



HEALTH AND SAFETY
AUTHORITY



Annual Report 2014

Our vision:

A country where worker safety, health and welfare and the safe management of chemicals are central to successful enterprise





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Report of the Chairperson and Chief Executive to the Minister for Business and Employment, Gerald Nash TD

Minister,

We are pleased to submit our annual report on our programme of work for 2014. This is the second annual report under the Authority's strategy for 2013 to 2015.

The Authority achieved a challenging and broad programme of work in 2014. Across the areas of workplace health and safety and chemicals regulation, we continued our approach of supporting Irish enterprise, primarily through the provision of information and advice, and through enforcement where necessary.

Sadly, there were 56 work-related deaths in 2014. The agriculture sector experienced a particularly tragic year, with 30 work-related deaths occurring on farms, including the deaths of five children.



This is the highest number of farm deaths reported in over 20 years and it is the fifth consecutive year in which the agriculture sector had the highest fatality rate. Over recent years we have worked extensively with a range of groups in agriculture to promote and encourage improved performance in this sector. However, this seems to have had a limited impact on the number of fatalities. In 2014 the Authority decided that alternative approaches must be considered. In an effort to prevent potentially fatal scenarios, we will begin to prosecute farmers where specific hazards are identified by our inspectors, including unguarded PTO shafts, unsecured slurry tanks and children under seven years old travelling in tractors. While this policy decision has met with some resistance in the sector, we believe we have a responsibility to explore more stringent measures that might be effective in reducing fatal accidents in the future. Of course, we also worked collaboratively with the sector during 2014, with jointly organised discussion groups and farm walks forming a key element of our regulatory programme.

We completed over 8,000 inspections under safety and health legislation in 2014, including more than 2,500 inspections in the agriculture sector (including forestry and fishing) and the same in the construction

sector. Just over 1,000 inspections were conducted under the chemicals legislation. Our inspectors also completed over 1,300 investigations of fatal accidents, serious injuries and complaints. Across our inspection programme, we provided written advice in over 4,000 cases. Where our inspectors found more serious breaches, they issued improvement notices (over 500 notices) and prohibition notices (over 350 notices). The Authority concluded 32 prosecutions in 2014, resulting in total fines imposed of €293,900.

Alongside our enforcement activities, we undertook an extensive programme of support and advice. Our *Taking Care of Business* programme continued to offer innovative solutions for small business. Together with the Department of Jobs, Enterprise and Innovation, we took a lead role in bringing more than 35 state bodies together to participate in one-stop-shop events for small businesses. Our BeSMART tool, which assists small businesses in the services sector to prepare online risk assessments and safety statements, was improved during 2014. It is now more user-friendly and is being extended to include services for small businesses in the agriculture and construction sectors. Over 5,000 new users registered for BeSMART in 2014, bringing the total number of users to over 23,000.

Report of the Chairperson and Chief Executive to the Minister for Business and Employment, Gerald Nash TD

We carried out activities at all levels in the education sector. We held six *Keep Safe* events to raise awareness of health and safety in primary schools across the country. Over 21,000 students at second level and in further education completed our *Choose Safety* module. We also held competitions for undergraduate students in nursing and construction, which attracted very positive interest from third-level institutions. Our e-learning portal was launched during 2014, and this attracted more than 4,500 learners. Through this portal we provided resources at primary, secondary and further and higher levels, as well as courses for workplace learning. We also collaborated with the education sector to publish a book for children focused on the high-risk fishing industry.

We sought to increase our involvement in the public administration sector by developing a strategy of targeted interventions in specific organisations. There are almost 200 employers within this sector and our aim is to identify those organisations with the highest risk within the sector and to focus our resources on supporting and influencing these. A number of inspections were completed in 2014 among local authorities, state agencies, commercial semi-state bodies and government departments.

A particular highlight in the chemicals programme was the Authority's work in response to incidents involving liquid detergent capsules. Our call for action at EU level was met by unanimous support from other member states and led to the Commission introducing an urgent amendment to the EU Regulation on Classification, Packaging and Labelling. Also in relation to chemicals regulation, we delivered a significant programme of work in the COMAH (Control of Major Accident Hazards) area, in terms of land-use planning applications, safety report review and development of the next generation of legislation.

We had comprehensive communications and research programmes informing our policy direction and interventions; however our communications programme was limited by resource availability.

We welcomed a new Board of the Authority in 2014. The twelve members were appointed by Minister Bruton between December 2013 and February 2014; four of the Board members were appointed following a call for expressions of interest by the Public Appointments Service. The new Board has quickly become familiar with the wide range of Authority activities and has directed and supported Authority policy throughout 2014. The Board has also worked

to introduce greater efficiency where possible, such as moving to an entirely electronic distribution of Board information and putting in place arrangements to delegate authority to the Executive to expedite the introduction of legislation where necessary.

From 31 July 2014, the Authority successfully integrated the staff and functions of the Irish National Accreditation Board (INAB), which has responsibility for the accreditation of laboratories, certification bodies and inspection bodies. The functions and systems of INAB were transferred to the Authority without any break in the continuity or quality of accreditation services provided by INAB to their clients.

Michael Horgan
Chairman

Martin O'Halloran
Chief Executive Officer

Role of the Health and Safety Authority

The mandate of the Health and Safety Authority includes the following areas:

- to regulate the safety, health and welfare of people at work and those affected by work activities;
- to promote improvement in the safety, health and welfare of people at work and those affected by work activities;
- to regulate and promote the safe manufacture, use, placing on the market, trade and transport of chemicals while enhancing innovation and competitiveness; and
- to act as a surveillance authority in relation to relevant single European market legislation.

The staff and functions of the Irish National Accreditation Board (INAB) were integrated into the Health and Safety Authority on 31 July 2014.

INAB is the Irish national body with responsibility for accreditation in accordance with the relevant International Organisation for Standardisation (ISO) 17000 series of standards and guides and with the harmonised EN 45000 series of European standards. INAB currently provides its accreditation services to calibration, testing and medical testing laboratories, certification bodies and inspection bodies.

INAB is the statutory compliance monitoring authority with responsibility for the inspection and verification of Good Laboratory Practice (GLP). INAB also acts as the national competent body responsible for the registration of organisations in accordance with the EU Eco-Management and Audit Scheme (EMAS).



Role of the Health and Safety Authority



The Board and Executive of the Health and Safety Authority

The Board determines the Health and Safety Authority's operational policy. It comprises 12 members: a chairperson and 11 members appointed by the Minister. The Minister appoints members nominated by organisations which are representative of the interests associated with occupational safety and health and chemicals regulation, including employees, employers and other bodies. Appointments are for a term of three years in a part-time capacity.

A new Board of the Authority was appointed between December 2013 and February 2014 by the Minister for Jobs, Enterprise and Innovation Richard Bruton. Four of the nominees were selected from suitably qualified and experienced persons who applied following a call for expressions of interest from the Public Appointments Service.

Chairperson

Michael Horgan

Former Chief Executive, Royal College of Surgeons of Ireland

**Board meetings attended
(out of 9)**

9

Employer Nominees

George Brett

Director Environment, Health and Safety EMEA Region, Bausch and Lomb

7

Robert Butler

Executive Safety and Training Services, Construction Industry Federation

8

Michael Gillen

Senior Executive, Pharma Chemical Ireland

8

Employee Nominees

**Board meetings attended
(out of 9)**

Pat Kenny (Deputy Chairperson)

Staff Side Secretary, An Post, Communications Workers Union

9

Frank Vaughan

Director of Education, Irish Congress of Trade Unions

8

Christine Rowland

Sector Organiser, SIPTU

8

Ministerial Nominees

Paul Cullen

Principal Officer, Department of Jobs, Enterprise and Innovation

9

Vicki O'Reilly

Quality, Compliance and Regulatory Manager, SISK Healthcare

9

James Phelan

Former Dean of Agriculture and Head of the Department of Agribusiness, Extension and Rural Development, UCD

8

John McCartney

Director of Research at Chartered Surveyors, Savills Ireland

9

Carol Bolger

Former Head of Business Management, Ulster Bank

7

Board of the Authority

Chairperson



Michael Horgan

Employer Nominees



George Brett



Robert Butler



Michael Gillen

Employee Nominees



**Pat Kenny
(Deputy
Chairperson)**



Frank Vaughan



**Christine
Rowland**

Ministerial Nominees



Paul Cullen



John McCartney



Vicki O'Reilly



Carol Bolger



James Phelan

Executive of the Authority

The chief executive officer, together with three assistant chief executives, manages the implementation of strategy in line with the Authority's statutory responsibilities and policies set out by the Board. At the end of 2014, the Authority employed 155.6 staff, including inspectors, professional and technical specialists, administrators and clerical staff.

**CEO
Martin O'Halloran**



**Assistant Chief Executive
Brian Higginson**



**Operational Compliance
and Prevention**

**Assistant Chief Executive
Sharon McGuinness**



Chemicals and Prevention

**Assistant Chief Executive
Robert Roe**



**Corporate Support,
Communications and
Education**

INAB employed 11.5 staff at the end of 2014. It is a committee of the Health and Safety Authority under the Industrial Development (Forfás Dissolution) Act 2014. The Board of INAB has 12 members and is appointed by the Board of the Authority. The composition of the INAB Board is as follows:

Chairperson	Board meetings attended (out of 6)		Board meetings attended (out of 6)
Mr Tom O'Neill - Chairperson <i>Former Site Leader, Pfizer Manufacturing, Ringaskiddy, Cork</i>	6	Mr Jim O'Toole <i>Director of Meat and Livestock Division, Bord Bia</i>	6
Ms Ita Kinahan - Vice-Chairperson <i>Former State Chemist, State Laboratory</i>	6	Dr Emer Lawlor <i>Consultant Haematologist</i>	5
Dr Adrienne Duff <i>Manager of INAB, ex-officio Board Member</i>	6	Mr Paul Hetherington <i>Director of the National Metrology Laboratory</i>	6
Dr Nuala Bannon <i>Senior Advisor, Department of Environment, Community and Local Government</i>	4	Mr Peter Dennehy <i>Deputy CEO and Director Corporate Services, Bord Altranais agus Cnáimhseachais na hÉireann</i>	2
Mr Jan van der Poel <i>Chief Executive, Dutch Accreditation Council (RvA)</i>	5	Dr Caitriona Fisher <i>Manager, Chief Executive Office, Health Products Regulatory Authority</i>	5
Mr Ray Ellard <i>Director of Consumer Protection, Food Safety Authority</i>	3	Vacancy	

1. Sector programmes 2014



Operational area	Planned actions 2014	Actions achieved in 2014
Agriculture and forestry	<p>Implement the second year of the <i>Farm Safety Action Plan 2013–2015</i></p> <p>Use the results of research on farmer behaviour for developing strategies and initiatives to promote improvements in farm safety.</p> <p>Support and develop joint prevention initiatives with Teagasc. Deliver co-ordinated initiatives with major stakeholders in relation to awareness-raising, safety promotion, training, special projects and further research.</p>	<p>Significant progress was made by the working groups for each goal in the plan.</p> <p>A working group used the research results to inform the design of media campaigns, radio and TV interviews and the development of discussion groups for farmers in 2015.</p> <p>The Department of Agriculture, in consultation with the Authority, has undertaken to make occupational safety and health mandatory in all future knowledge transfer groups in the rural development programme.</p> <p>A revised joint prevention initiative was signed with Teagasc. Teagasc and the Authority hosted safety stands at a Teagasc beef event in Co Meath. Plans made for future research include participation in a pan-European research project and research on farm safety at UCD. Arrangements made to provide further training to all Teagasc advisory staff.</p> <p>A DVD on quad bike safety was developed with FBD and Teagasc and was launched at Ballyhaise Agricultural College. A DVD on slurry gas safety was developed in conjunction with Irish Rural Link and promoted at various farm shows and through an Irish Farmers Journal reader competition.</p> <p>The Authority supported a series of regional seminars on farm safety organised by NISO.</p>

1. Sector programmes 2014

Operational area	Planned actions 2014	Actions achieved in 2014
<p>Agriculture and forestry <i>(continued)</i></p>	<p>Work closely with the Health and Safety Executive Northern Ireland (HSENI) to address major risks in agriculture and forestry. Specifically, aim to develop a shared media campaign focused on the area of major risks and accident experience.</p> <p>Maintain and develop further resources for agriculture and forestry safety.</p>	<p>The Authority and the Irish Farmers' Association (IFA) jointly promoted a national farm safety day.</p> <p>The Authority worked with EMBRACE (an organisation that provides bereavement support to farm families) on a memorial day for those lost to farm deaths.</p> <p>The Authority hosted a national farm safety conference, with up to 180 attending.</p> <p>Authority inspectors gave over 50 farm safety presentations nationally, with more than 2,000 farmers attending.</p> <p>The Authority contributed to the <i>Champions for Safety</i> initiative which provides occupational training to all students in agricultural colleges.</p> <p>The Authority, together with other groups, organised an extensive safety stand and safety demonstration area at the national Ploughing Championships. The Authority also co-hosted farm safety stands at the Tullamore Show and Iverk Show in 2014.</p> <p>The Authority participated in a two-day meeting of senior farm safety inspectors from Ireland, Northern Ireland and the United Kingdom. Sharing information on farm safety prevention strategies through this forum is proving very beneficial.</p> <p>Arrangements were made for a safety leaflet to be included in the Department of Agriculture correspondence with farmers on single farm payments.</p>

1. Sector programmes 2014

Operational area	Planned actions 2014	Actions achieved in 2014
Agriculture and forestry <i>(continued)</i>	<p>Engage with marts and co-ops on a monthly basis to drive messages on critical safety issues to farmers.</p> <p>Influence the supply chain of equipment and substances used within the sector.</p> <p>Contribute at EU and international level to promote greater focus on agriculture and forestry safety.</p> <p>Conduct a two-week farm safety campaign with increased involvement from farmer representative organisations.</p>	<p>The Authority issued safety alerts to address risks associated with calving and electricity in the agriculture sector.</p> <p>The Authority arranged for a leaflet on forestry safety to be issued with all felling licences.</p> <p>A stand was organised at a forestry demonstration day in Co Meath to raise awareness of risks associated with thinning and harvesting work.</p> <p><i>Farm TV</i> has agreed to show safety information to farmers at marts, including the Authority's DVDs on safety for elderly farmers, handling livestock and survivor stories.</p> <p>The Farm Tractor and Machinery Trade Association has agreed to distribute safety information leaflets, DVDs and useful stickers.</p> <p>Twenty-four market surveillance inspections of farm machinery were completed. This resulted in verbal advice for 62%, and enforcement action for 23%.</p> <p>The Authority continued its engagement with authorities in other member states, particularly in Northern Ireland, the United Kingdom and Northern European countries.</p> <p>Two hundred and ninety-seven farm visits and investigations were carried out during the Authority's farm safety campaign in April.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 44% resulted in verbal advice,

1. Sector programmes 2014

Operational area	Planned actions 2014	Actions achieved in 2014
<p>Agriculture and forestry <i>(continued)</i></p>	<p>Complete annual inspection programmes to address key issues of general safety management, machinery safety, animal handling, slurry handling, and safety of children and the elderly. Chainsaw safety to be addressed in forestry inspections.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 39% resulted in written advice, and - 17% resulted in formal enforcement. <p>During this campaign particular focus was given to Co Cork (35% of inspections). A number of stakeholder groups also held promotional events during the campaign.</p> <p>Up to 87% of the annual farm inspection target was achieved with 2,590 farm inspections and 87 investigations. The results of inspections indicate that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 80% of farms had adequate separate play areas for children, - 69% had adequate health and safety provision for elderly people, - 55% had adequate slurry handling arrangements, - 72% had a safety statement or code of practice available at the workplace, - 59% of those with a safety statement or code of practice had complied with the action list of hazards, - 23% of inspections resulted in enforcement in relation to unguarded PTO shafts, and - 37% resulted in written advice on maintaining handbrakes on tractors. <p>There were 100 forestry inspections in 2014. Results from these inspections indicate:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 79% compliance on worker training provision, - 86% compliance with the forestry landlord role, - 63% compliance with contractor roles, and - 79% compliance with machinery safety measures.

