Total | Male | Female | Total |
| 15-19 | 6.3 | 3.3 | 4.8 | 2.5 | 2.0 | 2.2 |
| 20-24 | 22.1 | 7.9 | 15.0 | 10.2 | 9.0 | 9.6 |
| 25-29 | 26.5 | 13.2 | 19.9 | 16.5 | 14.4 | 15.4 |
| 30-34 | 30.0 | 16.9 | 23.5 | 22.7 | 17.5 | 20.1 |
| 35-39 | 27.2 | 10.1 | 18.6 | 25.7 | 19.6 | 23.0 |
| 40-44 | 29.5 | 13.4 | 21.4 | 33.3 | 21.5 | 27.4 |
| 45-49 | 28.9 | 11.1 | 20.0 | 38.6 | 21.5 | 29.6 |
| 50-54 | 25.0 | 8.7 | 16.8 | 49.1 | 21.7 | 35.4 |
| 55-59 | 22.4 | 6.0 | 14.3 | 61.5 | 23.0 | 42.5 |
| 60-64 | 16.7 | | 10.2 | 64.1 | 16.6 | 40.3 |
| 65+ | 5.2 | | 2.7 | 53.7 | 9.7 | 28.8 |
| Total | 21.1 | 8.4 | 14.7 | 31.5 | 14.9 | 23.1 |

Note ¹ The survey was conducted between December 2002 and February 2003 by the Central Statistics Office (CSO) as part of the quarterly national household survey where respondents were asked whether they had suffered an injury incurred at work or an illness that the respondent believed was caused or made worse by their work in the past 12 months.

The rate includes all persons injured aged 15 and over, including those classified as unemployed or not in the labour force at the time of the survey. The rate includes all persons who said they were injured, irrespective of length of absence or number of injuries.

The group at highest risk of injury is males between the ages of 30 to 49. Female injury rates peak in the 30 to 34 age range. Male illness rates increase steeply with age but female illness rates level off at a much lower rate by the age of 40 to 44.

Table C13: Reported Non-fatal Injury by Body Part Injured and Selected Sector 2003 (HSA)

| Victim body part injured description | Percentage injured by Economic Sector | | | | | | | | |
|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|-------------|
| | D | F | G | I | K | L | N | O | All sectors |
| Back, spine | 26.6 | 16.7 | 23.6 | 34.1 | 31.6 | 20.8 | 32.2 | 26.7 | 25.6 |
| Fingers, one or more | 17.8 | 14.2 | 11.5 | 8.0 | 7.1 | 8.7 | 8.1 | 13.9 | 12.7 |
| Knee joint, lower leg, ankle area | 8.4 | 16.7 | 14.0 | 14.7 | 12.9 | 13.8 | 8.6 | 12.9 | 12.2 |
| Hand | 12.0 | 9.5 | 9.7 | 4.7 | 6.5 | 9.0 | 5.6 | 14.9 | 9.0 |
| Shoulder, upper arm, elbow | 8.1 | 7.1 | 9.2 | 10.2 | 9.7 | 11.5 | 11.7 | 0 | 8.9 |
| Lower arm, wrist | 8.0 | 7.8 | 8.3 | 4.7 | 7.7 | 7.7 | 7.4 | 5.0 | 7.4 |
| Head, except eyes | 3.8 | 7.8 | 7.9 | 7.8 | 6.5 | 9.2 | 6.6 | 5.9 | 6.7 |
| Foot | 4.6 | 6.6 | 4.5 | 4.2 | 5.2 | 4.4 | 3.0 | 4.0 | 4.7 |
| Neck | 2.8 | 1.9 | 1.4 | 4.7 | 2.6 | 5.0 | 7.6 | 4.0 | 3.4 |
| Hip joint, thigh, knee cap | 1.8 | 3.0 | 4.5 | 2.0 | 3.9 | 4.4 | 2.8 | 5.9 | 3.0 |
| Chest | 2.5 | 2.3 | 1.6 | 1.8 | 3.9 | 2.9 | 3.0 | 0 | 2.5 |
| Eyes | 2.2 | 4.8 | 1.8 | 1.6 | 1.3 | 1.2 | 1.5 | 4.0 | 2.4 |
| Toes, one or more | 0.8 | 1.0 | 1.8 | 0.5 | 0.6 | 0.6 | 0.8 | 2.0 | 0.9 |
| Abdomen | 0.5 | 0.6 | 0.2 | 0.9 | 0.6 | 0.8 | 1.0 | 1.0 | 0.6 |

Economic Sector: A - Agriculture, hunting and forestry, B - Fishing, C - Mining & Quarrying, D - Manufacturing, E - Electricity/gas/water, F - Construction, G - Wholesale/Retail trade; repair of vehicles, personal and household goods, H - Hotels/Restaurants, I - Transport, Storage, Communication, J - Financial Intermediation, K - Real Estate, Renting, Business, L - Public Admin./Defence, M - Education, N - Health/Social Work, O - Community/Social/Personal Services

Table C14: Reported Non-fatal Injury by Injury Type and Selected Sector 2003 (HSA)

| Injury type | Percentage injured by Economic Sector (NACE) | | | | | | | | |
|------------------------------|--|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|-------------|
| | D | F | G | I | K | L | N | O | All sectors |
| Sprain, torn ligaments | 36.0 | 24.9 | 30.1 | 42.1 | 38.6 | 31.9 | 38.3 | 30.1 | 33.2 |
| Bruising, contusion | 21.1 | 19.3 | 35.7 | 24.8 | 29.3 | 30.1 | 26.9 | 18.1 | 24.6 |
| Open wound | 19.0 | 16.9 | 16.2 | 8.4 | 7.9 | 11.2 | 9.5 | 19.3 | 15.0 |
| Closed fracture | 10.5 | 21.4 | 9.1 | 11.4 | 12.1 | 12.7 | 11.5 | 14.5 | 13.1 |
| Burns, scalds, frostbite | 5.2 | 2.9 | 2.0 | 2.3 | 2.1 | 4.7 | 5.1 | 3.6 | 4.1 |
| Abrasion, graze | 2.6 | 4.4 | 2.8 | 1.9 | 3.6 | 3.1 | 3.6 | 1.2 | 3.1 |
| Dislocation | 0.6 | 2.6 | 1.3 | 2.1 | 0 | 1.8 | 1.6 | 3.6 | 1.5 |
| Internal injuries | 1.1 | 2.1 | 1.0 | 1.9 | 2.1 | 1.3 | 0.4 | 2.4 | 1.5 |
| Amputation | 1.5 | 0.5 | 0.3 | 0.5 | 1.4 | 0.4 | 0.4 | 1.2 | 0.9 |
| Open fracture (bone exposed) | 1.0 | 1.6 | 0.3 | 1.4 | 0.0 | 0.4 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.9 |
| Concussion | 0.4 | 1.8 | 0.8 | 1.4 | 1.4 | 0.4 | 1.2 | 1.2 | 0.9 |
| Infection | 0.4 | 0.2 | 0.3 | 1.2 | 1.4 | 0.4 | 0.8 | 2.4 | 0.5 |
| Electrical injury | 0.4 | 0.8 | 0.3 | 0.2 | 0 | 0 | 0.4 | 0 | 0.4 |
| Suffocation, asphyxiation | 0.1 | 0.2 | 0 | 0.2 | 0 | 1.1 | 0 | 0 | 0.2 |
| Gassing | 0.1 | 0.2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0.2 | 0.4 | 2.4 | 0.2 |
| Drowning | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0.2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0.0 |
| Poisoning | 0 | 0.2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0.0 |

