

“Knowing the rules is one thing, making a real difference is something else”

Judith Hackitt CBE

Chair, Health and Safety Executive

**“Regulation and risk management –
the pivotal role
of the health and safety professional”**

Judith Hackitt CBE

Chair, Health and Safety Executive

Topics to be covered

- Reputation and “elf n safety” gone mad
- Broader changes – workforce, workplace, economy
- The new strategy for Health and Safety in Great Britain
- From strategy to delivery
- Roles and responsibilities
- The 21st century H&S professional
- Questions



The Brand Gap

- 229 fatal injuries to workers
- 28,000 major injuries to workers
- 110,000 absences of 3 days or more
- 2 million+ people made ill or made worse by work
- Conkers
- Pancakes
- Fun Police
- Risk Aversion
- Compensation Culture
- Civil litigation
-

Elf n Safety – a basket for all risks



But what can we do?

- Be more consistent and proportionate
- Ensure that we are enablers
- Apply your knowledge appropriately
- Recognise the business needs and pressures
 - Especially during the current economic climate
- But still maintaining standards of Health and Safety

A new Health and Safety Strategy for Great Britain



- Our mission:
- *The prevention of death, injury and ill health to those at work and those affected by work activities*



Our Goals

- investigation of work related accidents/ill health and taking enforcement action when appropriate
- encourage strong leadership/common sense approach to H&S in the workplace
- motivate focus on the core aims of H&S, helping risk makers/managers distinguish between real H&S issues and trivial/ill-informed criticism



Our Goals

- encourage increase in competence, enabling greater ownership/profiling of risk, promoting sensible/proportionate risk management
- reinforce promotion of worker involvement/consultation in H&S in unionised/non-unionised workplaces of all sizes



Our Goals

- target key health issues and work with bodies best placed to bring about reduction in number of cases of work related ill health.
- set priorities and identify which activities deliver a significant reduction in rate/number of deaths/accidents
- adapt/customise approaches to help the increasing numbers of SMEs in different sectors



Our Goals

- reduce likelihood of low frequency/high impact catastrophic incidents while ensuring that GB maintains its capabilities in those industries strategically important to the country's economy and social infrastructure
- take account of wider issues that impact on H&S as part of our continuing drive to improve GB's H&S performance

What next?

- Consultation period over
- More than 700 people involved in workshops + >200 written responses
- Launch of final version of strategy late May/early June
- ----- Delivery!!

The pivotal role of H&S managers and professionals



- Facilitators, Advisers, Champions not managers
- Influence up as well as down
- Help others to think – don't do it for them
- Focus on what is important
- Decide what is not important or applicable

Developing real competence



- Greater credibility for you and in health and safety
- Motivates people to act
- Delivers real business benefit as well as health and safety improvement
- BUT it takes courage and leadership

Thank you for listening – questions?



The Health and Safety of Great Britain \ Be part of the solution