1. Sector programmes 2014

Operational area	Planned actions 2014	Actions achieved in 2014
Construction	<p>Continue the programme of technical review and update of the construction codes of practice and the associated guidance in line with legislation.</p> <p>Produce guidance and information sheets in relation to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - risk management of manual handling in construction, - load securing for construction, specifically loads including steel, precast and plant and machinery, - guide to safety in excavations, - guide to safety in precast installations, and - technical guidance factsheet on manual handling risk management in construction. <p>Develop awareness-raising initiatives relating to work near overhead cables.</p>	<p>Construction guidance documents were updated to reflect the Construction Regulations 2013, including guides on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - procurement, design and management requirements, - the definition of construction, - client best practice, - code of practice for safety in roof work, - code of practice for contractors working on roads, and - code of practice for safety in underground services. <p>Load security posters for transport of steel and concrete products drafted.</p> <p>Guides to excavations and precast installations drafted and awaiting consultation.</p> <p>Glazing manual handling guidance published.</p> <p>Co-ordinated with ESB Networks in relation to their radio advertisement campaign in 2014.</p>

1. Sector programmes 2014

Operational area	Planned actions 2014	Actions achieved in 2014
<p>Construction <i>(continued)</i></p>	<p>Support the Department of Jobs, Enterprise and Innovation (DJEI) and other departments and agencies in implementing changes to national qualifications and training structures.</p> <p>Work with the industry partners on the Construction Advisory Committee (CAC) to ensure co-operative approach to safety in the industry.</p> <p>Work with the Construction Safety Partnership (CSP) in implementing a new programme.</p> <p>Collaborate with the construction division of Health and Safety Executive Northern Ireland (HSENI) to develop cross-border joint initiatives which add value to an all-island construction sector.</p> <p>Monitor compliance with the Construction Regulations 2013 through inspection programme, particularly with regard to known high-risk activities. Inspection programme also to focus on water meter installation, once-off housing developments and work at height.</p>	<p>Liaised with DJEI in relation to queries about proposed amendments to the construction regulations.</p> <p>Four meetings of the CAC held in 2014.</p> <p>Participated in the CSP, with significant contribution to the working group with responsibility for a national work-at-height campaign in builders' provider stores.</p> <p>Collaborated on issues of mutual interest and held a cross-border seminar on construction safety in October.</p> <p>A total of 2,758 inspections and 361 investigations were carried out in the construction sector (116% of the target for 2014). These figures include 475 inspections during a two-week nationwide construction campaign. The results of the inspections indicate that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 82% had carried out risk assessments for working at height, - 80% had correct equipment for working at height, - 76% had adequate checking systems for working at height, - 94% had good ladder access where required, and

1. Sector programmes 2014

Operational area	Planned actions 2014	Actions achieved in 2014
Construction <i>(continued)</i>	<p>Complete project to inspect unfinished housing developments.</p> <p>Proactively engage with clients and contractors for large-scale infrastructure projects, planned or commenced.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 31% had appointed a safety representative. <p>A one-week construction inspection campaign was held in Cork in June. The number of inspections carried out was 101, with 15 prohibition notices served for poor scaffolding, lack of fall protection and unsafe access.</p> <p>Project completed.</p> <p>Inspectors engaged with clients and Project Supervisors Construction Stage (PSCS) on several large scale infrastructure projects.</p>
Diving	<p>Promote the planned diving regulations and associated codes of practice through proactive liaison and the inspection programme.</p> <p>Update website information to take account of the planned diving regulations and associated codes of practice.</p> <p>Produce guidance to assist clients hiring divers.</p>	<p>At end 2014 draft diving regulations were with the Office of the Parliamentary Counsel. The associated codes of practice will be updated once the regulations are complete.</p> <p>Updated website content with reference to all recognised diving standards.</p> <p>Draft guidance prepared and due for completion in 2015.</p>

1. Sector programmes 2014

Operational area	Planned actions 2014	Actions achieved in 2014
Docks	<p>Collaborate with the Irish Maritime Administration to promote good standards of health and safety in dock work, in line with the planned Memorandum of Understanding.</p> <p>Promote the proposed code of practice for health and safety in dock work through liaison with key stakeholders and the inspection programme.</p> <p>Update website information on docks safety.</p>	<p>Worked with the Irish Maritime Administration to develop a Memorandum of Understanding.</p> <p>Submitted code of practice to DJEI for ministerial approval.</p> <p>Updated website content to include information on fatal accident statistics, workplace transport and emergency plans, and a tool on hazards in ports and docks.</p>
Education	<p>Promote <i>Managing Safety in Primary Schools</i> guidelines amongst relevant stakeholders.</p> <p>Inspections undertaken based on prioritised complaints and accidents.</p> <p>Roll out revised <i>Choose Safety</i> programme and transition-year programmes for secondary students, with emphasis on promoting the Safety Passport.</p> <p>Hold six <i>Keep Safe</i> events aimed at raising health and safety awareness in primary schools in conjunction with other regional or government agencies with a safety remit.</p>	<p>Guidelines were promoted during inspections of primary schools.</p> <p>Thirty-two inspections and 21 investigations completed.</p> <p>A total of 21,500 post-primary students (senior cycle) and students in further education participated in the <i>Choose Safety</i> programme.</p> <p>Six well-attended events were held nationwide, attracting high levels of local and regional publicity.</p>

1. Sector programmes 2014

Operational area	Planned actions 2014	Actions achieved in 2014
Education <i>(continued)</i>	Continue to mainstream risk education in higher education, by working with the third-level education group. Hold two awareness-raising competitions for nursing and construction undergraduates.	The safety competitions for undergraduates in nursing and construction attracted very positive feedback and significant regional publicity.
Fishing	<p>Collaborate with other government departments, agencies and working groups to improve fishing safety.</p> <p>Gather information on occupational safety, health and welfare in aquaculture.</p> <p>Promote the <i>Managing Health and Safety on Small Fishing Boats Guidance</i> and associated risk-assessment document through liaison with key stakeholders, government departments and agencies and relevant industry bodies.</p>	<p>The Authority made a submission as part of the Irish Maritime Safety Strategy consultation process at the Department of Transport, Tourism and Sport.</p> <p>A radio and media advertisement campaign ran in April to raise awareness amongst fishermen about the requirement to have a safety statement and risk assessment.</p> <p>A research project was started and is due to be completed in 2015.</p> <p>Guidance was published and launched in December, with 3,000 copies printed for distribution during inspections.</p>

1. Sector programmes 2014

Operational area	Planned actions 2014	Actions achieved in 2014
<p>Fishing <i>(continued)</i></p>	<p>Inspections will be undertaken:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - based on prioritised complaints and accidents, and - to promote awareness of the aforementioned planned documents. 	<p>Sixty-eight fishing boat inspections were carried out as part of campaigns in May and December. The results indicate that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 54% of the fishermen were aware of the requirement to have a safety statement, - only 39% of them had a safety statement and risk assessments carried out, and - 52% had a documented emergency plan. <p>New guidance on fishing safety was distributed during the December inspection campaign.</p>
<p>Healthcare</p>	<p>Engage with key stakeholders in the public, private and voluntary healthcare sectors, to ensure an inclusive and co-ordinated approach to health and safety.</p> <p>Engage with key regulatory agencies to ensure a co-ordinated approach to health and safety in healthcare.</p> <p>Hold seminars/briefing sessions for the healthcare sector to promote occupational health and safety.</p>	<p>Engaged with key stakeholders through informal consultation processes, including a consultation on the development of Authority guidance for the sector through the Authority's Healthcare Steering Group and the HSE Health and Safety Advisory Forum, and other meetings and contacts on matters of mutual interest.</p> <p>Engaged with the Health Information Quality Authority (HIQA) through the Health and Social Care Regulatory Forum meetings and through other informal communications.</p> <p>A number of seminars and briefing sessions were held for the healthcare sector on managing health and safety and the prevention of sharps injuries. Guidance on specific hazards has also been made available online, including managing the risk of violence and aggression in healthcare, controlling waste anaesthetic gases and preventing glove-related latex allergy.</p>

1. Sector programmes 2014

Operational area	Planned actions 2014	Actions achieved in 2014
Healthcare <i>(continued)</i>	<p>Promote safety with sharps in healthcare in keeping with legal requirements. Publish guidance on sharps safety.</p> <p>Promote the inclusion of health and safety in undergraduate healthcare programmes and identify areas where further support may be required. Hold the Health and Safety in Healthcare competition for nursing undergraduates.</p> <p>Review the implementation of the Authority's five-year plan for the healthcare sector 2010–2014. Develop a new plan for the healthcare sector.</p> <p>Complete a programme of inspections to assess the approach to health and safety management, specifically the prevention of sharps injuries, violence and aggression and work-related vehicle safety.</p>	<p>Guidance was published to accompany the introduction of the EU (Prevention of Sharps Injuries in Healthcare) Regulations 2014. Awareness was raised through a public seminar, the inspection programme, the website and meetings with stakeholders.</p> <p>Communicated with representative groups in institutes of technology and universities with regard to the healthcare competition. Nursing undergraduate competition completed with judging, interviews and awards day.</p> <p>The review of the five-year plan is complete. Findings will be used to inform the development of a new plan for the sector.</p> <p>Two hundred and forty-two inspections and 57 investigations were completed in the healthcare sector (85% of inspection target). Overall, the inspections found that 60% of workplaces had adequate monitoring and review systems for health and safety performance.</p> <p>Compliance with the sharps regulations was reviewed in 110 inspections, revealing that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – 75% had documented risk assessments, – 79% were using the correct medical sharps safety devices, – 86% had prohibited recapping needles, – 76% had provided employees with information and training, and – 78% had a vaccination programme in place.

1. Sector programmes 2014

Operational area	Planned actions 2014	Actions achieved in 2014
Healthcare <i>(continued)</i>		<p>Seventy-five inspections looked at patient handling and found over 90% compliance rates.</p> <p>There were 113 inspections that focused on workplace violence and aggression in the sector. Results indicated that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 74% had carried out adequate risk assessments, - 84% had adequate controls in place, - 80% had completed adequate training, - 82% had considered lone working, and - 66% had adequate lone-worker protection systems in place. <p>Twenty-nine inspections were carried out in the healthcare sector as a part of an EU campaign on slips, trips and falls. The inspections covered issues such as management, cleaning, housekeeping, pedestrian surfaces, entrances, stairs and footwear. As a result of these inspections, written advice was issued in 23 cases and enforcement action taken in three cases.</p>
Manufacturing	<p>Complete a programme of inspections in the manufacturing sector, focusing on workplace health and safety management, with particular emphasis on equipment safety.</p>	<p>Five hundred and fifty-four inspections and 176 investigations were completed in this sector. Inspectors found that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 82% of workplaces had a safety statement, - 94% had safety consultation procedures, and - 38% had selected a safety representative. <p>Where a safety statement was reviewed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 77% had adequate risk assessments, and - 86% had allocated safety and health responsibilities. <p>Written advice was given in 42% of inspections and improvement notices were served in 5% of cases.</p>

1. Sector programmes 2014

Operational area	Planned actions 2014	Actions achieved in 2014
Manufacturing <i>(continued)</i>		Thirty inspections looked at whether anti-bullying procedures were in place; over 90% compliance was recorded.
Mines and quarries	<p>Complete the review and consolidation of the mines and quarries regulations and guidance.</p> <p>Support DJEI and other departments and agencies in implementing changes to national qualifications and training structures, particularly in relation to the Quarry Safety Certification Scheme (QSCS).</p> <p>Work with the Quarries Safety Partnership to ensure co-operative approach to safety in the sector.</p> <p>Work closely with the Health and Safety Executive Northern Ireland (HSENI), HSE UK and other member states in addressing major risks. Promote programmes of emergency preparedness, particularly within the underground mining sector.</p>	<p>Draft regulations were submitted to the DJEI.</p> <p>Meetings were held with SOLAS to discuss the safety and health aspects within national qualifications.</p> <p>Draft regulations and guidance were discussed with the Quarry Safety Partnership. Regional workshops were held with the Irish Concrete Federation.</p> <p>A successful cross-border conference on quarry safety was organised with the HSENI.</p> <p>Progress was made on a number of initiatives, particularly the safe use of explosives, quarry face stability issues, general prevention strategies in mines and quarries and dealing with mine planning permissions. The Authority attended a meeting of UK mines inspectors where the UK regulations were reviewed.</p> <p>The Ireland and UK mines rescue competition was held at Cleaveland Potash Mines in the UK in May. Mines inspectors from the Authority and the HSE UK adjudicated on six teams.</p>

1. Sector programmes 2014

Operational area	Planned actions 2014	Actions achieved in 2014
Mines and quarries <i>(continued)</i>	Inspect all operating mines. Inspect operating quarries regularly.	<p>The Authority contributed to work at EU level to outline EU capabilities, team training and levels of co-operation in place between member states. The Authority hosted a successful meeting of the mining authorities from across the EU which considered lessons learned from significant mining incidents.</p> <p>One hundred and fifty-two inspections and 22 investigations were completed in the sector.</p>
Public administration	Develop a strategy of targeted interventions in specific public-sector organisations based on available evidence and data analysis.	<p>Following a review of available data, a plan for the Authority's future activities in the public sector was agreed. The first stages of this plan were implemented, including a programme of inspections and a review of the inspection findings to inform future activities in this area.</p> <p>One hundred and forty-nine inspections and 41 investigations were completed in the sector.</p>
Recycling facilities	Inspect all waste recycling facilities in urban centres.	<p>One hundred and fifteen waste recycling facilities were inspected. The results showed that 61% of inspected workplaces had prepared safety statements; 15% of the statements required enforcement action. The key risks identified were:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - lack of traffic-management assessments (27%), - poor line-picking stations, ergonomic access and air extraction (26%), - poor guarding on machinery (25%), - poor maintenance and lack of lock-out procedures (21%), - inadequate PPE (9%), - poor chemical or biological agents procedures (15%), - inadequate health and safety training (15%), and - poor welfare facilities (10%).

