



Programme of Work 2015

Our vision:

A country where worker safety, health and welfare and the safe management of chemicals are central to successful enterprise

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This is the third programme of work prepared by the Health and Safety Authority under its strategy for 2013 to 2015. The programme for 2015 has a significant level of continuity with previous years as we build on the groundwork and achievements of earlier programmes.

Our vision is a country where worker safety, health and welfare and the safe management of chemicals are central to successful enterprise. In 2015 we will continue to actively encourage business and all duty holders to achieve high standards in workplace safety and health compliance. This will be achieved in the first instance through advice, information and supports for business. However, we will take strong enforcement action where working conditions endanger workers or the public.

During 2015 we will continue with a strong focus on the agriculture sector where the number of lives lost each year is a matter for urgent concern and is one which must be addressed by all those involved in the sector including farmers themselves, their representative organisations and relevant state organisations. We will also prioritise our activity in the construction sector which is seeing a welcome increase in employment levels and we aim to support the industry in ensuring that these positive developments are not accompanied by increases in injury or fatality rates.

We will continue to develop new and innovative ways of working and deploy a risk based approach to our activities so that we deliver the best outcomes. We will aim to optimise our impact by using targeted inspection and enforcement and by providing information and support through a wide range of communication channels, e.g. the online BeSMART risk assessment tool and our e-learning modules. We will use our links with other stakeholders to further our goals of improving awareness and changing behaviours.

We will also continue to influence the development of legislation and policy to Ireland's advantage through our involvement in European and international committees.

The Authority has several important organisational priorities for 2015. The Irish National Accreditation Board (INAB) was integrated with the Authority in 2014 and in 2015 we will continue to work with INAB to enhance the ways in which we support the delivery of national accreditation services. Another significant project for 2015 is the development of the Authority's strategy for the years 2016 to 2018. Initial strategy work has already begun and the process will take account of our current resources, wider environmental factors and relevant national and European strategies.

With indications that the economy is beginning to recover, we ask every employer, every employee and every representative organisation to factor workplace safety and health together with the safe management of chemicals into their plans and activities for 2015. The Authority's programme of work will support their efforts.

Martin O'Halloran

Chief Executive Officer

Health and Safety Authority

Strategy 2013-2015

The Authority's strategy for the period 2013 to 2015 sets out five strategic priorities. To:

- Enable enterprises to comply with their legal obligations in a practical and reasonable manner.
- Achieve a high standard of compliance with safety, health and welfare and chemical laws.
- Support the Minister in the development of a well-functioning, robust and proportionate regulatory framework.
- Engage and work with people and organisations nationally and internationally to achieve our vision.
- Be a high-performing organisation delivering value to the Irish taxpayer.

The programme of work for 2015 will continue our efforts to achieve these strategic priorities. Progress in the delivery of the programme of work and strategy and, in particular, progress in delivering on key performance indicators, will be monitored regularly by the Board of the Authority and the Executive Team, and updates will be reported to the Minister.



2015

KeyThemes for 2015

The Authority's priorities in 2015 will include the implementation of the final year of the existing three-year plan for the agriculture sector. We will review the outcomes of the five-year plans for work-related vehicle safety and for the healthcare sector, both of which concluded in 2014, and determine the next steps to address key objectives identified for these two areas. We will aim to maintain, if not increase, activity in the high-risk construction and fishing sectors.

The delivery of the following cross-sectoral programmes will be prioritised:

- Chemical management under the Chemicals Act (REACH, CLP, Detergents etc.)
- Inspections under the Control of Major Accident Hazards (COMAH) legislation
- Legislative development and the publication of codes of practice
- Representation of Irish interests at international and EU fora
- Proactive workplace inspections in the highest risk sectors
- Accident investigations

The allocation of resources to other sectors or topics will be based on the level of risk for employees and others, together with the likelihood of our intervention leading to a significant reduction in that risk. Many sectors and topics will therefore receive little, if any, inspection or policy attention. Employers in some sectors may be inspected only following a complaint or adverse event notified to the Authority. Policy attention for these sectors and topics will also be on a reactive basis.

Following its integration with the Authority in 2014, the Irish National Accreditation Board (INAB) will continue to focus on areas of growth in the medical testing and food/animal health sectors, and expects to receive new applications from these sectors in 2015. Key projects on service delivery efficiencies are planned in the areas of ICT and advisory structures.