Economic Sector: A - Agriculture, hunting and forestry, B - Fishing, C - Mining & Quarrying, D - Manufacturing, E - Electricity/gas/water, F - Construction, G - Wholesale/Retail trade; repair of vehicles, personal and household goods, H - Hotels/Restaurants, I - Transport, Storage, Communication, J - Financial Intermediation, K - Real Estate, Renting, Business, L - Public Admin./Defence, M - Education, N - Health/Social Work, O - Community/Social/Personal Services

Table C15: Reported Fatal Injuries by Economic Sector, 2003 (HSA)

| Economic Sector | Fatalities other than Road Traffic Accidents (RTA) | | | | | | Road Traffic Fatalities | Total including RTA | |
|--|--|---------------|-------------------|--------------|--------------------|------------|-------------------------|---------------------|---------------|
| | Worker | | | | | Other | | | Total Non RTA |
| | Employee | Self-employed | Family worker 15+ | Total Worker | WorkerRate 100,000 | Non-worker | | | |
| A – Agriculture/ Hunting/ Forestry | 2 | 12 | 0 | 14 | 12.3 | 5 | 19 | 0 | 19 |
| B – Fishing | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| C – Mining/ Quarrying | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 3.0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 |
| D – Manufacturing | 5 | 0 | 0 | 5 | | 0 | 5 | 1 | 6 |
| E – Electricity/ Gas/ Water | 2 | 0 | 0 | 2 | | 0 | 2 | 0 | 2 |
| F- Construction | 9 | 3 | 0 | 12 | 6.4 | 4 | 16 | 1 | 17 |
| G – Wholesale/ Retail/ Repair | 5 | 0 | 0 | 5 | 2 | 0 | 5 | 0 | 5 |
| H – Hotels/ Restaurants | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| I – Transport/ Storage/ Communication | 6 | 0 | 0 | 6 | 5.4 | 1 | 7 | 0 | 7 |
| J – Financial Intermediation | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| K – Real Estate/ Renting/ Business | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| L – Public Admin./Defence | 4 | 0 | 0 | 4 | 4.4 | 0 | 4 | 0 | 4 |
| M – Education | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| N – Health/ Social Work | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| O – Community/ Social/ Personal Services | 3 | 1 | 0 | 4 | 4.2 | 0 | 4 | 0 | 4 |
| Total | 37 | 16 | 0 | 53 | 3 | 10 | 63 | 2 | 65 |

A total of 53 workers and 10 others were killed in non-road traffic accidents. Two road traffic fatalities were reported to the Authority.

In addition to the 65 fatal injuries there were 2 fatal illnesses, one involving mesothelioma (arising from asbestos exposure in the past) and one involving a fatal asthma attack after exposure to flour dust.

Construction Fatalities: There were 17 fatalities associated with persons or organisations in the construction sector. An additional 4 fatalities related to construction activities being carried out by persons in other sectors. Three of these involved local authority employees on construction sites and the fourth involved a farmer carrying out construction work on a farm.

Electricity: There were two fatalities involving persons employed in the electricity sector. An additional two fatalities occurred involving persons employed in other sectors but performing work in relation to the electricity sector.