1. Sector programmes 2014

Operational area	Planned actions 2014	Actions achieved in 2014
Wholesale and retail	<p>Conduct retail inspections to promote the use of BeSMART in smaller retail outlets. Inspections will also focus on workplace transport and forklift trucks.</p> <p>Participate in the EU SLIC Campaign 2014, which will address slips, trips and falls in the retail sector.</p>	<p>Six hundred and seventy-three inspections and 167 investigations were completed. In workplaces where the Authority's BeSMART tool was used to prepare safety documentation, over 70% of the safety statements were found to be in compliance with the legislation.</p> <p>Seventy inspections were carried out as a part of an EU campaign on slips, trips and falls, covering topics such as management, cleaning, housekeeping, pedestrian surfaces, entrances, stairs and footwear. As a result of these inspections, written advice was issued in 46 cases and took enforcement action in 13 cases.</p>
Transport and storage	<p>Develop Authority website to include content on vehicle-related activities and injuries in the sector.</p> <p>Network with sector stakeholders to increase awareness of main risks to be managed in transport sector.</p> <p>Produce guidance on forklift safety.</p> <p>Conduct inspections concentrating on transport management systems at distribution centres, load securing for transport, safety of tail lifts and the certification, testing and examination of vehicle-mounted cranes.</p>	<p>The web content related to vehicles at work was updated quarterly and all new resources were published on the Authority website.</p> <p>The Authority had formal and informal contact with a range of stakeholders in the transport and logistics sector. Presentations were given at relevant conferences and events nationwide. A particular focus was put on risk management in relation to bus and van fleets and load securing.</p> <p>Five new fact sheets and four information videos were promoted to highlight key risks in the sector.</p> <p>Five hundred and seventy-seven inspections and 69 investigations were completed. These focused on workplace transport management, driving for work and load security.</p>



2. Cross-sector programmes 2014

Operational area	Planned actions 2014	Actions achieved in 2014
Small business support	<p>Implement the first year of the <i>Taking Care of Business Plan 2014–2016</i> to enable small businesses to efficiently manage employee safety and health.</p> <p>Maintain and develop the BeSMART.ie website portal to include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - enhanced employer and employee BeSMART experience, - risk assessment hazard search facility, - additional content to be added to existing sectors, including new business types and risk assessments, - inclusion of an additional business sector: construction, - design and initial development work for the introduction of the agriculture sector, and - update risk assessments to reflect changes to legislation and guidance. <p>Develop further employer and employee e-learning modules.</p> <p>Network with other industry and business support groups to promote the use of BeSMART.</p>	<p>The major actions identified for the first year of the plan were all implemented.</p> <p>There were 5,490 new BeSMART users in 2014, bringing the total number of users to 23,378. All developments were on schedule by the end of 2014 and will be completed in early 2015, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - improved look and feel, no user downtime; - addition of search facility for risk assessments; - addition of 19 new business types within existing sectors, with corresponding new-risk assessment content; - added content for two new economic sectors: construction and agriculture; and - content updated to reflect changes in legislation. <p>Developed three e-learning modules for employers and employees.</p> <p>Networked with relevant groups to promote BeSMART, including insurance companies, the Convenience Stores and Newsagents Association and the Irish Hairdressing Federation. BeSMART was demonstrated at 44 events.</p>

2. Cross-sector programmes 2014

Operational area	Planned actions 2014	Actions achieved in 2014
Small business support <i>(continued)</i>	Work with other agencies to provide a <i>One-Stop Shop</i> to support small business.	Together with DJEI, the Authority took a lead role in organising the <i>Taking Care of Business One-Stop-Shop</i> events. Four nationwide events were held, involving more than 35 state bodies presenting to over 1,200 attendees. Feedback from these low-cost events was very positive.
Chemicals	<p>Fulfil Competent Authority role in relation to the EU Detergent Regulations. Continue to network and raise awareness among relevant stakeholders.</p> <p>Fulfil Competent Authority role in relation to the EU Rotterdam Regulation on the export and import of hazardous substances. Continue to raise awareness among relevant stakeholders.</p>	<p>The Authority provided 36 briefings to the Minister and to the DJEI in the area of detergent regulations and export–import regulations.</p> <p>The Authority participated in the Detergent Working Group meeting and the EU CLEEN meeting. Eight requests for information (RFI) were answered. The Authority published a joint information sheet with the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine (DAFM) on detergents and biocidal detergents.</p> <p>The Authority co-operated with the National Poisons Information Centre in response to incidents involving detergent liquid laundry capsules. The Authority’s discussion papers and call for action at EU level were unanimously supported by other member states. The Commission introduced an amendment to the EU Regulation on Classification, Packaging and Labelling specifically for laundry liquid capsules by way of urgency procedure.</p> <p>The EU Rotterdam Regulation became operational in 2014. A new system (ePIC) was introduced for processing industry applications for export or import. Forty-three submissions for export were received (39 via ePIC) and processed.</p>

2. Cross-sector programmes 2014

Operational area	Planned actions 2014	Actions achieved in 2014
Chemicals <i>(continued)</i>		<p>Thirty-five RFIs were answered by the Authority on this topic. Sixteen of these were from Customs as a consequence of the monitoring of exports.</p> <p>The Authority represented Ireland at the 23rd meeting of the Designated National Authorities under Regulation (EU) No 649/2012. One industrial chemical was added to the Annex of the EU Regulation in 2014.</p> <p>The final Article 9 report under the 2008 Regulation was compiled and submitted to the Commission in July.</p> <p>Drafting work began on an information sheet, the website content on this topic was updated, and links to industry training webinars on ePIC were promoted.</p> <p>No formal meeting was held in 2014 between the national designated authorities. The Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine (DAFM) took on the role of national ePIC co-ordinator.</p> <p>The Authority provided assistance to DJEI in the drafting of national regulations for the EU Rotterdam Regulations.</p>
COMAH – Control of Major Accident Hazards	<p>Fulfil Competent Authority role under COMAH II Regulations:</p> <p>Complete inspections of Control of Major Accident Hazard (COMAH) sites, focusing on safety management systems and risk-control systems in operation. Inspect and enforce requirements in relation to oil jetties, large petroleum bulk and LPG stores and sub-COMAH sites. Targeted sectors include bulk stores, chlorine use and biodiesel sectors.</p>	<p>One hundred and seventy-nine COMAH and sub-COMAH inspections were completed and four external emergency plans attended.</p>

2. Cross-sector programmes 2014

Operational area	Planned actions 2014	Actions achieved in 2014
<p>COMAH – Control of Major Accident Hazards <i>(continued)</i></p>	<p>Process safety reports and land-use planning (LUP) requests.</p> <p>Draft legislation to transpose the Seveso III Directive and provide technical advice to DJEI as requested.</p>	<p>Six safety reports were processed to completion and 228 LUP advices were provided.</p> <p>The Regulatory Impact Analysis (RIA) on the Seveso III Directive was brought to public consultation and the draft regulations were updated based on submissions. Two consultation sessions were held with operators.</p>
<p>REACH (Registration, Evaluation, Authorisation and Restriction of Chemicals) and CLP (Classification, Labelling and Packaging) – Policy</p>	<p>Fulfil lead competent authority role in relation to the REACH and CLP regulations.</p> <p>Provide the REACH and CLP national helpdesks.</p> <p>Evaluate one substance from the 2014 Community Rolling Action Plan (CoRAP) under substance evaluation, complete relevant follow-up from substance evaluated in 2013, and participate in screening activities to secure substances to evaluate in subsequent years.</p>	<p>The Authority provided the Irish position on proposals to identify five substances as substances of very high concern and provided proposals for amendments on four substance evaluation draft decisions prepared by other member states. The Authority also provided 33 briefings to the Minister and the DJEI in the area of REACH and CLP regulations.</p> <p>The national helpdesk answered 160 REACH and 109 CLP queries, along with 58 general queries. In addition, the helpdesk proposed a number of FAQs to the European Chemicals Agency (ECHA), as well as providing comments on other FAQs for publication by ECHA. Additionally, on request from ECHA, the Irish helpdesk hosted a two-day visit from TUKes, the Finnish Safety and Chemicals Agency. The Irish helpdesk also hosted a two-day registration workshop for Irish SMEs, in collaboration with ECHA.</p> <p>The substance assigned to Ireland on the 2014 CoRAP was not evaluated due to the late withdrawal of the substance from the CoRAP. ECHA's Member State Committee reached unanimous agreement on the decision drafted by Ireland following evaluation of the 2013 CoRAP substance and the decision was sent to the registrant by ECHA in November. In addition, through participation in ECHA's</p>

2. Cross-sector programmes 2014

Operational area	Planned actions 2014	Actions achieved in 2014
<p>REACH (Registration, Evaluation, Authorisation and Restriction of Chemicals) and CLP (Classification, Labelling and Packaging) – Policy <i>(continued)</i></p>	<p>Contribute to EU Commission’s goal to identify all relevant substances of very high concern (SVHCs) by 2020 under the SVHC roadmap.</p> <p>Host a meeting of the Risk Management Experts (RIME) group of experts from the member states, ECHA and the Commission.</p> <p>Conduct awareness-raising campaign with NPIC to alert consumers to 2015 changes in product labels due to CLP.</p>	<p>manual screening activities, a substance was secured for Ireland to evaluate each year from 2015–2017.</p> <p>The Authority responded to three member-state questionnaires: on butylphenol/pentylphenol and associated occupational diseases; on grill lighter fluids; and on butadiene. These contributions helped member states to determine if further risk-management measures were warranted.</p> <p>The Authority actively participated in the first round of substance manual screening under the SVHC 2020 Roadmap, selecting five substances for screening and identifying the most appropriate risk-management strategy (if any) in each case.</p> <p>The Authority participated in 11 meetings of the Sensitiser Co-ordination Group, as well as three Risk Management Experts (RiME) meetings. Thirty-seven Risk Management Option (RMO) reports were reviewed and written comments were submitted on five of them. The Authority initiated and hosted the first RMO analysis workshop in Dublin, with eight member states and the European Chemicals Agency attending.</p> <p>The Authority hosted the third RiME meeting of 2014 in Dublin Castle. The meeting had the highest number of member state attendees present to date.</p> <p>Due to the CLP deadline in mid-2015, a decision was taken not to conduct the consumer campaign in 2014. (A media campaign is now planned for May 2015.) A ‘Countdown to CLP’ campaign included dedicated e-bulletins, presentations, publications and nationwide seminars in conjunction with National Irish Safety Organisation (NISO). This will continue through 2015.</p>

2. Cross-sector programmes 2014

Operational area	Planned actions 2014	Actions achieved in 2014
<p>REACH (Registration, Evaluation, Authorisation and Restriction of Chemicals) and CLP (Classification, Labelling and Packaging) – Policy <i>(continued)</i></p>	<p>Continue communication campaigns to maintain awareness of REACH and CLP among stakeholders.</p> <p>Provide Ireland's representative to ECHA Risk Assessment (RAC) and Socio-economic Analysis (SEAC) Committees. As lead Competent Authority, provide MS support to Irish nominees as resources allow.</p>	<p>Eighteen emails or e-bulletins were circulated to stakeholders, three events were organised, and 13 presentations were made at external events. Articles on REACH and CLP were prepared for external publications and a number of meetings were held with relevant industry groups and companies. Two information sheets were published on the following topics:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - REACH: production, import and supply of articles, and - hazard labelling and packaging according to CLP. <p>The Authority participated in three RAC meetings and 1 SEAC meeting. The RAC member was rapporteur for a restriction dossier in 2014, completing the conformity report, key issues document and first draft opinion for presentation to the Committee. Five additional restriction dossiers were reviewed and 13 written submissions were made during the opinion development stage.</p>
<p>REACH and CLP – Inspections</p>	<p>As the national enforcement authority, we will complete a programme of inspections (desk-based assessments and onsite visits) to assess the compliance with REACH and CLP. In completing this programme, we will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Target 'Only Representatives' and assess their compliance on all their REACH and CLP obligations. - Target distributors and chemical formulators to assess compliance with the requirements of REACH and CLP/Dangerous Preparations Directive, and look in particular at the provision of information in the supply 	<p>One hundred and sixty-one desktop assessments were completed to evaluate the compliance of chemical products on the Irish market.</p> <p>Twelve companies were audited. Prior to the audit inspections, detailed desk assessments of safety data sheets (SDS) and labels were undertaken on a sample of 60 chemical products. Feedback was provided during the inspection. The impact of these 12 audit inspections was potentially far wider than ensuring compliance for 60 products, as just over 3,600 products are formulated, imported or distributed by these 12 companies.</p>

2. Cross-sector programmes 2014

Operational area	Planned actions 2014	Actions achieved in 2014
<p>REACH and CLP – Inspections <i>(continued)</i></p>	<p>chain (for example, safety data sheets) as well as classification, labelling and packaging rules for hazardous substances.</p> <p>Follow up and enforce all ECHA communications, including Article 36, 40(3) and 41(3) decisions.</p> <p>In relation to market surveillance on REACH restrictions under Annex XVII, check that identified carcinogenic, mutagenic or repro-toxic (CMR) substances are not being sold to consumers as chemical substances or mixtures.</p> <p>Participate in EU Forum project on REACH enforcement to coincide with our ‘only representative’ inspections.</p>	<p>All ECHA communications were followed up. One statement of non-compliance was closed out.</p> <p>Sixty-eight companies were identified as using CMR 1a/1b in the workplace. Of these, 67 companies were compliant with entries 28–30 of REACH Annex XVII and one was identified as non-compliant.</p> <p>The Authority participated in the Forum project, inspecting compliance with registration duties among businesses acting as ‘only representatives’. Compliance in relation to over 100 substances was checked in Irish-based companies and a report on the findings was submitted to ECHA.</p>
<p>Slips, trips and falls</p>	<p>Promote the prevention of slips, trips and falls, as part of Senior Labour Inspectorate Committee campaign for 2014.</p> <p>Develop guidance on the prevention of slips, trips and falls, based on root-cause analysis of reported accident data.</p>	<p>Over 1,000 inspections focused on risk assessments of slip, trip and fall hazards; perceived consequences of slip, trip and fall incidents; and hazards associated with stairs or steps. Seventy inspections were also carried out as part of an EU-level campaign on slips, trips and falls.</p> <p>The Authority website was updated to include relevant information on Injuries Board cases, entrance matting and Met Éireann weather warning systems</p>

2. Cross-sector programmes 2014

Operational area	Planned actions 2014	Actions achieved in 2014
Slips, trips and falls <i>(continued)</i>		<p>Detailed data analysis was completed on the causes of slip, trip and fall incidents reported to the Authority.</p> <p>Work started on developing content for a planned e-learning module on slips, trips and falls.</p>
Engineering	<p>Analyse and follow-up examination reports on defective lifting and pressure equipment.</p> <p>Inspect offshore fixed and mobile installations.</p>	<p>The Authority reviewed 1,318 reports relating to defective lifting and pressure equipment. Those of highest concern were prioritised for inspection.</p> <p>Sector-specific and survival training was completed by Authority inspectors. Inspections were carried out on two installations. One renewal of an exemption was processed for an unmanned platform.</p>
Fire	<p>Review outcomes of the 2013 fire inspection programme. Use information to direct policy initiatives in 2014.</p> <p>Carry out inspection in relation to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - fire prevention in workplaces, and - safe storage and use of liquid petroleum gas (LPG) cylinders in the retail, hotel and restaurant sectors. 	<p>In agreement with the National Directorate for Fire and Emergency Management, a working group was established to review areas of overlap of responsibility between the Authority and chief fire officers.</p> <p>Twenty-eight LPG storage facilities were inspected, focusing on storage-tank location; protection from vehicular damage; separation from buildings; and the integrity and maintenance of LPG pipework above and below ground. This programme will continue into 2015.</p>

2. Cross-sector programmes 2014

Operational area	Planned actions 2014	Actions achieved in 2014
ATEX/Explosion	<p>Conduct inspections of grain and provender mills for compliance with the European Communities (Equipment and Protective Systems Intended for Use in Potentially Explosive Atmospheres) Regulations 1999.</p>	<p>Authority inspectors completed training on risks associated with potential explosion in grain and provender mills.</p> <p>Seven ATEX-related inspections were completed.</p>
Market surveillance	<p>Contribute to National Market Surveillance Plan in relation to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - industrial chemicals with human health effects (checking that carcinogenic, mutagenic and repro-toxic (CMR) chemicals subject to Annex XVII are not being sold to consumers in substances or mixtures), and - Personal Protective Equipment (PPE). 	<p>Ireland's National Market Surveillance Plan was reviewed and a report on the Authority's activity was submitted to DJEI. The Authority provided the national contact point for the EU Information and Communication System on Market Surveillance (ICSMS). <i>(See also sections on REACH and CLP for product assessments under REACH and restricted substances market surveillance checks)</i></p> <p>Market surveillance of substances subject to authorisation focused on the fourth priority list. Fifty-one unique workplaces were identified as potentially using these substances and 42 workplaces were assessed.</p> <p>Safety alerts were issued on arborist PPE supporting equipment, safety shoes and equestrian helmets.</p> <p>Following engagement with the Authority, one company agreed to voluntary recall of 397 life jackets. There was one voluntary recall of a quad bike that failed to comply with the Machinery Directive and harmonised standard.</p> <p>Proactive market surveillance inspections were conducted among manufacturers, suppliers and end users of PPE being sold or used for chemical use. Products included 22 types of respirators, 27 glove types, 10 types of overalls, eight types of ear defenders or muffs and eight pairs of safety footwear. Issues identified in</p>