1. Sector Programmes

Operational Area	Planned Actions	Performance Indicator
Agriculture	Implement the final year of the three-year Farm Safety Action Plan developed by the Farm Safety Partnership.	The initiatives planned by the five working groups established to achieve the five goals of the action plan delivered.
	Develop and deliver co-ordinated initiatives with major stakeholders (e.g. raising awareness, safety promotion, training, special projects, further research).	Opportunities to provide health and safety training to farmers identified and developed. A media campaign on the safe use of tractors and farm machinery developed. Projects that allow farmer-to-farmer contact identified in collaboration with major stakeholders.
	Progress the Joint Prevention Initiative with Teagasc and identify synergies with them to promote occupational safety and health in agriculture.	Strategies developed to deal with a number of high-risk activities, including working at height and working with round bales. Successful engagement with farmers on health and safety matters through discussion groups (target 50 discussion groups). Further research on engagement in occupational safety and health by farmers, delivered through a Walsh Fellowship research project, in collaboration with Teagasc. National farm safety conference organised. Involvement in regional events and HSA stand at the National Ploughing Championships delivered. Delivery of training on Farm Safety Code of Practice supported.



Operational Area	Planned Actions	Performance Indicator
Agriculture (continued)	Share information and research on farm safety trends with the Health and Safety Executive of the UK (HSE UK) and of Northern Ireland (HSENI) to address major risks in agriculture.	Opportunities for joint working with HSE UK and HSENI, such as an all-island media campaign on farm safety, identified and acted upon.
	Carry out national programme of farm inspections to address key issues within different farming types. Inspections will focus on high-risk activities and key concerns such as general safety management, machinery safety, animal handling, slurry handling, and child and elderly safety.	2,300 farm inspections completed. Support provided, through farm walks and talks, to individuals and groups of farmers.
	Maintain and develop further resources for agriculture safety.	Sector safety resources developed and available, including publications, DVDs, risk assessment and e-tools.
	Influence the supply chain of articles and substances used within the sector.	Successfully engaged with suppliers of machinery and materials into the agriculture sector.
	Contribute at international level to promote a greater focus on agriculture safety within the European Union.	Technical and policy contributions on the management of health and safety in the agriculture sector delivered at national, EU and international levels.
	Conduct a two-week farm safety campaign, with involvement from farmer representative organisations.	Farm safety campaign completed, with involvement of representative organisations.



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Planned Actions

Performance Indicator

Construction

Continue technical review of Construction Codes of Practice and associated guidance, and update documents in line with legislation.

Produce guidance and information sheets in relation to:

- risk management of manual handling in construction
- occupational health among construction workers (e.g. dusts, silica, noise)
- load securing for construction
- operators pre-start inspection/checks posters for construction plant machinery

Work with the Department of Transport and other industry partners to develop new operational guidance on temporary traffic management at roadworks.

Support the Department of Jobs, Enterprise and Innovation (DJEI), and other state departments and agencies as appropriate, in implementing changes to the national qualifications and training structures (e.g. FÁS/SOLAS/FETAC/Quality and Qualifications Ireland).

Engage and work with groups, including the Construction Safety Partnership and the Construction Advisory Committee, to ensure a co-operative approach to safety in the industry.

Collaborate with the construction division of HSENI to develop cross-border initiatives that add value to an all-island construction sector.

Increase the number of inspections to monitor compliance with the 2013 Construction Regulations, particularly with regard to known high-risk activities. Inspections to focus on small construction projects, vehicle management on sites, school construction projects and large infrastructure projects.

Codes of Practice and guidance updated, published and communicated to stakeholders in accordance with the review programme.

Guidance published and communicated to stakeholders.

Guidance prepared.

Technical and policy assistance made available to DJEI as required.

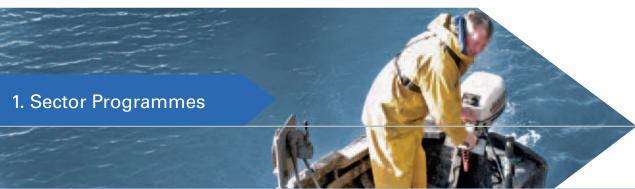
Collaborated with key stakeholder groups in promoting safety and health; special initiatives jointly implemented.

Cross-border construction safety seminar held.

3,150 inspections carried out. Evidence collected of specific outcomes from the inspection process.