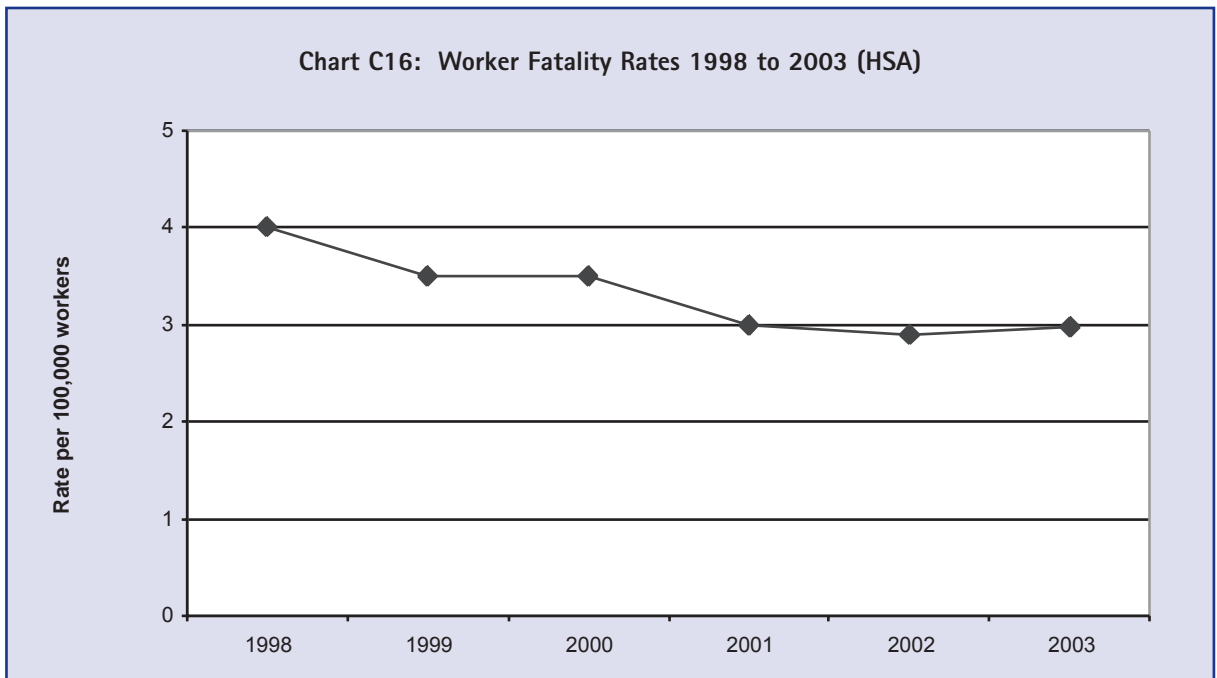


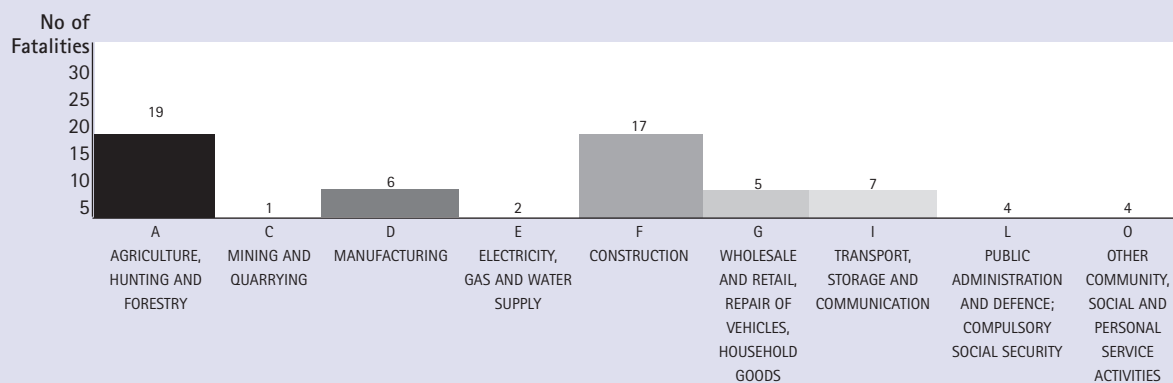
Table C17: Fatalities by Economic Sector and Accident Type 2003 (HSA)

| Fatality Type | Economic Sector (NACE) | | | | | | | | | Total No. |
|--|------------------------|----------|----------|----------|-----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|-----------|
| | A | C | D | E | F | G | I | L | O | |
| Fall from height | 2 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 6 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 2 | 15 |
| Transport (excluding road traffic accidents) | 6 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 0 | 12 |
| Struck by something collapsing/overturning | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 9 |
| Contact with moving machinery parts | 2 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 3 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 8 |
| Fire or explosion | 1 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 5 |
| Slips, trips or falls on same level | 2 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 4 |
| Injured by an animal | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 3 |
| Injured by falling objects | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 3 |
| Exposure/contact with harmful substance | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 |
| Road traffic accidents | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 |
| Contact with electricity | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| Drowning or asphyxiation | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| Other | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Injured by a person - malicious | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Injured by a person - non-malicious | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Injured by hand tools | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Injured while handling, lifting or carrying | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Total Number of reported Fatalities | 19 | 1 | 6 | 2 | 17 | 5 | 7 | 4 | 4 | 65 |

In addition to the above reported fatalities are road traffic fatalities that have not been reported to the Authority. The National Roads Authority fatality statistics show that during 2002 there were 20 goods vehicle users and one public service vehicle driver killed in road traffic accidents.

Table C14 Reported Fatal Injuries by Sector 2003

Total Fatal Injuries for Period: 65



NACE A - AGRICULTURE, HUNTING AND FORESTRY (19 Fatalities)

| Date | Event | Employment Status | Occupational Group | Work Environment Group | County | Age |
|----------|---|-------------------|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------|-----------|-----|
| 14/01/03 | The raised body of the tractor was being supported by a piece of timber. The support may have slipped allowing the trailer body to fall onto the victim | Self Employed | Managers of Small (Farm) Enterprises | Farm, Fish Farm, Forest or Park | Donegal | 66 |
| 22/01/03 | Victim was hit by a reversing tractor and trailer which was moving soil from one part of the farm to another. He was a regular visitor on the farm. | Member of Public | Non Worker | Farm, Fish Farm, Forest or Park | Limerick | 68 |
| 04/02/03 | Children were playing in the snow when they discovered the victim was missing. He was found later in the slurry pit. | Family Member | Non Worker | Farm, Fish Farm, Forest or Park | Cork | 2 |
| 27/03/03 | Victim was working alone burning bushes, which had been cut and gathered into a pile. It appears that his tractor caught fire and he died in the cab | Self Employed | Managers of Small (Farm) Enterprises | Farm, Fish Farm, Forest or Park | Westmeath | 74 |
| 03/04/03 | Apparently he fell in his yard injuring the back of his head | Self Employed | Managers of Small (Farm) Enterprises | Farm, Fish Farm, Forest or Park | Laois | 65 |
| 24/04/03 | Victim was herding sheep when he tripped, fell down an embankment and fell into a stream. | Self Employed | Managers of Small (Farm) Enterprises | Farm, Fish Farm, Forest or Park | Donegal | 72 |
| 07/05/03 | Victim was spreading fertiliser by tractor on a steep incline when the tractor overturned. | Self Employed | Managers of Small (Farm) Enterprises | Farm, Fish Farm, Forest or Park | Tipperary | 48 |