2. Cross-sector programmes 2014

Operational area	Planned actions 2014	Actions achieved in 2014
Market surveillance <i>(continued)</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Provide ongoing support to Customs in monitoring chemical exports under the Rotterdam Regulation. 	<p>approximately 10% of cases included no CE marking, no EN standard indicated on PPE or poor-quality user information provided with PPE.</p> <p>The Authority responded to 16 queries from Customs under the Rotterdam Regulation.</p> <p>General retail market surveillance was undertaken for the purpose of responding to an ECHA questionnaire on grill lighter fluids and lamp oils.</p> <p>A review of the capacity of Irish laboratories to undertake analysis in accordance with Annex XVII was undertaken as part of ECHA's assessment of enforcement across the EU.</p> <p>A referral was processed from a member state on the importation of lead paint.</p> <p>Market surveillance was undertaken to determine if dichloromethane was contained in a paint stripper product sold to the general public.</p> <p>Market surveillance was undertaken following an alert received about a defective child-proof fastening on an Oven Pride product in the UK. It was confirmed that this was a local UK issue and that the defective containers had not reached the Irish market. The alert was highlighted via the Authority's social media channels.</p> <p>Market surveillance was undertaken following a customs alert relating to the potential import of jewellery containing elevated levels of cadmium/nickel and lead.</p>

2. Cross-sector programmes 2014

Operational area	Planned actions 2014	Actions achieved in 2014
<p>Market surveillance <i>(continued)</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Conduct inspections on the installation of lifts in new building projects and monitor compliance with the EU Lifts Directive. Carry out inspections of existing lift installations for compliance with Lifts Directive. 	<p>One hundred inspections of existing installations were completed. In general the lifts inspected were well maintained. Issues related to a lack of awareness of the requirements for Reports of Thorough Examination and maintenance contracts.</p> <p>A safety alert on passenger lift safety was issued in January following a fatal accident.</p> <p>Thirty-nine lift companies were contacted as part of a survey on conformity assessment procedures.</p> <p>Twenty-four market surveillance inspections of farm machinery were completed, including three specific to PTO guards. A detailed inspection of post-driver design was conducted following a query from a regulatory authority in another member state.</p> <p>Four agricultural machinery manufacturers were inspected to assess their implementation of the Machinery Directive. These inspections covered:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - bespoke factory-made machines, - small trailers, - supply of a hydraulic press brake, - vehicle lifts, - powered gates, - shipment of imported lawnmowers, and - supply of mobile cranes.

2. Cross-sector programmes 2014

Operational area	Planned actions 2014	Actions achieved in 2014
Occupational hygiene	<p>Fulfil lead authority role in relation to enforcement of the Asbestos, Chemical Agents, Carcinogens and Biological Agents Directives through a nationwide inspection programme. The inspections will also support the Authority's obligations in relation to the enforcement of particular duties under REACH, CLP and Detergents Regulations and the Market Surveillance Programme.</p> <p>The above-mentioned inspections will maintain a strong focus on the following issues:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - carcinogens, mutagens, toxic to reproduction and sensitising substances, - safety data sheets and labels, - asbestos removal sites and asbestos awareness and management, - Legionella risk assessments (including water cooling towers), - respiratory protective equipment programmes and fit testing, - carcinogen, asbestos and biological exposure lists, - occupational hygiene programmes in pharmaceutical industry, - local exhaust ventilation and PPE, and - noise and health surveillance. 	<p>There were 826 workplace inspections and 152 investigations carried out covering asbestos, biological agents, chemical agents, carcinogens, information in the supply-chain assessments (safety data sheets under the REACH regulation and chemical safety labels under the CLP regulation where CMRs or sensitisers were identified), radon and noise.</p> <p>The inspection programme addressed general health and safety management, including reviews of safety statements. Written advice was issued in over 74% of workplaces. Twenty-seven improvement notices were served, eight prohibition notices and two directions for improvement plans. A file was also prepared and presented to the Authority's Prosecution Policy Committee.</p> <p>Two hundred and forty asbestos notifications were processed for higher-risk asbestos remedial work activities and 11 biological agent notifications were processed. Over 160 chemical related queries were answered.</p>

2. Cross-sector programmes 2014

Operational area	Planned actions 2014	Actions achieved in 2014
<p>Occupational hygiene <i>(continued)</i></p>	<p>Fulfil lead Authority role in relation to administration of the Asbestos, Chemical Agents, Carcinogens and Biological Agents Directives through legislative and policy interventions, publications, stakeholder advice and engagements, IE and EU working groups and DJEI support.</p> <p>Represent Ireland on EU Senior Labour Inspectors Committee CHEMEX Group.</p> <p>Represent the Authority on the interagency group for the implementation of the National Radon Control Strategy, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Genetically Modified Organisms (GMO) committee and Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFA) Inter-Departmental Committee on Weapons of Mass Destruction.</p> <p>Support the transposition of the amended Carcinogens and Mutagens CMD directive, if published by EU Commission in 2014.</p> <p>Update the Chemical Agents code of practice for OELVs to take account of the 4th EU indicative list, if published, and current scientific knowledge on OELVs (for example TLVs).</p>	<p>The Authority attended three meetings of the EU Senior Labour Inspectors Committee CHEMEX Group and participated in the CHEMEX sub-group for long latency diseases. A presentation was given at an EU conference on REACH/ Chemical Agent Directive interfaces.</p> <p>Meetings were attended and actions were completed on schedule. During 2014 the DJEI took over responsibility for attending the Department of Foreign Affairs Inter-Departmental Committee on Weapons of Mass Destruction.</p> <p>The directive was not published by the EU Commission.</p> <p>The Chemical Agents code of practice for OELVs was updated following consultation with industry and the public. The code was sent to DJEI for ministerial approval and publication in 2015.</p>

2. Cross-sector programmes 2014

Operational area	Planned actions 2014	Actions achieved in 2014
Occupational hygiene <i>(continued)</i>	<p>Publish guidance on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - PPE for chemical and biological use, and - standard for occupational hygiene industry reports. <p>Continue to act as national contact point for Scientific Committee on Occupational Exposure Limits (SCOEL).</p> <p>Promote new Biological Agents Regulations, code of practice and guidelines. Promote asbestos, lead and local exhaust ventilation guidelines to industry stakeholders.</p> <p>Review current state of play in relation to occupational exposure to nano-materials. Update information sheet and webpages as necessary to bring in line with current practice and recommendations.</p>	<p>Guidance was published on writing occupational hygiene reports, composting sites and legionella in water cooling towers. PPE guidance for chemical use was completed and is scheduled for publication in 2015. Guidance on local exhaust ventilation (LEV) and biological agents was published to support the introduction of the Biological Agents Regulations 2013 and associated code of practice.</p> <p>SCOEL recommendations were reviewed.</p> <p>Information was disseminated to relevant stakeholders such as the Occupational Hygiene Society of Ireland and the National Irish Safety Organisation. Presentations were made at several seminars and conferences, covering issues such as asbestos management, biological agents, contract cleaning, noise and chemical agents. Relevant industry meetings attended and meetings held with key public sector and private stakeholders.</p> <p>Review deferred pending publication of EU guidance on nano-materials.</p>
Manual handling	<p>Promote manual handling risk management in the transport and logistics sector through workshops and other interventions.</p> <p>Complete a musculoskeletal disorder (MSD) risk-management project involving inspections to review risk management and to roll out the new audit tool at specific employer sites.</p>	<p>Technical guidance for manual handling risk management was disseminated at four regional seminars.</p> <p>Training on a new manual handling audit tool was given to 10 inspectors and is now being used as part of the inspection process.</p>

2. Cross-sector programmes 2014

Operational area	Planned actions 2014	Actions achieved in 2014
Manual handling <i>(continued)</i>	<p>Develop a technical guidance information sheet on the risk management of manual handling in construction.</p> <p>Provide ergonomic support to inspectors in addressing manual handling/display screen equipment and upper-limb disorder issues. Work with employers to manage musculoskeletal disorders.</p>	<p>An information sheet on manual handling of glazing units was published.</p> <p>Referral inspections were carried out and issues were resolved in consultation with employers. There were 585 inspections that addressed manual handling across all work sectors. Results indicate that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 78% of inspected workplaces had carried out manual handling risk assessments, - 87% had taken appropriate measures to minimise manual handling, and - written advice was issued in 18% of inspections.
Occupational health	<p>Manage Occupational First Aid Assessment Agent (OFAAA) contract.</p> <p>Manage Occupational Medical Services (OMS) contract.</p> <p>Continue work on transposing the Electromagnetic Field (EMF) Directive.</p> <p>Support THOR Ireland (system for reporting of occupational illness) and encourage more doctors to report.</p> <p>Develop the quality of occupational illness statistics through data obtained from the Department of Social Protection (DSP). Identify the necessary parameters that we need to record.</p>	<p>The first-aid assessment service was delivered in line with contract obligations. The transition to the Quality and Qualifications Ireland (QQI) Occupational First Aid (OFA) standard 5N1207 was completed.</p> <p>A new OMS contract was put in place; service providers operated to agreed contract requirements and timelines.</p> <p>Draft EMF regulations and the associated regulatory impact assessment were completed.</p> <p>Twenty additional doctors have agreed to report to the THOR scheme commencing in 2015.</p> <p>DSP has agreed to provide the Authority with data on occupational illnesses.</p>

2. Cross-sector programmes 2014

Operational area	Planned actions 2014	Actions achieved in 2014
Occupational health <i>(continued)</i>	Participate in EU COST Modernet committee (EU COST refers to European co-operation in the field of scientific and technical research which funds the Modernet committee, a network for development of new techniques for discovering trends in occupational and work-related diseases and tracking new and emerging risks).	The COST Modernet project was completed and the range of work activities was described in a special edition of <i>Occupational Medicine</i> .
Work related stress	<p>Promote online <i>Work Positive Tool</i> in health and retail sectors through workshops, seminars and awareness-raising activities</p> <p>Develop and disseminate guidance for dealing with stress from critical incidents at work in conjunction with Critical Incident Stress Management (CISM) and others in emergency services.</p> <p>Represent Ireland at the EU Joint Action Project on Mental Health at Work. Attend meetings of the EU Committee; complete report on Irish SWOT analysis.</p>	<p>Two well-attended seminars were held during European Safety Week.</p> <p>The Authority provided input to guidance document.</p> <p>An EU-wide report was completed with Ireland identified as collaborating partner.</p>

2. Cross-sector programmes 2014

Operational area	Planned actions 2014	Actions achieved in 2014
<p>Work related vehicle safety</p>	<p>Implement final year of the Authority's Work Related Vehicle Safety (WRVS) Plan.</p> <p>Review WRVS Plan, including assessment and quantification of achievements, completion of gap analysis and identification of areas for future work. Develop new WRVS Plan for 2015–2020.</p> <p>Develop national programme for load securing in the workplace and on the road, involving a range of activities including awareness-raising, education and training, guidance and enforcement.</p> <p>Develop load-securing guidance for high-risk loads associated with specific work sectors such as construction, agriculture, logistics and transport and forestry.</p> <p>Develop e-learning course on driving for work.</p> <p>Review current rider-operated lift truck training requirements and liaise with Quality and Qualifications Ireland (QQI) with respect to any future development of training award and associated guidance.</p> <p>Manage and co-ordinate joint initiatives with RSA and Gardaí related to driving for work, load securing and working on or near the road.</p>	<p>All Authority actions were completed.</p> <p>Initial review commenced but main body of review deferred to 2015, pending conclusion of statistical analysis and research on vehicle-related injury at work.</p> <p>Programme prepared and key areas developed following engagement with regulatory, sectoral and education stakeholders. Load securing was highlighted as a major topic in promotion activities.</p> <p>Guidance in collaboration with the International Transport Union was developed and published. Over 18,000 copies were downloaded in 2014. Information sheets were developed and published, incorporating content on load securing.</p> <p>An e-learning course was developed and launched on the Authority's learning management system.</p> <p>The review was deferred to 2015 pending review and prioritisation of awards carried over from FETAC.</p> <p>The joint work plan for 2014 was implemented by the Authority, Gardaí and RSA. Completed activities related to awareness-raising, guidance, data collection and enforcement.</p>

2. Cross-sector programmes 2014

Operational area	Planned actions 2014	Actions achieved in 2014
Work related vehicle safety <i>(continued)</i>	<p>Carry out promotional activities to raise awareness of work-related vehicle risks in conjunction with RSA, Gardaí and sectoral stakeholders.</p> <p>Complete a programme of inspections to assess risk management of driving for work, targeted at organisations with fleets of 10 or more vans or grey fleet.</p> <p>Complete a programme of inspections to assess load-securing risk management for specific transport and load types, for example for construction materials, timber, steel, portacabins, palletised goods, car transport, and plant and machinery transport.</p> <p>Participate in load-securing roadside inspections (joint Garda, RSA, HSA campaigns) as part of development of enforcement protocols and inspector training.</p>	<p>Five <i>Driving for Work</i> seminars were held and sponsored by key sectoral stakeholders. These were well attended and generated positive publicity. Ten additional talks were given to stakeholder groups nationwide.</p> <p>There were 885 inspections which focused on work related vehicle safety (352 in construction, 140 in manufacturing, 123 in agriculture and 55 in the transport and storage sector). The results show that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – 87% of inspected workplaces had included driving for work in their risk assessments, – 85% had adequate traffic-management systems in place, – 91% had safe systems in place for loading or unloading vehicles, and – 91% had adequate vehicle maintenance and daily checks. <p>Driving for work procedures were reviewed in 285 inspections (128 in construction, 26 in transport and storage, 25 in agriculture, 20 in manufacturing and 13 in health services). In these inspections, over 80% compliance rates were observed for having risk assessments, policies and procedures in place and communicated to workers, and adequate training and instruction given on the risks associated with driving for work.</p> <p>There were 126 inspections conducted specifically to address the topic of load securing (in manufacturing, agriculture and in transport and storage):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – over 80% had an adequate management system in place, – 93% had safe systems for loading or unloading vehicles, and – 86% had specific control measures in place to prevent falls from vehicles. <p>Two roadside inspection operations were carried out with the Garda Traffic Corps. A one-day training course was delivered to Authority inspectors.</p>

