

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

Date: 1st September 2005

Dear Mr Walters

I am writing this letter to show that Hereford & Worcester Fire & Rescue Service fully supports the Backs! 2005 campaign.

Hereford & Worcester Fire & Rescue Service is taking the following action as part of Backs! 2005:

- ***The development of a bespoke, interactive training package for all operations personnel***
- ***Increasing the scope of our present manual handling training programme to include all non-operational as well as operational personnel***
- ***A review and re-design of stowage facilities on all new fire appliances***

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

- ***An increased awareness of good manual handling practices amongst all personnel***
- ***A reduction in the frequency and severity of manual handling incidents***
- ***Improved ergonomics on all new fire appliances***

Hereford & Worcester Fire & Rescue Service 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.

Yours sincerely

G. M. Carrier
Health & Safety Advisor