NACE A - AGRICULTURE, HUNTING AND FORESTRY (19 Fatalities) (Continued)

| Date | Event | Employment Status | Occupational Group | Work Environment Group | County | Age |
|----------|---|-------------------|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------|-----------|-----|
| 10/05/03 | Victim was driving a front loader on a lane on his farm. The loader overturned into a drain with about 0.6m of water in it and he was asphyxiated. | Self Employed | Managers of Small (Farm) Enterprises | Farm, Fish Farm, Forest or Park | Donegal | 54 |
| 12/05/03 | Victim was standing at the back door of a dwelling house when a bull, which was being unloaded charged towards her, striking her. | Family Member | Non Worker | Farm, Fish Farm, Forest or Park | Limerick | 89 |
| 04/06/03 | A cow had just calved in a field, it attacked the victim and killed him. | Self Employed | Managers of Small (Farm) Enterprises | Farm, Fish Farm, Forest or Park | Westmeath | 55 |
| 10/06/03 | The victim's body was found by visitors in the farmyard. It appears that the victim was run over by his own tractor. | Self Employed | Managers of Small (Farm) Enterprises | Farm, Fish Farm, Forest or Park | Limerick | 73 |
| 16/06/03 | Victim was unloading round bale from lorry. The lorry appeared to have rolled forward and the victim tried to get into the cab but was caught between the wall and the cab. | Employed | Managers of Small (Farm) Enterprises | Farm, Fish Farm, Forest or Park | Mayo | 57 |
| 05/07/03 | The victim was baling hay using a round baler towed by a tractor. He alighted from the tractor and was pulled into the baler by the hay intake prongs. | Employed | Crop and Animal Producers | Farm, Fish Farm, Forest or Park | Roscommon | 23 |
| 01/08/03 | Victim was assisting his son in removing corrugated sheets from the roof of a barn when he fell through a Perspex sheet. (Constructionactivity). | Family Member | Non Worker | Farm, Fish Farm, Forest or Park | Wexford | 65 |
| 21/08/03 | The victim was supervising the cutting of a hedge. There was a piece of wire in the hedge which hit the victim on the groin severing an artery. | Self Employed | Managers of Small (Farm) Enterprises | Farm, Fish Farm, Forest or Park | Tipperary | 85 |
| 13/09/03 | Victim was working under a grass-cutting machine. The front bucket of a tractor supported the machine and it appears the machine bucket slipped. | Self Employed | Managers of Small (Farm) Enterprises | Farm, Fish Farm, Forest or Park | Wexford | 46 |
| 29/09/03 | A child came in contact with a rotating PTO shaft while the tractor was being operated in the farmyard by his father. | Family Member | Non Worker | Farm, Fish Farm, Forest or Park | Cork | 9 |
| 20/10/03 | Victim was painting hay shed when he fell through a fragile rooflight and died two weeks later. | Self Employed | Managers of Small (Farm) Enterprises | Farm, Fish Farm, Forest or Park | Offaly | 66 |
| 15/12/03 | While driving along a road the front loader bucket fell off. The tractor drove over it, throwing the victim out of the tractor. | Self-Employed | Managers of Small (Farm) Enterprises | Farm, Fish Farm, Forest or Park | Westmeath | 69 |

NACE C – MINING AND QUARRYING (1 Fatality)

| Date | Event | Employment Status | Occupational Group | Work Environment Group | County | Age |
|----------|--|-------------------|--------------------|---------------------------------------|-----------|-----|
| 31/10/03 | Victim appears to have been drawn into a pan mixer, his body was recovered from the discharge chute. | Employed | Quarry labourer | Factory, Industrial Site or Warehouse | Roscommon | 40 |

NACE D – MANUFACTURING (6 Fatalities)

| Date | Event | Employment Status | Occupational Group | Work Environment Group | County | Age |
|----------|--|-------------------|---|---------------------------------------|-----------|-----|
| 07/03/03 | Victim was checking auger/conveyor. He slipped from top conveyor and died on the 13th March 2003 | Employed | Metal-Processing Plant Operators | Factory, Industrial Site or Warehouse | Tipperary | 60 |
| 07/05/03 | Victim was tidying up outside and appears to have fallen and hit his head.He died on 17th May 2003. | Employed | Manufacturing Labourer | Factory, Industrial Site or Warehouse | Mayo | 42 |
| 10/09/03 | Victim fell off a ladder on a tank as he was power washing it. | Employed | Manufacturing Labourer | Factory, Industrial Site or Warehouse | Cork | 51 |
| 06/10/03 | Sheets of chipboard fell on top of the victim. | Trainee | Building Frame and Related Trades Workers | Factory, Industrial Site or Warehouse | Cork | 17 |
| 06/11/03 | Victim is believed to have been unblocking a recycling baler and he came in contact with moving parts. | Employed | Manufacturing Labourer | Factory, Industrial Site or Warehouse | Dublin | 36 |
| 18/11/03 | Victim was in a head on collision with an articulated truck | Employed | Motor Vehicle Drivers | Transport Related Area or Road | Laois | 31 |

NACE E – ELECTRICITY GAS AND WATER SUPPLY (2 Fatalities)

| Date | Event | Employment Status | Occupational Group | Work Environment Group | County | Age |
|----------|---|-------------------|-----------------------------------|---------------------------------------|--------|-----|
| 03/07/03 | The victim was killed following an explosion and fire when working in a high voltage switch room. | Employed | Electrical Engineering Technician | Factory, Industrial Site or Warehouse | Kerry | 38 |
| 03/07/03 | The victim was killed following an explosion and fire when working in a high voltage switch room. | Employed | Electrical Engineering Technician | Factory, Industrial Site or Warehouse | Kerry | 49 |

NACE F – CONSTRUCTION (17 Fatalities)

| Date | Event | Employment Status | Occupational Group | Work Environment Group | County | Age |
|----------|--|-------------------|--|--|-----------|-----|
| 06/01/03 | Struck by an articulated dumper truck while crossing the road. | Member of Public | Non Worker | Transport Related Area or Road | Meath | 54 |
| 19/02/03 | Victim was working on a concrete pour. He was guiding a concrete pump at the hose end when the concrete pump came into contact with an overhead cable (electric shock). | Employed | Building Frame and Related Trades Workers | Construction Site, Opencast Quarry or Mine | Wicklow | 27 |
| 01/04/03 | It appears the injured man was about to attach chain slings to the excavator bucket when he was struck by the bucket of an excavator. | Employed | Construction Labourer | Construction Site, Opencast Quarry or Mine | Tipperary | 29 |
| 04/04/03 | It appears the victim fell backwards off a ladder and landed on a paving slab and suffered severe head and chest injuries. The HSA was notified of the accident in October. | Self Employed | Painters, Building Structure Cleaners and Related Trades Workers | Private Home or Related Area | Dublin | 43 |
| 09/04/03 | Victim was working in a deep excavation when a steel beam supporting the side of the excavation collapsed and crushed him against the gas pipeline. | Employed | Metal Moulders, Welders, Sheet-Metal Workers, Structural-Metal Preparers, and Related Trades Workers | Construction Site, Opencast Quarry or Mine | Clare | 42 |
| 13/04/03 | It appears the victim fell from a flat roof at a height of approx. 2.5m and suffered head injuries. The victim died on the 13th April 2003. The HSA was notified of the accident in October. | Self Employed | Building Frame and Related Trades Workers | Construction Site, Opencast Quarry or Mine | Dublin | 60 |
| 24/04/03 | The victim was working in a dormer bungalow which was substantially completed but without a staircase. The victim fell from the access ladder and died some days later. | Self Employed | Building Frame and Related Trades Workers | Construction Site, Opencast Quarry or Mine | Donegal | 55 |
| 30/04/03 | Removing asbestos cement sheeting from the roof of a single storey building, and fell through fragile roof light. | Employed | Construction Labourer | Construction Site, Opencast Quarry or Mine | Sligo | 49 |
| 02/05/03 | Victim was pinned beneath a 10.5m long timber electricity pole which was in the process of being loaded onto a lorry using the lorry hoist and grab. | Employed | Motor Vehicle Drivers | Construction Site, Opencast Quarry or Mine | Kerry | 33 |
| 10/07/03 | Victim was tightening bolts or adjusting main belt in crusher, when his hand got caught in belt because of loose clothing. | Employed | Mobile Plant Operators | Construction Site | Cork | 33 |
| 31/08/03 | Child was playing on a site inside a concrete ring. The concrete ring broke and collapsed on top of him. | Member of Public | Non Worker | Construction Site | Westmeath | 13 |