2. Cross-sector programmes 2014

Operational area	Planned actions 2014	Actions achieved in 2014
<p>Transport of Dangerous Goods By Road (ADR/TPE)</p>	<p>Fulfil Competent Authority (CA) roles and obligations under the European Agreement Concerning the International Carriage of Dangerous Goods by Road (ADR) and Transportable Pressure Equipment (TPE) legislation, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – provision of guidance and support to stakeholders through the Authority website, – provision of technical support and advice to DJEI on ADR/TPE legislative issues, – provision of CA authorisations as required, – development of policy and procedures for implementing ADR/TPE legislation, and – management of the ADR and related services contract covering statutory requirements under ADR. <p>Develop policy and procedures in relation to tank testing, certification and accreditation by engaging with relevant stakeholders.</p> <p>Enforce the ADR/TPE legislation taking account of requirements of Road Checks Directive, and report on enforcement activities to the Commission as required. Develop enforcement policy and procedures for the ADR/TPE legislative regime. Carry out investigations under ADR/TPE as required, and provide technical support to other units in the Authority as required.</p>	<p>The website was redesigned. Appropriate guidance and advice were disseminated to stakeholders.</p> <p>DJEI was provided with information, technical support and briefings, including assistance with the first ADR inter-departmental meeting.</p> <p>Three CA authorisations and two multilateral agreements were signed off in accordance with agreed procedures. The procedure for processing CA authorisations was streamlined.</p> <p>ADR and related services were provided in line with the agreed contract and service level agreement. Three performance review meetings were held with the agent, with all issues resolved. All fees were paid to the Authority as agreed.</p> <p>The main policy development was in relation to changes in certification and testing of national use tanks; stakeholder consultation was carried out, and draft proposals for ADR 2015 legislative changes were developed.</p> <p>Two hundred and seventy-one road checks were completed; 141 DGSA premises inspections were carried out. The 2013 annual report to EU Commission was provided to DJEI on time. One investigation was carried out.</p>

2. Cross-sector programmes 2014

Operational area	Planned actions 2014	Actions achieved in 2014
Dangerous Substances Act (DSA) and Retail and Private Petroleum Storage (RPPS)	<p>Fulfil competent authority roles and obligations under DSA legislation, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - provision of guidance and support to stakeholders through the website and Helpdesk; - provision of technical support and advice to DJEI and other stakeholders, in relation to the DSA review, on DSA legislative issues, and parliamentary questions; - develop policy and procedures for implementing DSA legislation, in particular in relation to local authority licence refusal appeals; and - work with relevant stakeholders to resolve issues, and further develop policy and procedures as required. <p>Dissemination of information in relation to newly revised wetstock (for example, stock levels of liquid fuel of petrol, diesel).</p> <p>Enforce the DSA and RPPS legislation.</p>	<p>Appropriate guidance and advice disseminated through the Authority website, meetings with stakeholders and responses to queries.</p> <p>DJEI was provided with information, including a detailed submission to the Minister in relation to proposals for a review of the DSA regime.</p> <p>A Board paper was submitted for agreement in relation to proposals on legislative reform.</p> <p>Meetings were held with relevant stakeholders to establish policy and working procedures. Five DSA licence refusal appeals processed.</p> <p>Guidance provided to stakeholders.</p> <p>There were 113 RPPS site inspections completed.</p>
Work at height	Provide technical support and guidance relating to work at height issues.	Technical queries and information requests were processed.

2. Cross-sector programmes 2014

Operational area	Planned actions 2014	Actions achieved in 2014
Work at height <i>(continued)</i>	Work with industry bodies in identifying work at height challenges and identifying practical solutions.	A work at height campaign was launched together with the Construction Industry Federation, the Construction Safety Partnership and the Grafton Group, targeting small contractors through nationwide builders' providers. The Authority held a seminar with the Construction Industry Federation in relation to inspection of used timber scaffold boards.
Communications	<p>Lead and support the awareness-raising activity of the Authority as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - manage media relationships on both a proactive and reactive basis; - develop and enhance website usability and navigation to maximise user experience; - plan and co-ordinate events, seminars and workshops to ensure high level of customer satisfaction; - undertake major awareness-raising campaigns in farm safety, general health and safety and chemical safety for consumers, across press, radio and digital channels; - develop social media campaigns with a view to maximising impact for a range of key areas, such as BeSMART, farm safety, chemical safety and work-related vehicle safety; and - manage the publications production process to ensure all Authority publications are appropriate for target market. 	<p>Thirty-seven press releases were issued on a regional and national basis.</p> <p>Over 1.4m website sessions. The usability of the Authority's website was improved, along with upgraded content. The Authority successfully ran a wide range of events which received positive customer satisfaction ratings.</p> <p>Major national awareness-raising campaigns were carried out for farm safety, fishing safety and small business support.</p> <p>The Authority's Facebook audience has increased by 50% from 9,500 to 14,200. The Twitter audience has increased from 1,600 to 3,900. A range of social media awareness-raising campaigns were undertaken.</p> <p>Twenty-five new publications were designed and published.</p>

2. Cross-sector programmes 2014

Operational area	Planned actions 2014	Actions achieved in 2014
Communications <i>(continued)</i>	<p>Ensure that all contacts, inbound and outbound, to the customer service unit (approximately 25,000 each year) are dealt with in line with service level agreements.</p> <p>Manage and co-ordinate European Focal Point activities, including European Safety Week campaigns.</p>	<p>Inbound customer contacts (queries and complaints) totalled 25,173, with an additional 2,485 contacts made through outbound campaigns.</p> <p>European Safety Week activities were successfully completed. Two nominees were selected for the European Good Practice Awards.</p>



3. Irish National Accreditation Board programme 2014

Operational area	Planned actions 2014	Actions achieved in 2014
<p>Accreditation – existing clients</p>	<p>Complete annual programme of assessments for 203 existing accredited client organisations operating the following conformity assessment sectors: testing; calibration; medical testing laboratories; inspection bodies; and certification bodies.</p>	<p>Surveillance visits for all accredited clients were completed. There were 272 onsite assessments using technical peers (teams ranging from two to nine team members on client's site for one to three days). There were 203 maintenance of accreditations. Income from annual fees was in excess of €2.3million.</p>
<p>Accreditation – new clients</p>	<p>Manage new applications for accreditation as received into existing work programme.</p>	<p>Sixteen new applications for accreditation were received. Eleven new accreditations were awarded by the INAB Board. There were 28 extensions to scope awarded by the INAB Board and 99 extensions awarded by the manager of INAB .</p>
<p>International peer evaluation of INAB to confirm continued MLA (multilateral recognition agreement) signatory status and to extend MLA for recognition of verification body accreditation for GHG (greenhouse gases emissions trading scheme).</p>	<p>Host EA/ILAC/IAF peer evaluation team of 7 accreditation body experts for week-long evaluation of INAB and its accreditation programmes (35 man days) against mandatory ISO 17011 and EU Reg 765/2008 requirements to ensure successful outcome and continued and extended international recognition. This ensures that INAB accredited clients' outputs are recognised and accepted internationally.</p>	<p>A peer evaluation was successfully completed with a decision to extend our international recognition for verifier accreditation.</p>

3. Irish National Accreditation Board programme 2014

Operational area	Planned actions 2014	Actions achieved in 2013
<p>Fulfilment of EA/ILAC/IAF obligations – international representation</p> <p>Participation in relevant stakeholder meetings and in international peer evaluations of other MLA accreditation bodies in Europe and internationally.</p>	<p>Fulfil commitments to international organisations on technical and decision-making committees.</p> <p>Fulfil obligations to provide staff resource to complete peer evaluations of accreditation bodies.</p>	<p>INAB was represented at 18 European and international meetings (generally two-day meetings). The INAB manager participated in two EA General and one ILAC/IAF General Assembly (10 days).</p> <p>Two INAB staff completed two peer evaluations (2 x 6 days onsite peer evaluations in Macedonia and in Belgium respectively.)</p>
<p>Monitoring Authority for good laboratory practice</p>	<p>Manage the national programme for GLP; represent INAB at EU commission and OECD GLP meetings; and complete the onsite evaluation schedule of GLP facilities.</p>	<p>The annual plan was completed as planned.</p> <p>The OECD GLP meeting was not attended due to clash with EA peer evaluation.</p>
<p>EMAS functions</p>	<p>Manage the national programme for EMAS, represent INAB and Department of Environment and Local Government at international meetings. Maintain register of EMAS register sites.</p>	<p>The annual plan was completed as planned; one international meeting was not attended due to clash with EA peer evaluation.</p>

3. Irish National Accreditation Board programme 2014

Operational area	Planned actions 2014	Actions achieved in 2013
<p>Governance: maintain and service decision-making arm of INAB - Board of INAB; and maintain and service INAB medical advisory committee (MAC), a sectoral committee comprising stakeholder interested parties for medical sector laboratory accreditation.</p>	<p>Host six INAB Board meetings. New INAB Board members appointed following retirements.</p> <p>Host two INAB MAC meetings and service five task-force groups representing key medical disciplines.</p>	<p>Six INAB Board meetings were hosted in 2014. There were three retirements from the INAB Board and two new INAB Board members were appointed. An appeals committee was also appointed.</p> <p>There were two INAB MAC meetings hosted. Revised processes and procedures were prepared to ensure more effective working of the five expert groups.</p>
<p>INAB accreditation promotional and awareness activities</p>	<p>Conduct client surveys; run training programmes for database of new and active assessors via biennial INAB assessor fora; generate current INAB newsletters; make information on accreditation programmes publicly available via dedicated INAB website; and maintain current directory of accredited clients.</p>	<p>INAB held an assessor forum in 2014 for both Irish (10% of assessor database) and overseas (90% of assessor database) lead and technical assessors. One client survey was conducted for applicant and accredited organisations. Two INAB newsletters were published and INAB staff gave a series of presentations to a range of stakeholder groups in 2014. The INAB website was updated.</p>
<p>Integration</p>	<p>Integrate INAB staff and functions into the Health and Safety Authority.</p>	<p>INAB staff and functions were integrated into the Health and Safety Authority from 31 July 2014 with minimum disruption to INAB's provision of accreditation services to its clients or to its contracted suppliers of professional services.</p>

4. Corporate support programme 2014



Operational area	Planned actions 2014	Actions achieved in 2014
Human resources	<p>Implement electronic human resources system, including transition to central shared service model.</p> <p>Implement public sector reform measures in line with government policy, including redeployment and management of Employment Control Framework (ECF) targets.</p> <p>Manage staff occupational health and welfare service and employee assistance programmes.</p> <p>Co-ordinate delivery of annual learning and development programme and ensure ongoing development of staff competence.</p> <p>Provide technical support and assistance to line managers on all HR systems and policies.</p> <p>Continue to work co-operatively with staff and their union representatives to implement improvements and efficiencies in Authority processes.</p>	<p>The tender process for a new HR system was completed and a preferred supplier was selected. The implementation of this project will start in January 2015.</p> <p>All relevant <i>Haddington Road Agreement</i> efficiency measures were implemented. There was regular monitoring of staffing levels and timely reports on ECF targets were submitted to DJEI. Redeployment vacancies were circulated to relevant staff.</p> <p>Services including vaccinations, health screening, medical assessments and health promotion activities took place throughout the year. The service provider also provided regular support and advice on absence management to HR.</p> <p>Learning and development programmes were delivered and competence levels were assessed.</p> <p>All queries were responded to, with appropriate support and advice provided to staff and managers.</p> <p>Regular meetings took place with all staff unions and a number of efficiency measures were implemented through co-operative working relationships.</p>

4. Corporate support programme 2014

Operational area	Planned actions 2014	Actions achieved in 2014
Finance	<p>Provide effective financial management and procurement systems to enable best use of Authority resources.</p> <p>Manage the contracting out of the Authority's financial management system.</p>	<p>Effective financial management and procurement systems were reviewed regularly as part of the Authority's internal financial controls.</p> <p>A new financial management system was successfully implemented.</p>
Information communication technology	<p>Explore new technologies to enable more effective ways of working. Specifically, review operation of the inspection management system to identify measures that will improve inspection efficiency.</p> <p>Update the Authority's online accident reporting system to improve user experience for employers.</p> <p>Maintain and develop existing ICT systems to ensure a high level of system availability to users.</p> <p>Obtain best value in ICT procurement.</p> <p>The review and where necessary the re-engineering of INAB's ICT systems to allow their most effective integration into the Authority's ICT systems.</p>	<p>Workshops were held with relevant staff and a draft inspection document is to be prepared for early 2015.</p> <p>A revised online reporting system was developed and is due to go live in 2015.</p> <p>All service-level agreement metrics were achieved.</p> <p>Mobile, landline and PC frameworks were maintained and the government e-tenders website was used for significant ICT purchases.</p> <p>All ICT systems were ported across to the Authority without any disruption to the accreditation work of INAB. Further development work and integration is planned for 2015.</p>

4. Corporate support programme 2014

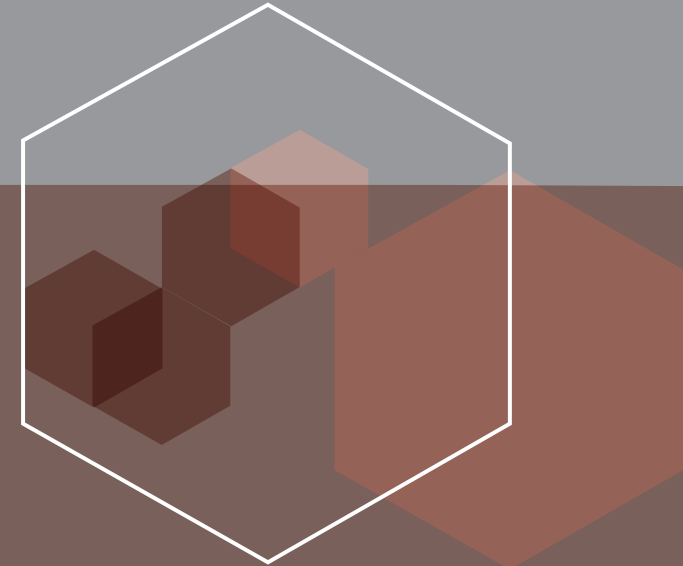
Operational area	Planned actions 2014	Actions achieved in 2013
Corporate governance	<p>Delivery of corporate publications, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Annual Report 2013 - Quarterly reports on programme of work 2014 to the Board of the Authority and to DJEI as part of the service-level agreement (SLA) with the Department - Programme of work 2015 <p>Issue all warrants to Authority inspectors, in accordance with the introduction of new legislation or changing inspector responsibilities.</p> <p>Issue warrants for temporary inspectors as required within tight deadlines.</p> <p>Facilitate the work of the new Board of the Authority in 2014. Complete induction for new Board members in Q1, 2014.</p> <p>Provide responses to all requests under Freedom of Information (FOI), Data Protection (DP) and Access to Information on the Environment (AIE) legislation within statutory timelines.</p>	<p>The Authority's Annual Report 2013 was published.</p> <p>Quarterly progress reports were submitted to the Board of the Authority and DJEI.</p> <p>The programme of work for 2015 was submitted to the minister by 31 October 2014.</p> <p>All permanent and temporary inspectors were appropriately warranted to conduct their work.</p> <p>Board papers were issued seven working days in advance of each Board meeting. Board induction was completed early in 2014. The provision of Board papers was successfully transferred to an electronic platform, resulting in efficiencies and significant time savings for Authority staff.</p> <p>All requests were responded to by statutory deadlines, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • thirty-seven FOI requests, • eight FOI internal reviews, • eight DP requests, • three AIE requests, and • two AIE internal reviews. <p>Records and correspondence were also provided to the Office of the Information Commissioner (OIC) in respect of two FOI appeals to that office. Both appeals were subsequently withdrawn.</p>

4. Corporate support programme 2014

Operational area	Planned actions 2014	Actions achieved in 2013
Research and statistics	<p>Develop more detailed statistical information on accidents and ill-health to enable efficient targeting of resources.</p> <p>Initiate a programme of research projects for 2014 and 2015 aimed at developing important insights in relation to safety and health at work and the Authority's effectiveness in contributing to workplace safety and health.</p>	<p>A summary of workplace injury, illness and fatality statistics for 2013 was published.</p> <p>Two draft research reports were delivered:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - trends and patterns in occupational health and safety in Ireland, and - health, safety and job quality: Ireland in comparative perspective <p>The findings of these reports will inform the development of the Authority's strategy for 2016–2018 and annual work programmes and will be published on the Authority website.</p>

Appendices

Appendix A: Extracts from the unaudited financial statements of the Health and Safety Authority for year ended 31 December 2014



¹The Authority submitted its unaudited accounts to the Comptroller and Auditor General (C&AG) as required under the Safety, Health and Welfare at Work Act 2005. The C&AG had not completed their audit work at the time of publication and the accounts are therefore listed as unaudited.

