Wishful thinking

Chris Jones

Chairman, WISH and
Director, Cory Environmental Limited

http://www.hse.gov.uk/waste/wish.htm
In the next 20 minutes or so....

• The legacy of the past

• WISHful beginnings
  - The formation of WISH
  - The membership of WISH

• WISHes fulfilled
  - The work of WISH to date
  - The achievements to date

• WISHing for the future
  - WISH strategy 2012-2015
  - WISH work programme 2012-

http://www.hse.gov.uk/waste/wish.htm
The issues, the challenge.

• The legacy of the past
  - A neglected and unappreciated industry?
  - Poor practices and high accident rates

• Increasing recycling not increasing increase injury and ill health
  - increasing collection effort
  - increasing workforce

• New technology, new injuries and potential health impacts
  - Move away from Landfill toward processing
  - MRF, MBT, AD, IVC, EfW
The legacy of the past

- Accident rates in the waste industry
  - Fatal injuries 2003/4

The Industry with the highest rate of fatal injury is the recycling of waste and scrap where the rate is nearly 40 times the national average.

http://www.hse.gov.uk/waste/wish.htm
The legacy of the past

- **Accident rates in the waste industry**
  - Bomel Report

  “Dooming research was published yesterday by the HSE which showed that around 4,000 accidents are reported by the waste industry each year, or approximately 2,500 per 100,000 workers. This is nearly five times the national average accident rate, and the fatal incident rate of 10 in 100,000 is ten times the national average.”

  “The research, conducted by Bomel Limited, was based on 2001/02 figures and revealed that incidents were mainly reported from refuse or recycling collection crews manually sorting the waste.”

*From letsrecycle.com 17 June 2004*

http://www.hse.gov.uk/research/rrhtm/rr240.htm
The legacy of the past

- Accident rates in the waste industry
  - Bomel Report

James Barrett, head of the HSE's Manufacturing Sector, said: "These rates are unacceptable for a major industry, such as the waste sector. This is a growing, dynamic and innovative industry which has to rise to the challenge presented by the figures and reduce the appalling human and financial cost to the industry."

From HSE press release 16 June 2004

http://www.hse.gov.uk/waste/wish.htm
The legacy of the past

• Accident rates in the waste industry
  - Bomel Report

Paul Harvey, HSE Principal Inspector for waste and recycling, said: "This research comes at a time when the industry is changing rapidly and flags up the need to properly assess and control the risks created by new and emerging collection and processing systems.

Handling of bags, wheelie bins and skips feature strongly in accident reports submitted to HSE. Evidence also shows an increasing number of reports associated with collecting and sorting waste for recycling, these are areas the industry needs to work on now and in the future."

*From HSE press release 16 June 2004*
Genesis

- **May 2001**
  - Initial proposal arose out of a ‘summit’ between the HSE and ESA.

- **July 2001**
  - First meeting held

- **May 2002**
  - First publication INDG 359

http://www.hse.gov.uk/waste/wish.htm
WISHful beginnings

Evolution

- **Membership**
  - Members
  - Observers

- **Constitution**
  - Adopted September 09
  - Revised May 2012

- **Strategy & Plan of Work**
  - Strategy adopted Sep 08
  - Strategy revised and update Nov 12
  - Plan of Work Sep 08

Constitution of the
Waste Industry Safety and Health forum (WISH)

This constitution shall be effective from 26th September 2009 until the dissolution of WISH.

**The Forum**

1. The name of the forum shall be the Waste Industry Safety and Health forum, hereafter referred to as 'WISH'.

**Aims**

2. The WISH forum is a committee formed of representatives from the Waste Management and Recycling Industry. It exists as a forum to exchange information, discuss and resolve prevailing health and safety problems existing within the industry.

3. WISH supports the Government's Revitalising Health and Safety (RHS) initiative, and is committed to reducing accident incidence rates and minimising the risks of occupational ill health in the waste management and recycling industry.

4. The WISH forum will have the following objectives:
   - To agree national targets for improved health and safety performance;
   - To prepare and implement a health and safety strategy to assist the delivery of the WISH forum's targets;
   - To monitor industry performance and identify key issues for the drafting of standards and good practice guidance. All good practice guidance shall be directed to clearly defined objectives;
   - To encourage employers and others, including those who are not WISH members, to draw up and implement their own Action Plans, in support of the WISH Health and Safety Strategy.