NACE F – CONSTRUCTION (17 Fatalities) (Continued)

| Date | Event | Employment Status | Occupational Group | Work Environment Group | County | Age |
|----------|---|-------------------|--|--------------------------------|----------|-----|
| 24/09/03 | Suspected carbon monoxide poisoning due to blocked flue outlet arising out of adjoining construction activity. | Member of Public | Non Worker | Other | Dublin | 82 |
| 24/09/03 | Suspected carbon monoxide poisoning due to blocked flue outlet arising out of adjoining construction activity. | Member of Public | Non Worker | Other | Dublin | 81 |
| 02/10/03 | Victim fell from a trestle scaffold at 1st floor level of a housing development. | Employed | Construction Labourer | Construction Site | Limerick | 47 |
| 05/11/03 | Victim drove into an excavation while driving a site dumper, was thrown from the machine and pinned under the bucket. | Employed | Motor vehicle driver | Construction Site | Kildare | 39 |
| 25/11/03 | It appears the All Terrain Vehicle (ATV) being driven on the public roadway hit a telephone pole. | Employed | Physical and Engineering Science Technicians | Transport Related Area or Road | Kerry | 21 |
| 15/12/03 | Victim apparently fell from an unsecured scaffold access ladder. | Employed | Construction Labourer | Construction Site | Mayo | 20 |

NACE G – WHOLESALE AND RETAIL TRADE; REPAIR OF MOTOR VEHICLES, MOTORCYCLES AND PERSONAL AND HOUSEHOLD GOODS (5 Fatalities)

| Date | Event | Employment Status | Occupational Group | Work Environment Group | County | Age |
|----------|---|-------------------|---|---------------------------------------|----------|-----|
| 11/01/03 | Victim was painting a machine in a workshop. He was found trapped between the door and the cab with the engine running. | Employed | Electrical and Electronic Equipment Mechanics and Fitters | Factory, Industrial Site or Warehouse | Meath | 48 |
| 19/02/03 | Victim went under the rear wheels of a vehicle as the vehicle was being driven away. | Employed | Machinery Mechanics and Fitters | Factory, Industrial Site or Warehouse | Cork | 20 |
| 28/02/03 | Other employee was raising lorry using hydraulic jack. Victim put his head between the back wheel and body of truck. The jack slipped and the body of the truck came down on the victim's head. | Employed | Machinery Mechanics and Fitters | Factory, Industrial Site or Warehouse | Laois | 22 |
| 03/03/03 | Victim was carrying out hot works on a container containing an explosive atmosphere. Victim died in the resulting explosion. | Employed | Agricultural contractor | Factory, Industrial Site or Warehouse | Monaghan | 30 |
| 01/09/03 | The victim was killed following injuries from an explosion while working with welding equipment in a petrol unit. | Trainee | Machinery Mechanics and Fitters | Factory, Industrial Site or Warehouse | Cork | 23 |

NACE I – TRANSPORT, STORAGE AND COMMUNICATION (7 Fatalities)

| Date | Event | Employment Status | Occupational Group | Work Environment Group | County | Age |
|----------|--|-------------------|---------------------------------------|--|-----------|-----|
| 13/01/03 | Victim was descending from a helicopter, having taken on oil sample from the gearbox and appears to have fallen. | Employed | Machinery Mechanics and Fitters | Maintenance area, repair workshop | Dublin | 55 |
| 21/01/03 | Walking along a gangway onto a ship when the gangway fell into water. | Employed | Ships' deck crews and related workers | On/Over Water (excluding construction) | Cork | 57 |
| 25/01/03 | During the operation of berthing the ship, the victim, a crewman was struck by a wire rope which had come loose from its fixing point. | Employed | Ships' deck crews and related workers | On/Over Water (excluding construction) | Dublin | 54 |
| 27/01/03 | An electric pallet truck was being lifted onto a trailer. The victim was standing on the pallet truck and he fell. | Employed | Motor Vehicle Drivers | Transport Related Area or Road | Louth | 35 |
| 05/03/03 | During the operation of berthing the ship, the victim was drawn into the port side aft winch whilst it was heaving in. | Employed | Ships' deck crews and related workers | On/Over Water (excluding construction) | Dublin | 42 |
| 04/11/03 | The victim was trapped between a van and an articulated lorry. | Employed | Motor Vehicle Drivers | Transport Related Area or Road | Dublin | 43 |
| 18/12/03 | Victim was knocked down by a reversing lorry while walking on a road in a shopping centre complex. | Member of Public | Non Worker | Transport Related Area or Road | Westmeath | 60 |

