



35 King Street, Covent Garden
London WC2E 8JG

Telephone 020 7420 8900
Fax 020 7420 8998

Website
www.amicustheunion.org

21st August 2006

Mr M J Walters
Backs! 2005 Stakeholder Liaison
Health & Safety Executive
East & South East Division
International House
Dover Place
ASHFORD, Kent
TN23 1HU

Dear Mr Walters

I am writing this letter to confirm that the trade union Amicus fully supports the Backs! 2005 campaign.

Amicus is taking the following action as part of Backs! 2005:

- We have featured the campaign on our website and in our union journal.
- We distributed Backs material at the Amicus National Policy Conference in June 2005, and in particular:
 - Getting to Grips with Manual Handling – A Short Guide (IND(G)143)
 - Manual Handling Assessment Charts (IND(G)383)
 - Are you Making the Best Use of Lifting & Handling Aids? (IND(G)398)
- We are using the Manual Handling Risk Control Indicators.
- We are promoting Manual Handling issues in the construction sector.
- We will distribute this literature at other Amicus meetings, and at the STUC in April 2006.



INVESTOR IN PEOPLE

General Secretary
Derek Simpson

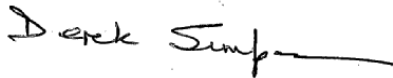
- We have entered into a major agreement with the HSE Worker Involvement Programme to promote and use the MAC tool on all of our H&S Education courses. We arranged for all of the Amicus H&S tutors to be briefed by HSL on the use of the MAC tool so that they could teach it on courses. During this year all course members will receive such training and be given a copy of the Backs CD to take back to their workplaces. This amounts to well over 1000 CDs.
- They will be questionnaires to fill in as part of a research project to be carried out by HSE.

It is anticipated that the above action(s) will bring about the following improvements in the workplace:

- Knowledge of the Backs! 2005 campaign amongst Amicus safety reps
- Pressure on employers to put the campaign into practice, and especially the use of the MAC tool
- Improved standards in the elimination and control of manual handling problems in unionised workplaces.

Amicus is committed to working with the Health & Safety Executive and Local Authorities to help reduce in the long term, the terrific cost to industry and society of back pain and other musculo-skeletal disorders (MSDs) in the workplace. The actions we have taken already indicate this commitment, which we will be continuing under Backs! 2006.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Derek Simpson". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal flourish at the end.

Derek Simpson
General Secretary