Introduction

In accordance with the requirements of Section 48 of the Safety, Health and Welfare at Work Act, 2005 the Health and Safety Authority is required to produce financial statements each year. The Authority's financial year ends on 31 December each year. The financial statements must be in such form as may be approved by the Minister for Jobs, Enterprise and Innovation with the concurrence of the Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform. In preparing those financial statements, the Authority is required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently,
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent,
- prepare the financial statements on the going-concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the Authority will continue in operation, and
- state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements.

The Authority is responsible for keeping proper books of account which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Authority and which enable it to ensure that the financial statements comply with Section 48(1) of the Safety, Health and Welfare at Work Act, 2005. The Authority is also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Authority and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Draft financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2014 have been prepared and were considered by the Board at its meeting held on Friday, 13 March 2015. The Board reviewed the draft financial statements and approved them on a no-material-change basis.

The Authority submits the draft financial statements as approved by the Board to the Office of the Comptroller and Auditor General who will conduct the external audit. The audit fieldwork is normally scheduled to take place during Q2 each year.

The information below is extracted from the draft financial statements and should not be considered to be a reliable source of financial information regarding the financial affairs of the Authority until the external audit is completed. The audited financial statements will include the following documentation:

- Statement on internal financial control
- Statement of Authority responsibilities
- Statement of accounting policies
- Income and expenditure account
- Statement of total recognised gains and losses
- Balance sheet as at 31 December 2014
- Cash flow statement

Once the external audit is completed and the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General is received, the Authority will make the necessary arrangements to submit the audited financial statements to the Minister for Jobs, Enterprise and Innovation to have them formally laid before the Houses of the Oireachtas.

A copy of the Authority's audited financial statements can be accessed on the Authority's website once the external audit has been completed.

During 2014 the Authority transferred the processing of all the Authority's financial transactions to an external contractor (Crowleys DFK). The Authority continues to manage the finance function and put in place all the necessary controls and safeguards to ensure the integrity of the function.

Statement of responsibilities of the Board

Section 48(1) of the Safety, Health and Welfare at Work Act, 2005 requires the Authority to keep in such form as may be approved by the Minister for Jobs, Enterprise and Innovation with the consent of the Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform, all proper and usual books or other records of account of all money received and expended by it and, in particular, requires the Authority to keep, in such form as aforesaid, all special accounts (if any) as the Minister may from time to time direct. In preparing those financial statements, the Authority is required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently,
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent,
- state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements, and
- prepare the financial statements on the going-concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the Authority will continue in operation.

The Authority is responsible for keeping proper books of account, which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time its financial position and which enables it to ensure that the financial statements comply with Section 48(1) of the Safety, Health and Welfare at Work Act, 2005. The Authority is also responsible for safeguarding its assets and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Statement on internal financial control

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

The system can only provide reasonable, and not absolute, assurance that the assets are safeguarded, transactions authorised and properly recorded, and that material errors or irregularities are either prevented or would be detected in a timely period.

Key control procedures

The Authority has taken steps to ensure an appropriate control environment by:

- clearly defining management responsibilities and powers,
- establishing formal procedures for reporting significant control failures and ensuring appropriate corrective action,
- establishing a process to safeguard the assets of the Authority, and
- developing a culture of accountability across all levels of the organisation.

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

- identifying the nature, extent and financial implications of risks facing the Authority, including the extent and categories which it regards as acceptable,
- assessing the likelihood of identified risks occurring,
- assessing the Authority's ability to manage and mitigate the risks that do occur,
- assessing the costs of operating particular controls relative to the benefit obtained, and
- working closely with government and various agencies to ensure that there is a clear understanding of the 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,
- regular reviews by the Board of periodic and annual reports, which indicate financial performance against forecasts,
- setting targets to measure financial and other performance,
- clearly defined purchasing and approval guidelines, and
- formal project management disciplines.

The Authority has put in place an internal audit function, which operates in accordance with the principles set out in the Code of Practice on the Governance of State Bodies published in June 2009. The work of internal audit is informed by analysis of the risk to which the Authority 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 and approved by the Board. At least annually, the internal auditor will provide the Authority 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 Authority'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 executive within the Authority with responsibility for the development and maintenance of the financial control framework, and comments made by the Comptroller and Auditor General in his management letter or other reports.

Annual review of controls

The Authority's audit committee reviews the effectiveness of the internal financial systems with a formal report then going to the Board. The Board has carried out a formal review of its internal financial controls in respect of 2014.

Income and Expenditure Account for Year ended 31st December 2014

	Year ended 31 December 2014	Year ended 31 December 2013
	€	€
Income		
Oireachtas grant	18,425,811	18,780,000
Accreditation income	354,176	-
Accreditation income	484,940	591,596
Other income reimbursed to DJEI	(641,000)	(647,000)
Transfer from/(to) capital account	(37,044)	62,810
Deferred pension funding	4,305,000	4,489,000
	22,891,883	23,276,406
Expenditure		
Salary costs	11,718,848	10,941,285
Pension costs	4,628,000	4,765,000
Operational expenses	7,253,769	7,524,640
	22,636,617	23,230,925
Excess of income over expenditure	255,266	45,481

All income and expenditure for the year ended 31 December 2014 relate to continuing activities.

Statement of total recognised gains and losses for the year ended 31 December 2014

	Year ended 31 December 2014	Year ended 31 December 2013
	€	€
Surplus/(deficit) for the year	255,266	45,481
Actual return less expected return on scheme assets	-	-
Experience (losses)/gains on pension scheme liabilities	353,000	(6,749,000)
Changes in actuarial assumptions	(17,514,000)	-
Actuarial (losses)/gains on pension liabilities	(17,161,000)	(6,749,000)
Adjustment to deferred pension funding	17,161,000	6,749,000
Total recognised gain/(loss) for the year	255,266	45,481

Balance sheet as at 31 December 2014

	31 December 2014	31 December 2013
Fixed assets	€	€
Tangible assets	370,620	333,575
Current assets		
Debtors	1,272,341	951,068
Bank and cash	712,979	750,574
	1,985,320	1,701,642
Creditors <i>(amounts falling due within one year)</i>	(863,245)	(834,832)
Net current assets	1,122,075	866,810
Total assets less current liabilities <i>Before pensions</i>	1,492,695	1,200,385
Fair value of deferred pension scheme assets	84,503,000	63,037,000
Present value of pension scheme liabilities	(84,503,000)	(63,037,000)
Total assets less current liabilities	1,492,695	1,200,385
Financed by		
Accumulated excess income over expenditure	1,122,076	866,810
Capital account	370,619	333,575
	1,492,695	1,200,385

Cashflow statement for the year ended 31 December 2014

	Year ended 31 December 2014	Year ended 31 December 2013
	€	€
Reconciliation of operating surplus to net cash inflow/(outflow) from operating activities		
Operating surplus for year	255,266	45,481
Interest earned	-	-
Depreciation	249,755	178,803
Loss on disposal of fixed assets	-	-
Transfer to/(from) capital account	37,044	(62,810)
Increase/(decrease) in creditors	28,412	(120,138)
(Increase)/decrease in debtors	(321,273)	(133,409)
Net cash inflow/(outflow) from operating activities	249,204	(92,073)
Cashflow statement		
Net cash inflow/(outflow) from operating activities	249,204	(92,073)
Returns on investment and servicing of finance		
Interest earned	-	-

Cashflow statement for the year ended 31 December 2014 continued

	Year ended 31 December 2014	Year ended 31 December 2013
	€	€
Net capital expenditure		
Payments to acquire tangible fixed assets	(286,799)	(115,993)
Net (decrease) in cash and bank balances	(37,595)	(208,066)
 Reconciliation of net cashflow to movement in net funds		
Net funds at 31 December 2013	750,574	958,640
Net funds at 31 December 2014	712,979	750,574
Net (decrease) in cash and bank balances	(37,595)	(208,066)

Other Income

	Year ended 31 December 2014	Year ended 31 December 2013
	€	€
Driver training course income	123,796	108,591
SEVESO	76,641	21,751
Fines – European agreement concerning the international carriage of dangerous goods by road (ADR)	13,450	14,460
Sale of Authority's publications	44,174	43,303
Miscellaneous (seminars, legal, witness Expenses, EU, Commission)	226,879	403,491
	484,940	591,596

Salary Costs

	Year ended 31 December 2014	Year ended 31 December 2013
	€	€
Gross salaries	10,841,688	10,106,049
Employer PRSI	877,160	835,236
Total salary costs	11,718,848	10,941,285
Actual staffing levels – professional/technical	118	114.3
Actual staffing levels – administration	49.1	48.1
	167.1	162.4
Approved ECF staffing levels	163	151

€727,210 (2013: €724,306) of pension levy has been deducted from staff and paid over to the Department of Jobs, Enterprise and Innovation.

CEO Remuneration

The Chief Executive Officer received a salary of €143,040 (2013: €148,435) and expenses to the value of €10,266 (2013: €10,310) in 2014.

Prior to the expiration of the CEO's contract in May 2012, the Board of the Authority decided to renew his contract, subject to the consent of the Minister. The Minister wrote to the Authority in June 2012 confirming that Mr O'Halloran should remain as CEO pending sanction for the terms and conditions of that appointment from the Department of Public Expenditure and Reform. This sanction has not yet been received.

The CEO did not receive any bonus or perquisites in the year.

The CEO's pension entitlements are in line with standard entitlements in the model public-sector defined-benefit superannuation scheme.

Members' Fees and Expenses

Director

	2014 Fees	2014 Expenses	2013 Fees	2013 Expenses
	€	€	€	€
Ms Mary Bohan	-	1,284	7,695	1,712
Ms Carol Bolger	7,695	200	-	-
Mr George Brett	7,695	1,941	7,695	1,800
Mr Robert Butler	7,695	-	-	-
Ms Marion Byron	-	-	7,695	-
Mr John Byrne	-	554	7,695	2,255
Mr Dermot Carey	-	228	7,695	856
Mr Paul Cullen (DJEI)	-	-	-	-
Mr Eamon Devoy	-	-	7,695	-
Dr Michael Gillen	7,695	-	-	-
Mr Michael Horgan (Chairman)	11,970	-	11,970	-
Mr Pat Kenny	7,695	-	-	-
Ms Esther Lynch	-	-	7,695	-
Mr Des Mahon	-	1,186	7,695	2,823
Mr John McCarthy	7,695	147	-	-
Mr John Newham (DJEI)	-	-	-	-
Mr Dan O'Connell	-	900	7,695	843
Ms Vicki O'Reilly	7,695	-	-	-
Prof James Phelan	7,695	-	-	-
Mr Dessie Robinson	-	-	7,695	-
Ms Christine Rowland	-	-	-	-
Mr Frank Vaughan	7,695	-	-	-
	81,225	6,440	88,920	10,289

Operational Expenses

	2014	2013
	€	€
Accommodation	1,855,990	1,909,738
Communications costs	325,029	427,195
Travel and subsistence	863,175	813,338
Publications and marketing	1,007,270	1,448,226
Legal services	63,792	279,530
Research and consultancy	922,645	809,773
Accreditation – external assessor costs	467,134	-
Business process review	141,384	263,879
Staffing costs	248,624	221,161
General equipment supplies	138,897	133,883
Investment in learning	166,876	154,259
Technology costs	559,372	585,329
Depreciation	249,755	178,803
Internal audit fees	6,642	16,263
External audit fees	15,510	15,400
Members' fees	81,225	88,920
Other	140,449	178,943
	7,253,769	7,524,640

Table B.1 Number of inspections 2004–2014

Year	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Total	11,382	13,552	15,365	13,631	16,009	18,451	16,714	15,340	13,835	12,244	10,719

Table B.2 Number of inspections in economic sectors and for particular topics 2014

Inspections under OSH legislation	Target	Achieved
Agriculture (2,590), forestry (100) and fishing (68)	3,000	2,758
Construction	2,500	2,758
Manufacturing	700	554
Wholesale and retail	550	673
Healthcare	300	242
Public administration	200	149
Mines and quarries	150	152
Transport and storage (including ADR inspections)	520	577
The inspections above also included a specific focus on the following topics where appropriate:		
- Diving (50)		
- Docks (50)		
- BeSMART awareness (409)		
- Slips, trips and falls (1,115)		
Reactive inspections in other sectors (follow up inspections due to poor compliance or in response to complaints or accidents)	200	506
Total inspections under OSH legislation	9,120	8,369
Inspections under Chemicals legislation		
Occupational hygiene (including REACH and CLP)	1,000	826
COMAH	200	179
Total inspections under Chemicals legislation	1,200	1,005
Investigations		
Investigations of fatalities, serious accidents, dangerous occurrences and complaints	1,200	1,345
Total Inspections and investigations		10,719
<i>Desk based assessments (not included in 10,719 inspections and investigations)</i>		161

Table B.3 Number of inspections in economic sectors and enforcement actions 2014

Economic Sector	Inspections and investigations ¹	Agreed prohibition	Improvement notice/direction	Payment in lieu	Prohibition notice	Verbal advice	Written advice	Total enforcement actions and advices given
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	2,851	0	209	1	123	1316	956	2,605
Mining and quarrying	175	0	10	0	2	64	72	148
Manufacturing	1,050	0	68	4	18	325	516	931
Electricity, gas, steam and air-conditioning supply	55	0	0	0	1	26	13	40
Water supply, sewerage, waste management and remediation activities	188	0	17	2	7	40	80	146
Construction	3,328	7	90	0	175	1,506	1,249	3,027
Wholesale and retail trade, repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles	1,093	0	55	10	25	248	508	846
Transportation and storage	694	0	18	44	8	87	149	306
Accommodation and food service activities	171	0	8	0	1	58	92	159
Information and communication	33	0	3	0	0	14	14	31

¹ These figures include inspections and investigations carried out in the sector under occupational safety and health and chemicals legislation

Table B.3 Number of inspections in economic sectors and enforcement actions 2014 (continued)

Economic Sector	Inspections and investigations ¹	Agreed prohibition	Improvement notice/direction	Payment in lieu	Prohibition notice	Verbal advice	Written advice	Total enforcement actions and advices given
Financial and insurance activities	19	0	0	0	0	2	9	11
Real estate activities	31	0	1	0	2	5	10	18
Professional, scientific and technical activities	105	0	1	0	0	42	45	88
Administrative and support service activities	108	0	3	1	3	30	47	84
Public administration and defence, compulsory social security	222	0	7	0	0	72	66	145
Education	53	0	0	0	3	9	33	45
Human health and social work activities	324	0	14	0	1	66	159	240
Arts, entertainment and recreation	78	0	1	0	1	28	39	69
Other service activities	138	0	6	0	3	31	64	104
Others	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	10,719	7	511	62	373	3,969	4,121	9,043

¹ These figures include inspections and investigations carried out in the sector under occupational safety and health and chemicals legislation