NACE I – TRANSPORT, STORAGE AND COMMUNICATION (7 Fatalities)

| Date | Event | Employment Status | Occupational Group | Work Environment Group | County | Age |
|----------|---|-------------------|-------------------------|---|----------|-----|
| 14/04/03 | Victim was hit by a 6 tonne dumper. | Employed | Construction Labourer | Construction Site | Limerick | 38 |
| 14/05/03 | The victim was struck by a rubber tyre road roller travelling in reverse. | Employed | Construction Labourer | Construction Site | Kerry | 20 |
| 12/06/03 | The victim fell down stairs and died on 22nd June 2003 from head injuries. | Employed | Computing Professionals | Office, School, Shop, Restaurant, Hotel, Theatre etc. | Dublin | 25 |
| 05/09/03 | During a surfacing dressing operation, the truck spraying the bitumen was reversing behind the victim. As it was passing him he walked into its path and it struck him. | Employed | Construction Labourer | Construction Site | Donegal | 22 |

NACE O – OTHER COMMUNITY, SOCIAL AND PERSONAL SERVICE ACTIVITIES (4 Fatalities)

| Date | Event | Employment Status | Occupational Group | Work Environment Group | County | Age |
|----------|--|-------------------|--|---------------------------------------|---------|-----|
| 12/05/03 | Victim was unloading a large roll-on skip from his vehicle adjacent to another parked vehicle. The skip became unstable and rolled off its guides, trapping and crushing the victim. | Self Employed | Motor Vehicle Drivers | Factory, Industrial Site or Warehouse | Dublin | 38 |
| 11/07/03 | The victim suffered fatal head injuries when he fell from the back of a waste disposal truck whilst engaged in waste collection. | Employed | Garbage Collectors and Related Labourers | Transport Related Area or Road | Cork | 20 |
| 08/08/03 | Victim's horse fell while jumping a fence; His fallen horse was hit by following horses and pushed on top of him. | Employed | Artistic, Entertainment and Sports Associate Professionals | Sports Area | Kildare | 25 |
| 26/10/03 | Victim fell from horse and suffered head injury. | Trainee | Artistic, Entertainment and Sports Associate Professionals | Sports Area | Galway | 22 |

APPENDIX D: NEW REGULATIONS MADE IN 2003

(1) EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES (CLASSIFICATION, PACKAGING, LABELLING AND NOTIFICATION OF DANGEROUS SUBSTANCES) REGULATIONS 2003 (SI No. 116 OF 2003)

In addition to retransposing Council Directive 67/548/EEC and various amending Directives, these Regulations transpose for the first time the following two Directives:

- (i) Commission Directive 2001/58/EC
- (ii) Commission Directive 2001/59/EC.

The Regulations revoke and replace the European Communities (Dangerous Substances) (Classification, Packaging and Labelling) Regulations, 2000 (SI No. 393 of 2000).

The aim of these Regulations is to protect man and the environment from the harmful effects of both new substances and existing dangerous substances. The Regulations apply to all substances which are intended to be placed on the market either on their own or in a preparation with exceptions for certain categories of substances such as medicinal, cosmetic, pesticide, waste, etc.

Each manufacturer, importer or other person proposing to place any new chemical on the market for the first time is required to submit to the competent authority a notification dossier containing details of tests to which the substance has been subjected and the proposed classification and labelling.

The Regulations require suppliers to put warning labels on containers for dangerous substances and to ensure that the containers are properly designed, constructed and secured. Safety data sheets must be supplied.

(2) EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES (DANGEROUS SUBSTANCES AND PREPARATIONS) (MARKETING AND USE) REGULATIONS 2003 (SI No. 220 OF 2003)

In addition to retransposing Council Directive No. 76/769/EEC and various amending Directives, these Regulations transpose for the first time the following six Directives:

- (1) Directive No. 94/27/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 30 June 1994 (re Nickel) amending for the 12th time Council Directive 76/769/EEC on the approximation of the laws, regulations and administrative provisions of the Member States relating to restrictions on the marketing and use of certain dangerous substances and preparations, which is transposed at Reference Number Point 28 of Schedule 1. From 20 July 2000 no manufacturer or importer may place on the market specified nickel products which fail to comply with the provisions at Reference Number Point 28 of Schedule 1 of the Regulations. From 20 July 2001 specified nickel products which fail to comply with the provisions at Reference Number Point 28 of Schedule 1 of the Regulations may not be sold or made available to the final consumer unless they have been placed on the market before 20 January 2000.
- (2) Directive No. 97/56/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 20 October 1997, amending for the 16th time Council Directive 76/769/EEC, which is transposed at Reference Numbers Points 29 (Carcinogens), 30 (Mutagens) and 31 (Substances toxic for reproduction) of Schedule 1, as well as in the entirety of Schedule 3 of the Regulations.
 - (i) Directive No. 2001/41/EC
 - (ii) Commission Directive No. 2001/90/EC
 - (iii) Commission Directive No. 2001/91/EC

- (iv) Directive No. 2002/45/EC
- (v) Directive No. 2002/61/EC
- (vi) Commission Directive No. 2002/62/EC

The Regulations lay down the restrictions and conditions which must be observed in the marketing and use of the substances and preparations listed in the Schedules to the Regulations and they specify the powers available to inspectors in the enforcement of these restrictions and conditions. The Regulations are enforced by inspectors of the HSA and, in relation to the restriction of certain biocidal products, by authorised officials of the Department of Agriculture and Food.

These Regulations, on coming into operation, revoke the European Communities (Dangerous Substances and Preparations) (Marketing and Use) Regulations, 19982000 (SI No. 462107 of 19982000), other than the provisions at Reference Numbers Points 32 (relating to creosote) and 41 (relating to hexachloroethane) of the First Schedule to those Regulations. Those provisions will remain in operation until 30 June 2003, when they will be replaced by the corresponding provisions of these Regulations at Reference Numbers Points 32 and 41 of Schedule 1, other than the provisions at Reference Numbers Points 20 (relating to Organostannic compounds) and 22 (relating to Pentachlorophenol) of the First Schedule to those Regulations. Those provisions will remain in operation until 1 September 2000, when they will be replaced by the corresponding provisions of these Regulations at rescheduled Reference Numbers Points 21 and 23 of Schedule 1.

The Regulations, on coming into operation, revoked the European Communities (Dangerous Substances and Preparations) (Marketing and Use) Regulations, 2000 (SI No. 107 of 2000), other than the provisions at reference numbers 32 (relating to creosote) and 41 (relating to hexachloroethane) of Schedule 1 to those Regulations which were revoked on 30 June 2003.

The provisions at point 42 of Schedule 1 to these Regulations relating to Alkanes, C10-C13, chloro (short-chain chlorinated paraffins) took effect from 6 January 2004.