**Membership**

5. WISH enables representation from the following:
   - Association for Organics Recycling
   - British Metals Recycling Association
   - Chartered Institute of Wastes Management
   - Community Recycling Network*
   - Container Handling Equipment Manufacturers (CHEM) Association
   - Department for the environment, farming and rural affairs*
   - Energy and Utility SHRs

http://www.hse.gov.uk/waste/wish.htm
WISH 2002 - 2012

- Best practice guidance notes
- Leaflets and other publications

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<th>Ref</th>
<th>Title</th>
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<tr>
<td>Waste01</td>
<td>Operating civic amenity sites safely</td>
</tr>
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<td>Waste02</td>
<td>Green waste collection: health issues</td>
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<td>Waste03</td>
<td>Orphaned compressed gas cylinders in the waste and recycling industries</td>
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<td>Waste04</td>
<td>Waste and recycling vehicles in street collection</td>
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<td>Waste05</td>
<td>Recycling and operating Material Recycling Facilities (MRF's safely)</td>
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<td>Waste06</td>
<td>Health and safety in the waste and recycling industry</td>
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<td>Kerbside glass collection: Noise reduction techniques</td>
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<td>Waste08</td>
<td>Safe handling of asbestos cement waste at civic amenity (CA) sites</td>
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<td>Waste09</td>
<td>Hand sorting of recyclables ('totting') with vehicle assistance</td>
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<td>Waste10</td>
<td>Safe transport in waste management and recycling facilities</td>
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<td>Waste11</td>
<td>Handling needles in the waste and recycling industry</td>
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<td>Waste12</td>
<td>Health and safety training: Guidelines for the waste management and recycling sector</td>
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<td>Safety at 'bring sites' in the waste management and Recycling industries</td>
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<td>Safe waste and recycling collection services</td>
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<td>Waste15</td>
<td>Storing hazardous waste at household recycling</td>
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<tr>
<td>Waste25</td>
<td>People in commercial waste containers</td>
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http://www.hse.gov.uk/waste/wish.htm
Achievements to date

• ESA accident charter

Accident rate fell from 4150 to 2428 between 2003 and 2007.

More than a 12% year on year reduction.

Following renewal of the charter in 2007 the accident rate has fallen to stand in 2011 at 1327.
Achievements to date

- **RR701 BOMEL II**
  - Accident rates fell by 15% from 03/04 to 07/08.

HSE's Head of Manufacturing Sector, Geoff Cox said: "There has been a lot of work by all parties to improve the industry's poor record since we published the first analysis of the injury rates in 2004."

"The declining performance at the beginning of this decade has been halted and we can now see improvements that equate to 800 fewer injuries per year."

http://www.hse.gov.uk/research/rrhtm/rr701.htm
WISH Strategy 2009

• Strategy
  Launched on 14 January 2009
  Had five key commitments
  ✓ Reduce Accidents by 10% year on year
  ✓ Measure and then reduce working days lost
  ✓ Adoption of safety management systems
  ✓ Improvement in climate and attitudes
  ✓ Increase levels of competence

http://www.hse.gov.uk/waste/wish.htm
WISH Plan of work 2009-2012

• Plan of Work
Agreed and adopted 27 January 2009
Four working groups developing:

- Occupational health measurement tools (HSE)
- Self assessment management systems checklist (LGEO)
- Safety climate tool for SME’s (CRN)
- Competence measurement tool and competence strategy (WAMITAB)

http://www.hse.gov.uk/waste/wish.htm
**WISHing for the future**

**WISH Strategy 2012 -**

- **Launch**
  - Officially launched today.

  [http://www.hse.gov.uk/waste/charter.htm](http://www.hse.gov.uk/waste/charter.htm)

- **Today’s workshops**
  - A plan of work for the industry, devised and supported by the industry
    - ✓ Key challenge
    - ✓ Key action

- **WISH SG 5th March 2013**
  - Workshop outputs.
  - Facilitator and leader reports.

[http://www.hse.gov.uk/waste/wish.htm](http://www.hse.gov.uk/waste/wish.htm)
WISHing for the future

WISH Plan of work 2012 -

• What can I do after today?
  • Join WISH by signing up to the WISH objectives and preparing your own action plan.

Responsibilities of affiliate membership

21. Each member organisation of the WISH forum shall:

- Prepare and publish (where practicable) its own Health and Safety Delivery Plan which (within its respective sphere of influence) shall contribute to and support the WISH forum's strategic goals/objectives and targets.
- Actively encourage employers and others, including those who are not members of the WISH forum, to draw up and implement their own Health and Safety Plan's in support of the WISH Strategy and members own Delivery Plans.
- Within the limits of their capacity and sphere of influence, support, assist, contribute to, and participate in delivery of WISH Health and Safety Action Plan;

http://www.hse.gov.uk/waste/wish-constitution.htm

WISH Secretary: toni.gladding@open.ac.uk
WISH Chair: cjones@coryenvironmental.co.uk

http://www.hse.gov.uk/waste/wish.htm
WISHing for the future

WISH Plan of work 2012 -

• What can I do after today?
  • Participate in the WISH working groups
  • Participate /consult on emerging guidance documents
  • Review your practices against the best practice guidance produced by WISH (see the HSE/WISH website)

http://www.hse.gov.uk/waste/wish.htm
WISHing for the future

CIWM June 2006

“9 reasons from the last nine months...”