Table B.4 Health and safety management compliance in main economic sectors 2014

Sector (sample size)	Safety statement prepared and available at workplace (%)	Enforcement action taken for safety statement (written advice or notice served)	Safety consultation process in place	Safety representative selected	Had reportable accidents in previous 12 months	Accidents reported to the Authority
Agriculture, forestry and fishing (2,750)	65	26	-	4	1	16
Construction (2,907)	79	15	94	17	4	17
Wholesale and retail trade (891)	68	43	89	19	6	69
Manufacturing (837)	82	32	94	38	16	38
Health (258)	90	42	94	33	89	62
Overall NACE sectors (9,324)	74	25	91	25	7	43

Table B.5 Items reviewed in safety statement and compliance rates in the main economic sectors 2014

Sector (sample size)	Safety statement identified relevant hazards (%)	Safety statement contains relevant risk assessments	Safety Statement specifies appropriate control measures	Control measures implemented	Safety statement identifies resources	Safety Statement allocates responsibilities
Agriculture, forestry and fishing (291)	94	90	94	90	62	83
Construction (1,139)	96	95	92	83	94	88
Wholesale and retail trade (311)	85	82	81	85	85	90
Manufacturing (367)	84	77	76	79	81	86
Health (123)	82	74	80	78	85	88
Overall NACE sectors (9,324)	90	87	86	82	85	90

Type of proceeding	Total heard	% of cases heard summarily or on indictment	Dismissals	Under appeal	Suspended sentence	Community service	Probation act ²	Fines €
Summary	13	40%	0	0	0	0	5	21,500
On Indictment	19	60%	3	2	1	2	0	272,400
Total	32	100%	3	2	1	2	5	293,900

² Where a prosecution resulted in the application of the Probation of Offenders Act 1907, the outcome and circumstances giving rise to the summary prosecutions where the Probation Act was applied were as follows:

1. A guilty plea was entered with the Probation Act applied and a donation of €4,000 to the court poor box. The prosecution related to an incident where an employee suffered amputation to part of their small finger when entrapped in an unguarded chain and sprocket.
2. A guilty plea was entered with the Probation Act applied and a donation of €1,500 to charity. The prosecution related to an incident where an employee fell from a ladder from a height of over four metres and suffered serious injury.
3. A guilty plea was entered with the Probation Act applied and a donation of €5,000 to charity. The prosecution related to an incident where an employee suffered a fatal injury when struck by a reversing teleporter.
4. A guilty plea was entered with the Probation Act applied and a donation of €500 to charity. The prosecution related to an incident where an employee fell over two metres due to the failure of a rotten scaffold board. The employee suffered fractures to his wrist, ankle and vertebrae.
5. A guilty plea was entered with the Probation Act applied and a donation of €5,000 to charity. The prosecution related to an incident where a member of the public suffered serious injury when present at a place of work.

In these cases where the Probation Act was applied, the defendants were called upon by the Court to make charitable donations that amounted in total to €16,000.

Wexford Block Ltd (in receivership)**Summary**

The case arose when an employee, employed under the Jobsbridge Initiative with Wexford Block Ltd, suffered serious injuries, including a broken arm, when he became entangled in the drive tail-drum of Conveyor 1 at Wexford Block Ltd at approximately 16.15hrs on 15 January 2013. The final date of hearing was 27 January 2014 in Wexford District Court, Ardavan, Co Wexford.

Contravention	Legislation	Verdict	Fine
Regulation 33(e)	Safety, Health and Welfare at Work (General Application) Regulations 2007	Guilty plea	€1,000

Shannon Transport and Manufacturing Company t/a STL Logistics**Summary**

This case arose when an employee operating a de-canning machine on 5 November 2012 suffered serious injuries to the tops of two middle fingers due to contact with dangerous moving parts inside the machine. The investigation established that the safety guard was not in place for several weeks before the accident. Case was heard in Limerick District Court on 7 March 2014.

Contravention	Legislation	Verdict	Fine
Section 8(2)(c)(iii) contrary to Section 77(9)(a)	Safety Health and Welfare at Work Act 2005	Guilty plea	€4,000
Section 19(1) contrary to Section 77(2)(a)	Safety Health and Welfare at Work Act 2005	Guilty plea	Taken into consideration
Regulation 33(e) contrary to Section 77(2)(c)	Safety Health and Welfare at Work (General Applications) Regulations 2007	Guilty plea	Taken into consideration

Henkel Ireland Limited**Summary**

On 27 May 2014 at Dublin District Court, Henkel Ireland Ltd pleaded guilty to two charges. On 7 May 2011 at a plant in Ballyfermot, Dublin 10, persons who were employed by a subcontractor were exposed to hazardous chemicals and not given proper personal protection equipment or provided with proper ventilation.

Contravention	Legislation	Verdict	Fine
Section 12 contrary to Section 77(9)(a)	Safety Health and Welfare at Work Act 2005	Guilty plea	€2,500
Section 12 contrary to Section 77(9)(a)	Safety Health and Welfare at Work Act 2005	Guilty plea	€2,500

Bus Éireann–Irish Bus**Summary**

On 9 September 2014 at Ballina District Court, Bus Éireann–Irish Bus pleaded guilty to one charge. On 14 April 2011 Bus Éireann was off-loading a fuel tank using a teleporter at the depot in Ballina, Co Mayo when the fuel tank fell off the teleporter, crushing the driver and causing fatal injuries.

Contravention	Legislation	Verdict	Fine
Section 12 contrary to Section 77(9)(a)	Safety Health and Welfare at Work Act 2005	Guilty plea	€3,000

Boston Access Limited**Summary**

This case arose when two employees of Boston Access Limited received burn injuries in Naas Industrial Estate when they lifted a scaffolding tube approximately 6 metres long, making contact with a 10,000 volt overhead line 7 metres high. The final hearing was 6 October 2014 in Naas District Court.

Contravention	Legislation	Verdict	Fine
Regulation 93 (2)(c)	Safety Health and Welfare at Work General Application Regulations 2007	Guilty plea	€2,500

Irish Oxygen Company Ltd**Summary**

This case arose when an acetylene cylinder ruptured explosively on 21 June 2012 whilst being filled at the Irish Oxygen Company Limited (IOC), Waterfall Road, Cork. One employee who was in the vicinity of the explosion received minor burn injuries. A large quantity of asbestos-containing material was spread over the scene of the incident. The underside of the acetylene cylinder was found to have an excessive amount of corrosion that led to the failure of the cylinder during filling. The final date of hearing was 15 October 2014 in Cork District Court.

Contravention	Legislation	Verdict	Fine
Section 8 (1)	Safety Health and Welfare at Work Act 2005	Guilty plea	€2,500

Cementation Skanska Ireland Ltd**Summary**

This case arose when the company was carrying out pressure grouting to control water ingress into the mine on 25 July 2013. The injured party (employee) lost his left thumb when he came in contact with the unguarded fan on the motor of a paddle mixer. The final date of hearing was 22 October 2014 in Navan District Court.

Contravention	Legislation	Verdict	Fine
Section 8(2)(a) contrary to Section 77(2)(a)	Safety Health and Welfare at Work Act 2005	Guilty plea	Taken into consideration
Section 8(2)(a) contrary to Section 77(9)(a)	Safety Health and Welfare at Work Act 2005	Guilty plea	€3,500

Paul Dyer**On Indictment**

On 25 February 2014, at Cork Circuit Criminal Court, Washington Street, Paul Dyer pleaded guilty to three charges. On 9 October 2009 in Bantry, Co Cork, an employee of Paul Dyer was fatally electrocuted when he picked up a damaged cable.

Contravention	Legislation	Verdict	Fine
Regulation 81(4)(a)(iii) contrary to Section 77(2)(c)	Safety Health and Welfare at Work (General Application) Regulations 2007 Safety Health and Welfare at Work Act 2005	Guilty plea	12 months suspended custodial sentence
Section 19(1) contrary to Section 77 (2)(a)	Safety Health and Welfare at Work Act 2005	Guilty plea	Taken into consideration
Section 20(1) contrary to Section 77 (2)(a)	Safety Health and Welfare at Work Act 2005	Guilty plea	Taken into consideration

AGT Services Ltd**On Indictment**

On 8 July 2014 at Nenagh Circuit Criminal Court, AGT Services Ltd pleaded guilty to one charge. On 11 May 2010, AGT Services Ltd supplied on hire a dump truck which was used during the construction of the M7 Nenagh to Castletown Road Scheme.

Contravention	Legislation	Verdict	Fine
Regulation 31 (c) contrary to 77(2)(a)	Safety Health and Welfare at work (General Application) Regulations 2007 Safety Health and Welfare at Work Act 2005	Guilty plea	€15,000

See also Kelly's of Fantane (Concrete) Ltd and Somague Engenharia SA

Somague Engenharia SA**On indictment**

On 9 July 2014 at Nenagh Circuit Criminal Court, Somague Engenharia SA pleaded guilty to one charge. The PSCS, Somague Engenharia, failed to ensure the provision of an appropriate traffic and pedestrian management plan on the construction site on the M7 Nenagh to Castletown Road scheme.

Contravention	Legislation	Verdict	Fine
Regulation 87(2) (b)contrary to Section 77(2)(a)	Safety Health and Welfare at Work (Construction) Regulations 2006 Safety Health and Welfare at Work Act 2005	Guilty plea	€10,000

See also AGT Services Ltd and Kelly's of Fantane (Concrete) Ltd

Kelly's of Fantane (Concrete) Ltd**On indictment**

On 11 July 2014 at Nenagh Circuit Criminal Court, Kelly's of Fantane (Concrete) Ltd pleaded guilty to one charge. On 11 May 2010, Kelly's of Fantane (Concrete) Ltd was involved in construction work on the construction of the M7 road scheme. They were laying road-surfacing materials and using six 40-tonne dump trucks to transport it from the batching plant to the location where it was to be laid. In the course of this work, the dump trucks had to engage in reversing manoeuvres. Whilst one of the dump trucks was being reversed, it collided with and fatally injured an employee of Kelly's of Fantane (Concrete) Ltd.

Contravention	Legislation	Verdict	Fine
Section 8(2)(a) contrary to Section 77(9)(a)	Safety Health and Welfare at Work Act 2005	Guilty plea	€20,000

See also *AGT Services Ltd* and *Somague Engenharia SA*

P.J. Friel**On indictment**

On 16 July 2014 at Letterkenny Circuit Criminal Court, P.J. Friel pleaded guilty to one charge. On 29 April 2009 Mr Patrick Joseph Friel, company director, instructed three employees of P.J. Friel Engineering Limited to travel to Meenawaughran, Carrick, Co Donegal to remove old corrugated sheets from a round roof shed and replace them with new corrugated sheets and gutters. On 5 May 2009, in the course of carrying out the work, one of the employees fell from a ladder while he was carrying one end of a 12' x 2' corrugated sheet up to the roof, struck his head on the ground below, and suffered fatal injuries.

Contravention	Legislation	Verdict	Fine
Section 8(2)(e) contrary to Section 77(9)(a) Section 80	Safety Health and Welfare at Work Act 2005	Guilty plea	€1,200

See also *P.J. Friel Engineering Ltd*

P.J. Friel Engineering Ltd**On indictment**

On 15 July 2014 at Letterkenny Circuit Criminal Court, P.J. Friel Engineering Ltd pleaded guilty to one charge. On 29 April 2009, Mr Patrick Joseph Friel, the company director, instructed three employees of P.J. Friel Engineering Ltd to travel to Meenawaughran, Carrick, Co Donegal to remove old corrugated sheets from a round roof shed and replace them with new corrugated sheets and gutters. On 5 May 2009, in the course of carrying out the work, one of the employees fell from a ladder while he was carrying one end of a 12' x 2' corrugated sheet up to the roof, struck his head on the ground below, and suffered fatal injuries.

Contravention	Legislation	Verdict	Fine
Section 8(2)(e) contrary to Section 77(9)(a)	Safety Health and Welfare at Work Act 2005	Guilty plea	€1,200

See also P.J. Friel

Terralift (Ireland) Ltd**On indictment**

On 25 June 2014, at Monaghan Circuit Criminal Court, Terralift (Ireland) Ltd pleaded guilty to one charge. On 14 September 2010 an employee of Terralift (Ireland) Ltd was in the process of cleaning the roof and gutters on a warehouse in Tullynahatina, Castleblayney, Co Monaghan when he fell through a fragile roof light and was fatally injured.

Contravention	Legislation	Verdict	Fine
Section 8(2)(a) contrary to Section 77(9)(a)	Safety Health and Welfare at Work Act 2005	Guilty plea	€30,000

Robert Woods**On Indictment**

On 25 June 2014, at Monaghan Circuit Criminal Court, Robert Woods pleaded guilty to one charge. On 14 September 2010, Robert Woods, Plant Foreman, instructed three employees in the cleaning of a roof and gutters. An employee of Terralift (Ireland) Ltd was in the process of cleaning the roof and gutters on a warehouse in Tullynahatina, Castleblayney, Co Monaghan when he fell through a fragile roof light and was fatally injured.

Contravention	Legislation	Verdict	Fine
Section 14(b) contrary to Section 77(2)(b)	Safety Health and Welfare at Work Act 2005	Guilty plea	€10,000

See also Terralift (Ireland) Ltd

AB Access Ltd**On indictment**

On 2 July 2014, at Naas Circuit Criminal Court, AB Access Ltd pleaded guilty to one charge. On 10 November 2010 AB Access Ltd, at a premises at Athy, Co Kildare, failed to ensure that a guard rail on a roof was so placed to prevent the fall of any employee.

Contravention	Legislation	Verdict	Fine
Regulation 103 (2)(c) contrary to 77(2)(c)	Safety Health and Welfare at Work (General Application) Regulations 2007 Safety Health and Welfare at Work Act 2005	Guilty plea	€25,000

See also BIS Willich Industrial Services Ltd

BIS Willich Industrial Services Ltd**On indictment**

On 2 July 2014 at Naas Circuit Criminal Court, BIS Willich Industrial Services Ltd pleaded guilty to one charge. BIS Willich Industrial Services Ltd failed to manage and conduct its work activities in such a way so as to ensure the safety of their employees, and as a result an employee fell whilst removing sheeting from the roof of a premises in Athy, Co Kildare, and suffered fatal injuries.

Contravention	Legislation	Verdict	Fine
Section 8 (2)(a) contrary to Section 77(9)(a)	Safety Health and Welfare at Work Act 2005	Guilty plea	€100,000

See also AB Access Ltd

Arrabawn Co-operative Society Limited, trading as Dan O'Connor Feeds**On indictment**

On 16 June 2014, at Limerick Circuit Criminal Court, Arrabawn Co-operative Society Limited, t/a Dan O'Connor Feeds, pleaded guilty to two charges. At Ballysimon Road, Limerick on 3 April 2012, the owner of a contract truck transport business which had been contracted by Dan O'Connor Feeds to transport animal feedstuffs from their manufacturing facility located at Ballysimon Road, Limerick, was loading up feedstuffs into his truck when his right arm was severed below the elbow after it came in contact with dangerous moving parts inside an unguarded opening of a chain conveyor.

Contravention	Legislation	Verdict	Fine
Section 12 contrary to Section 77(9)(a)	Safety Health and Welfare at Work Act 2005	Guilty plea	€25,000
Regulation 33 (e) contrary to Section 77(2)(c)	Safety Health and Welfare at Work (General Application) Regulations 2007 Safety Health and Welfare at Work Act 2005	Guilty plea	Taken into consideration

James Lambert**On Indictment**

On 22 October 2014 at Dublin Circuit Criminal Court, the accused, a director of TBC Bar Ltd, was sentenced, having pleaded guilty to two charges. An employee of TBC Bar Ltd was fatally injured when he was crushed between the lift shaft and lift car of a goods lift on 23 August 2009 at The Blu Bar, Tuansgate, Tallaght, Dublin 24.