The provisions at point 43 of Schedule 1 to these Regulations (and associated list of aromatic amines in the Third Schedule) relating to azocolourants, took effect from 11 September 2003.

(3) EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES (DANGEROUS SUBSTANCES AND PREPARATIONS) (MARKETING AND USE) (AMENDMENT) REGULATIONS, 2003 (SI No. 503 OF 2003)

These Regulations, which amend SI No. 220 of 2003 above, transpose for the first time the following five Directives:

- (i) Commission Directive 2003/2/EC
- (ii) Commission Directive 2003/3/EC
- (iii) Directive 2003/11/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council
- (iv) Directive 2003/34/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council
- (v) Directive 2003/36/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council.

The Regulations, from 30 June 2004 –

- (i) place further restrictions in relation to the marketing and use of arsenic-treated wood, and
- (ii) place further restrictions on the marketing and use of dangerous substances by prohibiting the use of azodyes (blue colourant) for colouring textile and leather articles.

The Regulations, from 15 August 2004, place restrictions on the marketing and use of diphenylether, pentabromo derivative and diphenylether, octabromo derivative.

The Regulations, from 15 January 2005, place further restrictions on the marketing and use of substances classified as carcinogens, mutagens or substances toxic for reproduction.

The Regulations, from 25 December 2004, place further restrictions on the marketing and use of two substances newly classified as category 1 carcinogens, nineteen substances newly classified as category 2 carcinogens, five substances newly classified as category 2 mutagens, one substance newly classified as category 1 toxic for reproduction and sixteen substances newly classified as category 2 toxic for reproduction.

(4) SAFETY, HEALTH AND WELFARE AT WORK (EXPLOSIVE ATMOSPHERES) REGULATIONS 2003 (SI No. 258 OF 2003)

These Regulations transpose Directive 1999/92/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 16 December 1999 on minimum requirements for improving the safety and health protection of workers potentially at risk from explosive atmospheres.

The Regulations require that an assessment be carried out where an explosive atmosphere is or is liable to be present at the workplace and specifies the prevention and protection measures to be taken against explosion.

Employers are required to classify places at the workplace where explosive atmospheres may occur into hazardous or non-hazardous places in accordance with paragraph 1 of Schedule 1. They must classify those places classified as hazardous into zones in accordance with paragraph 2 of Schedule 1 and apply the specified preventive measures. These measures include the selection of equipment and protective systems according to the categories set out in Schedule 3 of the Regulations.

(5) EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES (CONTROL OF MAJOR ACCIDENT HAZARDS INVOLVING DANGEROUS SUBSTANCES) (AMENDMENT) REGULATIONS, 2003 (SI No. 402 OF 2003)

These Regulations amend Regulation 17(2)(e) of the European Communities (Control of Major Accident Hazards Involving Dangerous Substances) Regulations, 2000 (SI No. 476 of 2000), in response to a EU Commission Reasoned Opinion.

The Regulations are intended to ensure that the public is consulted on external emergency plans as provided for in Article 11.3 of Council Directive 96/82/EC of 9th December, 1996 on the control of major accident hazards involving dangerous substances.

(6) SAFETY, HEALTH AND WELFARE AT WORK (CONSTRUCTION) (AMENDMENT) REGULATIONS 2003 (SI No. 277 OF 2003)

These Regulations amend the Safety, Health and Welfare at Work (Construction) Regulations, 2001, by substituting a revised Ninth Schedule relating to the "FÁS Construction Skills Certification Scheme". The Regulations, thereby, allow all "new starters" in a range of specified tasks in the construction industry the facility to gain experience on site before they undergo the necessary FÁS Construction Skills Certification training programmes as prescribed in the Regulations under the Safety, Health and Welfare at Work (Construction) Regulations, 2001, as that facility was only available to a limited range of operatives undertaking specified tasks.

DRAFT CODES OF PRACTICE

A draft "Code of Practice for Avoiding Danger from Underground Services" was approved by the Board of the Authority during the year, subject to professional copy-editing, for submission for the Minister's consent.

Development work on the preparation of other draft Codes of Practice continued during the year.

APPENDIX E: BOARD OF THE AUTHORITY

The Authority Board met ten times during 2003. While the Board dealt with a wide ranging agenda during 2003, some significant issues dealt with included:

1. A substantial body of proposed legislation: This was discussed and approved by the Board for transmission to the Department of Enterprise, Trade and Employment
2. The smoke-free workplace initiative
3. The Authority's Corporate Plan and Programme of Work: The Board set the medium-term direction for the Authority in developing these documents.
4. The corporate governance of the Authority.

In order to deal with a heavy work-load in the areas of policy-making, corporate governance and legislation, the Board has set up a number of sub-committees. Each committee contains Board members nominated by each of the social partners.

The Legislation and Guidance Sub-Committee deals with all legislative provisions. In addition to the five new regulations transposing fifteen EU Directives, new construction regulations and the Code of Practice on Underground Services, the committee dealt with a large number of proposals on other legislation that is scheduled for completion in 2004. This committee met ten times in 2003.

The Planning and Finance Sub-Committee deals with the corporate governance of the Authority and the policy direction of the Authority. The committee dealt with the Corporate Plan, Programme of Work, Annual Report, Financial Audit and the monitoring of the Authority's programme in addition to a large number of other issues. This committee met seven times during 2003.

The internal audit committee monitors the independence and performance of the internal audit function and assists the Board in discharging its duties in relation to the internal controls and expenditure of the Authority

The Strategic Review Implementation Sub-Committee of the Board dealt with the Authority's action plan to implement the recommendations arising from the review of the Authority and also the implementation of the Authority's decentralisation programme. This committee met a number of times.

MEMBERSHIP OF BOARD SUBCOMMITTEES

Finance and Planning Subcommittee of the Board and Internal Audit Sub-committee of the Board
Tony Briscoe, Chairman; Peter McCabe (Marie Rock in lieu) Louise O'Donnell (Fergus Whelan in lieu), Martin Lynch

Legislation and Guidance Subcommittee of the Board
Joe Hegarty, Chairman; Tony Briscoe, Peter McCabe, Fergus Whelan, Sylvester Cronin, Martin Lynch

Strategic Review Implementation Subcommittee of the Board
Frank Cunneen, Chairman; Tony Briscoe, Fergus Whelan, Martin Lynch, Desmond Gilroy (Sue Corbett in lieu)

APPENDIX F: ADVISORY COMMITTEES AND WORKING GROUPS

The Authority is advised by a number of statutory advisory committees, these include:

The Advisory Committee on Construction Safety: This committee is chaired by Sylvester Cronin and has representatives from clients, contractors, designers, employees and the Authority. The main item dealt with by the committee in 2003 was the draft construction regulations. The committee also progressed work through a number of subcommittees

- Safe roof working group
- Crane operations working group
- Underground services working group.