ESA May 2007

“Four reasons from the last four months......”

ESA June 2008

“In 2007 the activities of the waste industry resulted in the ending of 17 lives...”

RoSPA April 2009

“Eleven reasons from 2008 why the industry has to do better......”

RoSPA June 2010

“Seven reasons from 2009 why the industry has to do better........”

http://www.hse.gov.uk/waste/wish.htm
WISHing for the future

WISH NI Mar 2012

Seven reasons from 2011 why the industry has to try harder......
12 October 2011 - male employee (55 years) dismantling of steel barge when the side of the barge he was cutting out fell on him. [Tamworth, Warwickshire - metal recycling]
14 November 2011 - female employee (cleaner, 56 years) was struck by vehicle as she crossed the yard. [Bolton, Greater Manchester - waste transfer and recycling]
12 December 2011 - male employee (71 years) opening up the premises when a large steel gate fell on him. [Kilmarnock, Scotland - skip hire]
13 December 2011 - member of the public (male, 23 years) - struck by reversing waste collection vehicle. [Brent, London - waste and recycling collection]
14 December 2011 - male employee (31 years) died after becoming trapped in feed mechanism of polystyrene compactor. [Radlett, St Albans – plastics recycling]
6 January 2012 - male employee (34 years) was an HGV driver dropping off waste at landfill site when he was crushed between his HGV and a reversing caterpillar-tracked vehicle [Cambridgeshire - landfill]

IOSH Sep 2012

Seven reasons from 2012 why the industry has to do better.......
• Operative struck by object ejected from machinery and killed;
• Member of the public sleeping in a commercial bin crushed and killed by RCV;
• Operative crushed and killed in recycling machinery;
• Street cleansing operative struck by a motorcycle and killed;
• Member of the public sleeping in commercial bin crushed and killed by RCV;
• Operative became entangled in bin lift and killed;
• Member of the public sleeping in commercial bin crushed and killed by RCV

http://www.hse.gov.uk/waste/wish.htm
WISHing for the future

Industry Summit Feb 2013

Fourteen reasons from 2012/3 why the industry has to do better........

15 Jun 2012  employee crushed when operating fork lift truck vehicle which overturned at waste site in Towcester
19 Jun 2012  employee crushed between two vehicles at scrap metal site in Dudley
28 Jun 2012  employee struck by boom of JCB whilst working on top of skip at skip-hire premises in Wolverhampton
25 Jul 2012  self-employed person died after falling out of bucket of excavator at skip-hire premises in Arundel
07 Aug 2012  employee crushed by skip which fell on him at skip-hire premises in Kempton Hardwick
10 Aug 2012  member of the public run over by reversing refuse collection vehicle in Glasgow
17 Aug 2012  employee run over by wheeled loading shovel at waste transfer site in Watford
17 Aug 2012  employee trapped in waste compactor/baling machine at recycling plant in Batley, Leeds (subsequently died on 19 August 2012)
05 Sep 2012  member of public found crushed in refuse collection vehicle compacting mechanism in Wirral
07 Sep 2012  member of public found dead on sorting conveyor at waste transfer site in Sandwell. Thought to have been in commercial waste container and subsequently crushed by compactor mechanisms of RCV.
21 Sep 2012  employee died after dumper truck he was driving overturned at recycling site in Dartmouth, Devon.
27 Sep 2012  member of the public found dead at recycling plant in Avonmouth, Bristol. Thought to have been in domestic wheelie bin and was subsequently crushed by compactor mechanism of RCV.
21 Nov 2012  employee decapitated when heavy nylon mooring rope that was tethered between boat being salvaged and CAT shovel loader snapped under tension at scrap yard site in Portsmouth.
04 Jan 2013  employee killed when lift truck he was driving with 2 x cardboard bales held by clamp mechanism overturned at waste paper bulking up site in Wolverhampton.

The number of fatalities:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Number</th>
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<tr>
<td>2006/7</td>
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<td>2011/12</td>
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<tr>
<td>2012/13</td>
<td>14 (so far...)</td>
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http://www.hse.gov.uk/waste/wish.htm
• WISH is committed to change by:
  - Establishing and sharing best practice
  - Improving the safety performance of the industry
  - Developing the competence of those who work in the industry
  - Improving perception of the waste industry as a safe place to work

“We choose to go to the moon in this decade and do the other things, not because they are easy, but because they are hard, because that goal will serve to organize and measure the best of our energies and skills, because that challenge is one that we are willing to accept, one we are unwilling to postpone, and one which we intend to win”.

John F Kennedy (1917-1963)

• We need your help

“You must be the change that you wish to see in the world”

Mahatma Gandhi (1869-1948)