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Health and Safety Executive		Sector Information Minute	
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Target Audience:
All FOD Staff

MoD ACCIDENT STATISTICS

This SIM advises inspectors about the accident statistics and incidence rates for the years 1999/2000 and 2000/2001 for the Ministry of Defence (MOD). It is based on RIDDOR data for SICR 92 class 75220: Defence Activities and refers only to civilian employees, not service personnel.

BACKGROUND

1 In the UK the MOD employs 205,700 service personnel and 98,400 civilians (July 2001); the second largest public sector employer after the NHS. There have been substantial changes in the structure of the organisation arising from (a) the Next Steps Project which commenced more than 10 years ago and led to the formation of a multiplicity of Defence Agencies employing around 90,000 staff, and (b) the widespread use of contractors for support services.

2 Although accidents to service personnel on duty are not reportable, by virtue of the Reporting of Injuries, Diseases and Dangerous Occurrences Regulations 1995 (RIDDOR) reg.10(3), accidents to civilian personnel employed by the MOD are reportable in the normal way. This SIM deals with reported accidents to employees within the Defence sector, as determined by the SICR 92 classification, for the years 1999/2000 and 2000/2001.

DEFENCE SECTOR ACCIDENTS

3 The following tables for accidents to employees working within SICR 92 class 75220: Defence Activities, cover the years 1999/2000 and 2000/2001 (provisional data for the latter). It is assumed that the bulk of these are civilian employees of the MOD, around 100,300 of them in 2000. This includes not only civilians working for central MOD, but the civilian employees of the many Defence Agencies referred to above. Although SICR 92 class 75220: Defence Activities is intended solely to cover the work of the MOD, the statistics may include small numbers working for other employers, though this should not significantly affect the figures. Incidence rates have therefore been calculated on the basis of this nominal population of 100,300 employees.

Table 1: Accidents in SIC 92 Class 75220: Defence 1999/2000

KIND	FATALITY	MAJOR INJURY	OVER 3 DAY/MINOR	GRAND TOTAL
ANIMAL	0	0	4	4
ASSAULT/VIOLENCE	0	4	2	6
COLLAPSE/OVERTURN	0	0	2	2
EXPLOSION	0	1	0	1
EXPOSURE/HOT SUB	0	1	14	15
FALL	0	3	1	4
FIRE	0	1	0	1
HANDLING/SPRAINS	0	11	318	329
HIGH FALL	0	6	5	11
LOW FALL	0	18	39	57
MACHINERY	0	0	11	11
NOT KNOWN	0	0	1	1
OTHER KIND	0	6	25	31
STRIKE/STEP ON	0	8	26	34
STRUCK BY	0	21	70	91
TRANSPORT	0	2	7	9
TRIP	0	48	152	200
VOLT	0	1	1	2
TOTAL	0	131	678	809

Incidence rates per 100,000 employees 1999/2000:

	Fatal:	Major:	3 day:	All accidents:
Defence	0	130.6	676.0	806.6
Agriculture	4.5	224.4	487.0	715.9
Construction	5.5	395.9	917.0	1318.4
Manufacturing	1.0	204.1	1007.9	1213.0
All industries	0.7	116.6	550.9	668.2

Table 2: Accidents in Class 75220: Defence 2000/2001 (p)

SIM 07/2002/24 MoD Accident Statistics

KIND	FATALITY	MAJOR INJURY	OVER 3 DAY/MINOR	GRAND TOTAL
ANIMAL	0	3	5	8
ASSAULT/VIOLENCE	0	0	5	5
COLLAPSE/OVERTURN	0	0	2	2
EXPOSURE/HOT SUB	0	2	15	17
FALL	0	0	3	3
HANDLING/SPRAINS	0	13	245	258
HIGH FALL	0	7	8	15
LOW FALL	0	16	34	50
MACHINERY	0	4	9	13
NOT KNOWN	0	3	3	6
OTHER KIND	0	5	31	36
STRIKE/STEP ON	0	8	24	32
STRUCK BY	0	15	62	77
TRANSPORT	0	4	14	18
TRIP	0	47	145	192
VOLT	0	0	2	2
TOTAL	0	127	607	734

Incidence rates per 100,000 employees 2000/01 (Provisional):

	Fatal:	Major:	3 day:	All accidents:
Defence	0	126.6	605.2	731.8
Agriculture	4.9	206.7	488.0	699.6
Construction	6.4	378.4	835.8	1220.6
Manufacturing	1.2	192	989.7	1182.9
All industries	0.9	107.3	522.6	630.8

COMPARISON OF INCIDENCE RATES

4 Accidents to the MOD's approximately 100,000 civilian employees are reportable in the normal way under RIDDOR, and the 'all reported injuries' rate is c.806 per 100,000 employees for 1999/2000, and c.732 for 2000/2001(p). This compares with 1213 and

c.1183 for the manufacturing industries in the same years, along with c.668 and c.631 for all industries.

5 The nature of MOD's business suggests that comparison with manufacturing industry is perhaps more appropriate. MOD's non-military activities, such as engineering and maintenance, are often no different from those in outside industry, and HSE expects the same standards to apply. Non-military Crown censures have included the case of a female slinger who fell from the roof of a freight container; the fatal scalding of a worker in a component cleaning machine; and poor laboratory procedures. The common factor was poor risk assessment, in circumstances where prosecutions would have been brought had HSE been dealing with a non-Crown employer.

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