The Farm Safety Partnership Advisory Committee: This committee is chaired by Frank Laffey of Teagasc and contains representatives of farm, contracting, insurance, rural and governmental organizations, and the Authority. The Board is represented by Joe Hegarty. The committee developed the farm safety action plan during 2003. This plan commits all the representative bodies to specific actions aimed at improving farm safety.

Dangerous Substances Advisory Committee: This committee is chaired by Fergus Whelan and includes representatives of the fuel, chemical and pharmaceutical industries, government departments and agencies, dangerous goods' hauliers, employer bodies, trade unions, NGOs and the Authority. The committee advised the Authority on a wide range of issues including the development of a substantial number of legislative proposals involving the transposition of EU Directives, occupational exposure limit values, carcinogenicity of ETS, land use planning policy and the proposed EU Chemical Strategy.

Southern Regional Advisory Committee: This committee has representation from a range of experts including the social partners. The committee organised a number of local initiatives aimed at small companies such as workshops on Safety Statements and manual handling, in partnership with FÁS, seminars on chemical safety, bullying and stress and supported the European Safety Week with regional launches. The committee also developed linkages and targets with the Health Promotion Unit of the Southern Health Board and with NUI Cork - Health and Safety Diploma programme. The committee is chaired by Mary Dorgan.

Western Regional Advisory Committee: This committee comprises members representing unions, employer bodies and local organisations and is chaired by Marion Coy. Initiatives included the European Safety Week Hairdressing initiative. Talks were also organised in Galway and Sligo on the transport of dangerous goods by road. Farm sub-committee members attended two marts and set up a stand giving advice and information to farmers.

The Authority also chairs and supports the **Construction Safety Partnership**. This body, comprising representatives of the major construction bodies and the Authority, is tasked with implementing the Construction Safety Partnership Plan launched in 2003.

APPENDIX G: AUTHORITY STAFF

| T Beegan – Chief Executive | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---------------------------------------|--|--|--|---|--|-----------------------------------|---|---|--------------------------------------|--|---|--------------------------------|
| Assistant Chief Executive Workplace Compliance and Advice – M Henry | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Programme Manager Field Operations Nuala Flavin | | | Programme Manager Field Operations PJ Claffey | | | Programme Manager Chemical Safety P Goulding | | | | | | | |
| Offshore, Retail, Public Bodies, Discipline Services | Agriculture & Forestry, Manufacturing | CE Mach. Regs Pressure Vessels, Work Equipment | Noise, Vibration, Physical Agents, ATEX, ETCI | Construction | Construction Electricity | Mines & Quarries, Fire | Transport, Health, Diving Schools | Process Industry | Process Industry | Process Industry | Road Transport of Dangerous Substances | Use of Chemical Agents Including Asbestos Biological Agents | Hazardous Substance Assessment |
| Hilary Byrne | B Higginson | Sean Hyde | F Kellaghan | Jim Heffernan | Padraig Delaney | Pat Griffin | Dan Dineen | J Colreavy | P Conneely | Deirdre Sinnott | R McEneaney | M McCarthy/ B Tarpey | |
| M Rowlands M Harkin M Walsh | J Kennedy | K Studds | Tommy O'Sullivan P Skinner J Harrington P O'Connell | M O'Dea T Dowling | A Morahan G Croke | PJ Murphy F Mahon J Holmes T Browne | W Murphy | K Murray | M Boylan | M Flynn R O'Brien M Fitzgerald | F Mitchell J/s J Fanning | M Cummins E Healy | |
| M King B Gannon G Murphy | M Lowe D O'Brien | M Cullen F Murphy | H Martin T Doyle A Doherty H Kieran M Convey | K Broderick P Gough M O'Kearney Flynn V Darcy A Davis | T Murphy P McMahon P Earley J Mayne K Foran | S Notley F Kerins M Tiernan P McNally C Glancy | T O'Donnell A Costelloe | J Shannon J Sheeran J Dooley N Quinn E White G Doran | T O'Sullivan K Buckley A Moriarty | N Corbett1 S McGarry | M Burke V Helly1 | G Christ S McKiernan M Feehan C Walsh | |
| B Guihen O'Callahan | C O'Shea | M Kavanagh | | E Robinson E Walsh | | | | | | H Forde | | | |
| | | | S Somers | P Chatham | A Brennan C Downes | S Duggan | C Hynes | | | J Lynch | | | W O'Brien |

| T Beegan – Chief Executive | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|--|---|--|--|
| Assistant Chief Executive Prevention Services – Vacancy | | | | | | |
| Assistant Chief Executive Corporate Support – Vacancy | | | | | | |
| M O'Neill Programme Manager Legal Services | P Donnellan Programme Manager Customer Service, Enterprise Support, Public Relations | Dan Murphy Programme Manager Occupational Health | B Rutledge Head of Human Resources | Philip L'Estrange Head of Finance | Andrew Allen Head of IT | R Roe Planning |
| C Body Legislation COP's Liaison | P O'Halloran Enterprise Support Customer Service FOI | T Donnelly Occupational Medical Adviser | | | | M Gormley Planning Evaluation, Manager/Board Secretary |
| | E O'Sullivan | P Murray | | | | |
| A Guerin | A Morrissey | L Fitzgerald F Power | J Hannigan/C Barry (j/s) HR Officer | O Whitfield vacancy Training & Dev Officer | M Manning A Curran | |
| | J Kelly | A Slater | C Swan G Mathews | D McDonnell M O'Reilly D Coen | C O'Reilly G Smyth M Ryan | Researcher Y Kobayashi N Kavanagh |
| I O'Neill M Egan | B MacCeallaigh P Duffy E Bagnall E Lawless – focal point | C Prunty | S Maguire G O'Hanlon M Page | D Smith M Bourke K Kelly E Moore | Eskander Mirza | |
| | | | | | | G Griffin – Head Services Officer J Douglas – Services Officer R Walsh – Services Attendant T Matthews – Services Attendant |

*Achieving a
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