Contravention	Legislation	Verdict	Fine
Section 14 (b) contrary to Section 77(2)(b)	Safety Health and Welfare at Work Act 2005	Guilty plea	200 hours community service
Section 8(2)(b) contrary to Section 77(9)(a) and Section 80	Safety Health and Welfare at Work Act 2005	Guilty plea	Taken into consideration

See also David McKee

David McKee**On indictment**

On 22 October 2014 at Dublin Circuit Criminal Court, the accused was sentenced, having earlier pleaded guilty to three charges. An employee of TBC Bar Ltd was fatally injured when he was crushed between the lift shaft and lift car of a goods lift on 23 August 2009 at The Blu Bar, Tuansgate, Tallaght, Dublin 24.

Contravention	Legislation	Verdict	Fine
Section 14 (b) contrary to Section 77(9)(a)	Safety Health and Welfare at Work Act 2005	Guilty plea	200 hours community service
Section 14 (b) contrary to Section 77(2)(b)	Safety Health and Welfare at Work Act 2005	Guilty plea	Taken into consideration
Section 8(2)(b) contrary to Section 77(9)(a) and Section 80	Safety Health and Welfare at Work Act 2005	Guilty plea	Taken into consideration

See also James Lambert

P. Elliott and Company Ltd**On indictment**

On 20 July 2010 at Dublin Circuit Criminal Court, P. Elliott and Company Ltd pleaded guilty to two charges. On 24 October 2006 at a construction site in Clare Hall, Dublin, an employee of a subcontractor of the accused was seriously injured when a steel reinforcement cage which was being lifted overhead fell from a crane. The crane was being used to transfer the steel cage from the roof where it was stored to ground level.

Contravention	Legislation	Verdict	Fine
Section 12 contrary to Section 77 (9)(a)	Safety Health and Welfare at Work Act 2005	Guilty plea	€30,000
Regulation 9(1)(a) and 15 (1) contrary to Section 77(2)(c)	Safety Health and Welfare at Work (Construction) Regulations 2001 Safety Health and Welfare at Work Act 2005	Guilty plea	€5,000

The legislative development programme in 2014 primarily concentrated on assisting DJEI in relation to legislative proposals and assisting in cases where there was an urgent requirement to transpose EU directives into Irish law.

Planned legislation	Activity in 2014
Support transposition of Seveso III directive	Regulatory impact assessment produced and public consultation completed.
Support transposition of Chemical Handling Directive	Supported DJEI and OPC in development of regulations.
Draft General Application Amendment Regulations relating to review of the Safety in Industries Act in respect of woodworking, abrasive wheels and abrasive blasting	Supported DJEI and OPC in development of regulations.
Review of Extractive Industries Regulations	Onshore and Offshore Drilling Regulations prepared and public consultation completed. Supported DJEI in further development of regulations.
Support replacement of Dangerous Substances Act and associated Regulations	Supported DJEI in inter-departmental consultations.
Finalise Mines legislation	Supported DJEI and OPC in development of regulations.
Finalise transposition of the Sharps Directive	European Union (Prevention of Sharps Injuries in the Healthcare Sector) Regulations 2014, SI No. 135 of 2014 came into operation on 14 March 2014.
Finalise Diving legislation	Supported DJEI and OPC in development of regulations.
Finalise Reporting of Accidents legislation	Supported DJEI and OPC in development of regulations.
Review of Quarry Regulations	Regulations prepared and consulted on; finalised draft sent to DJEI.
Provide technical support to DJEI on preparing new national regulations implementing the EU Rotterdam Regulation (EC) No. 649/2012	Supported DJEI in early development of draft Chemicals Act 2008 (Rotterdam Regulation) Regulations.
Provide technical support to DJEI in preparing draft Chemical Handling Directive 2014/27/EU	Supported DJEI and OPC in development of draft regulations.
Provide technical advice to DJEI on new national Detergents Regulations implementing Detergent Regulation No. 259/2012	Supported DJEI and OPC in development of draft Chemicals Act (Detergents) Regulations.

Planned codes of practice	Activity in 2014
Diving	Deferred until finalisation of regulations.
Finalise updates to codes of practice following Construction Regulations 2013	Finalised codes of practice on roof work, underground services and working on roads.
Docks	Transmitted to DJEI for ministerial signature.
Chemical Agents OELV	Transmitted to DJEI for ministerial signature.
Planned guidance documents	Activity in 2014
Guidelines to the Safety, Health and Welfare at Work (Biological Agents) Regulations 2013	Published guidance.
Guidance on safety with lead at work	Published guidance.
Local exhaust ventilation (LEV) guidance	Published guidance.
Wetstock reconciliation at fuel-storage facilities guidance	Published guidance.
Guide to the European Union (prevention of sharps injuries in the healthcare sector) regulations 2014	Published guidance.
Develop guidance as part of campaign aimed at reducing death and injuries amongst fishermen	Published <i>Too Cold for Sharks</i> and guidance on managing safety and health in fishing and safety statements for fishing vessels.

Planned information sheets	Activity in 2014
Develop forestry information sheet	Published information sheet.
Develop composting information sheet	Published information sheet.
Develop information sheet on labelling and packaging requirements for detergents and biological detergent products	Published information sheet.
Develop information sheet on hazard labelling and packaging according to the CLP regulation	Published information sheet.
Develop information sheet on managing the risk of work-related violence and aggression in healthcare	Published information sheet.
Develop information sheet on controlling waste anaesthetic gases in healthcare settings	Published information sheet.
Develop information sheet on REACH – production, import and supply of articles	Published information sheet.
Develop occupational hygiene report-writing information sheet	Published information sheet.
Develop building and monument maintenance pictograms	Published pictograms.
Develop pedestrian safety in the workplace information sheet	Published information sheet.
Develop forklift safety tips information sheet	Published information sheet.
Develop forklift operator pre-checks information sheet	Published information sheet.
Develop information sheet on delivery	Published information sheet.

The Chemicals Act of 2008 provides for the national administration and enforcement of the REACH, Detergents and Rotterdam (Prior Informed Consent) Regulations. The Chemicals (Amendment) Act of 2010 provides for the incorporation of the CLP Regulation within the ambit of the 2008 Chemicals Act. The Health and Safety Authority (herein referred to as 'the Authority') was appointed as the principal national authority under the Chemicals Acts 2008. In addition, a further five national authorities have administration or enforcement obligations under these two Acts, namely the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine (REACH, CLP and PIC), the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) (REACH and Detergents), Beaumont Hospital Board (CLP and Detergents), the Customs Division of the Revenue Commissioners (PIC) and the Irish National Accreditation Board (INAB) (Detergents).

Section 8(4) of the 2008 Act requires a national authority (other than the Authority) to furnish a report to the Authority within two months after the end of each year. Such a report is to include information as may be required and requested by the Authority. In fulfilment of its statutory duties under the Act, the Authority has prepared the following Chemicals Acts Report for 2014 from the details provided by each of the above national authorities.



1. Revenue Commissioners

The Revenue Commissioners are the designated national authority under Article 17 of the Rotterdam Regulation and the Revenue's Customs Service is responsible for the control of the import and export of dangerous chemicals as listed in that regulation. For this purpose, profiles have been set into Revenue's Automated Entry Processing (AEP) Customs clearance system. This means that the AEP system is programmed to flag various export declarations to Customs staff. There is a series of checks and balances in the Customs system to ensure that only those chemicals that are in compliance with the PIC requirements are exported. Where there is any question regarding the Reference Indication Number (RIN), the requirement for an RIN, or the export of a certain chemical, Customs contacts the appropriate

designated national authority for clarification on the status of the chemical in question.

Revenue has (through its Customs Consultative Committee) informed the trade of the export declaration and RIN requirements for the exportation of chemicals covered by the Rotterdam Regulation. The public can access the staff manual via the Revenue website.

The Revenue website also sets out general information in respect of prohibited/restricted goods and this includes information in respect of the exportation of dangerous chemicals under the Rotterdam Regulation: <http://www.revenue.ie/en/customs/prohibitions-restrictions/index.html>.

Enforcement activities from a Customs perspective include the electronic profiling of certain dangerous chemicals on the AEP system and the validation by Customs staff of RINs at exportation where relevant. An information

manual has been issued to all Customs staff, which outlines the procedures to be used in the exportation of chemicals specified by the Rotterdam Regulation.

Co-operation between Customs and the two designated national authorities, Health and Safety Authority and Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine is set out in a Memorandum of Understanding, which was signed in July 2010.

2. Beaumont Hospital Board

Beaumont Hospital Board is the appointed body responsible for receiving information relating to emergency health response (Article 9(3) of the Detergents Regulation and Article 45 of the CLP Regulation) and has designated the National Poisons Information Centre (NPIC) to perform this function.

Under Article 45 of the CLP Regulations, the European Commission carried out a review to assess the possibility of harmonising the

information to be submitted to poisons centres and appointed bodies, including establishing a format for the submission of information by importers and downstream users. As members of the European Association of Poisons Centres and Clinical Toxicologists (EAPCCT), the Director and Manager of the NPIC contributed to the discussions with the Commission and industry about a harmonised data set for poisons centres. The NPIC also responded to the Commission survey on the cost/cost savings for poison centres related to the harmonisation of product notification in October 2014. The NPIC provided feedback and comments to the Authority in relation to this review as it was discussed in the CARACAL (Competent Authority) meetings on REACH and CLP in the course of the year.

One of the major areas for co-operation between the NPIC and the Authority in 2014 was the issue of detergent liquid tabs. The NPIC provided quarterly updates to the HSA on incidents involving

detergent capsules during 2014, as well as feedback and comments on the proposed changes to CLP in relation to these products. The NPIC attended meetings with the HSA and industry representatives to highlight the impact of these incidents and facilitated input from paediatricians treating the children who had been exposed to such products.



The NPIC continued to monitor incidents involving liquid detergent sachets/capsules to assess the impact of the additional packaging and labelling

measures introduced towards the end of 2013 as part of a voluntary product stewardship programme for such products. The NPIC shared on their Facebook page messages from the HSA and from industry, reminding parents of the need to store liquid detergent capsules safely to prevent accidental childhood exposures. In addition, the NPIC is taking part in a European study, funded by the International Association for Soaps, Detergents and Maintenance Products (AISE), to collect information on how poisoning incidents with detergent capsules occur, with the aim of identifying additional measures to prevent these exposures.

In 2014 the NPIC answered 2,086 enquiries about suspected human poisoning/exposure incidents involving household chemical products, including 969 detergent products. Fabric cleaning products (particularly liquid detergent sachets/capsules), bleach, dishwasher products and toilet cleaners/fresheners were the most frequently

implicated detergent products. The NPIC has also partnered with the Irish Cosmetics Detergent and Allied Products Association (ICDA) to produce educational materials on preventing poisoning from household products, with the tagline "Good Prevention, No Accident".

Although no formal agreements or MoUs are in place between the Authority and the NPIC, good co-operation and collaboration has allowed both organisations to work closely on the issue of the detergent liquid tabs. This work will continue during 2015.

3. Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine

As Competent Authority for REACH, CLP and PIC, the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine is active in a number of European Chemicals Agency (ECHA) working groups and committees that are relevant for their Competent



Authority and enforcement authority obligations under plant protection and biocide legislation. Under REACH, the Department provides an expert to the Risk Assessment Committee (RAC). In this regard, the expert attended four RAC meetings in 2014. In addition, four CLH dossiers were submitted to ECHA for public consultation and consideration by the RAC. Two pesticide CLH reviews were also finalised in 2014 by the RAC rapporteur.

Other working groups attended included

three meetings of the Endocrine Disruptor Expert Working Group. Two meetings of the nanomaterials working group were also participated in, and co-operation between the Department and the Authority on nanomaterials occurred at frequent intervals in 2014, with both parties providing feedback and comments on activities at Commission and ECHA levels.

In relation to the Rotterdam Regulation, the department participated in one PIC workshop; no DNA meetings were attended, although written comments were provided.

The Department continued its input to guidance developments in relation to REACH, CLP and the implementation of the PIC Regulation.

No specific REACH, CLP or Rotterdam inspections were carried out in 2014 as DAFM enforces the REACH and CLP regulations in the context of enforcement of the plant protection product and biocides legislation. Notification/authorisation/

registration of pesticide products to DAFM included a check on the REACH compliance of safety data sheets. DAFM checks the labelling and classification of pesticide products during the notification/authorisation of products with a specific programme in 2014 of checking compliance of pesticide product labels. There were no relevant imports or exports of pesticides within the scope of the Rotterdam Regulation in 2014.

4. Environmental Protection Agency

In 2014, the responsibility for REACH moved to the Office of Climate, Licensing, Resource and Research, with activities relating to process-compliance monitoring for use of Annex XIV substances and market surveillance, taking account of relevant obligations set out under Regulation (EC) No 765/2008 identified as a priority.

A number of REACH regulation requirements, relating to industrial sites operating under an Industrial Emissions Directive (Directive 2010/75/EU) permit within the State, have been implemented. The revised Industrial Emissions Licence Application Form (Section G.1) requires applicants to list and identify substances listed under Annex XIV of the regulation. Additionally, the EPA guidance for licensees on requests for alterations to installation/facility highlights that a proposed alternation involving an emission of a substance listed under Annex XIV is a significant alteration that is likely to require a licence review or a new licence. Further work on the permitting process under the Industrial Emissions Directive relating to REACH Regulation requirements and other strategies is envisaged to be completed during 2015.

In relation to enforcement activity, the EPA carried out two inspection campaigns to ascertain if certain products, non-compliant with the REACH

regulation and the subject of RAPEX notifications, had been placed on the market within the State. A total of 50 inspections were carried out at importer and retailer premises and observations and enquiries were made concerning the products. None of the non-compliant products relating to the RAPEX notifications were observed or reported to have been placed on the market within the State.



The EPA is not a member of the main REACH committees or working groups, but does contribute at a national level to requests for data and information that member states, the Commission or ECHA may request. In this regard, the EPA provided input in relation to requests for information regarding (a) Nonylphenol; (b) Polycyclic Aromatic Hydrocarbons and Phthalates; and (c) the questionnaire relating to the European Union Network for the Implementation and Enforcement of Environmental Law (IMPEL) project on *Linking the Directive on Industrial Emissions (IED) and the REACH Regulation*.

5. Irish National Accreditation Board (INAB)

INAB reported there were no GLP facilities or accredited laboratories (ISO 17025) providing laboratory services under the Detergent Regulations.

This statement of compliance must be read in conjunction with the statement of internal control that appears in both the Annual Report and financial statements of the Authority. This statement seeks to provide assurance in connection with a range of items detailed in Paragraph 13.1 of the code that are not addressed in the statement of internal financial control.

A code of standards and behaviour has been put in place for employees and a code of corporate governance has been put in place for Board members and both are adhered to.

Government policy on the pay of chief executives and all state-body employees is being complied with. Details of the salary of the chief executive officer are published in the Annual Report and financial statements.

Government guidelines on the payment of directors' fees and expenses are being complied with. The fees and expenses paid to Board members during 2014 are detailed in a note to the financial statements and in the Annual Report.

There have been no significant post-balance-sheet events.

The Authority has complied with the government travel policies in all respects, is adhering to the relevant procurement policy and procedures, and is compliant with the asset-disposal procedures.

The Authority was in compliance with all relevant tax laws and the *Code of Practice for the Governance of State Bodies* is being complied with.

On behalf of the Board.

Michael Horgan

Chairperson

March 2015

*A country where
worker safety, health
and welfare and
the safe management
of chemicals are
central to successful
enterprise*

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