Operational Area	Planned Actions	Performance Indicator
Construction (continued)	Carry out a two-week inspection campaign in the construction sector, with an emphasis on occupational health; engage with representative groups in the sector.	Inspection campaign completed.
Diving	Work with DJEI to complete new Diving Regulations and prepare associated codes of practice.	Support provided to DJEI on request.
Docks	Publish Docks Code of Practice. Carry out inspections to promote awareness of the new Docks Code of Practice.	Docks Code of Practice published. 50 inspections completed.
Forestry	Maintain and develop further resources for forestry safety. Maintain the programme of inspections in the sector.	Guidance and information on forestry safety provided online. 100 inspections completed.
Education	Raise awareness of guidelines for primary schools amongst key groups.	High levels of awareness of guidelines and evidence of their use in schools.
Fishing	Collaborate with government departments, agencies and working groups to improve fishing safety.	Collaboration carried out in line with the Memoranda of Understanding with An Bord lascaigh Mhara and the Irish Maritime Administration. Participated in the Marine Safety Working Group.



Operational Area	Planned Actions	Performance Indicator
Fishing (continued)	Promote and raise awareness of the guidance on managing health and safety on fishing boats.	Guidance promoted through liaison with key stakeholders, government departments and agencies, and relevant industry bodies.
	Carry out inspections as part of a campaign to promote the available guidance and raise safety standards in the sector.	150 inspections completed and guidance promoted.
Healthcare	Engage with key stakeholders to ensure an inclusive and co-ordinated approach to health and safety in the sector. Communication channels include the HSA Healthcare Steering Group, National Health Service Executive Healthcare Advisory Forum, Health and Social Care Regulatory Forum, and formal consultations on policy development.	Led and participated in formal communications with the sector.
	Promote the development and maintenance of robust health and safety management systems as part of good governance.	Promoted through briefing sessions, the inspection process, and communications with the Health Service Executive.
	Conduct a programme of inspections to assess the approach to health and safety management, work-related violence and aggression, and compliance with the Sharps Regulations. Inspections to be carried out in the public, private and voluntary services.	200 inspections completed and outcomes reported on.
	Promote the inclusion of health and safety in training programmes for healthcare employees.	Health and safety resources promoted to those involved in education and training in the sector.
	Continue to monitor trends in the sector with regard to service provision and their implications for health and safety, to inform the ongoing work of the Authority.	Reviewed available national and international data. Liaised with national and international agencies.



Operational Area	Planned Actions	Performance Indicator
Healthcare (continued)	Provide information, briefing sessions and advice on sector-specific topics to clarify legal requirements and to promote and support best practice in health and safety.	Briefing sessions held on health and safety topics. Responded to queries. Kept website up to date.
Manufacturing	Carry out a programme of inspections in the manufacturing sector, focusing on workplace health and safety management and with a particular emphasis on work equipment safety.	700 inspections completed and outcomes reported on.
Mines and Quarries	Complete the programme to review and consolidate the Mines and Quarries Regulations and guidance.	Regulations published and implementation programme developed. Revised quarry guidance published and disseminated.
	Provide appropriate levels of safety and health information and advice to the sector.	Safety information sheets developed to address critical safety issues within the sector.
	Support DJEI and other state agencies to ensure that appropriate health and safety training is available to the sector, particularly in relation to the Quarries Skills Certification Scheme.	Quarries Skills Certification Scheme training made available to the sector.
	Consult fully with the Quarries Safety Partnership (QSP) on all planned approaches to safety and health within the sector.	QSP consulted on all planned actions.
	Ensure emergency preparedness, particularly within the underground mining sector.	Supported mine rescue training exercises and competitions, and the continued involvement of the Air Corps.
	Inspect all operating mines. Conduct 150 quarry inspections.	All operating mines inspected. 150 quarry inspections carried out and outcomes reported on.



Operational Area	Planned Actions	Performance Indicator
Public Sector	Carry out a programme of inspections, concentrating on health and safety management systems and their implementation in the civil service, non-commercial state agencies, commercial semi-state companies and the local authorities.	100 inspections carried out and outcomes reported on.
	Liaise with the key agencies in the public sector that influence health and safety at work to ensure a co-ordinated and inclusive approach.	Communicated with key stakeholders, including health and safety personnel in the public sector, State Claims Agency, Local Government Management Agency; and developed additional communication channels.
	Review and develop data-collection systems to enhance information and intelligence-gathering capability.	Data systems reviewed and developed. Information used to influence future direction and engagement.
	Make available guidance and advice on sector-specific hazards.	Authority's website developed to include information and guidance related to health and safety at work in the public sector.
Transport and Storage	Review sector's safety performance and further needs as part of the review of the Work-Related Vehicle Safety Plan 2010–2014.	Sector stakeholders consulted and requirements incorporated into review and future plans.
	Develop sector-specific webpages to highlight key risks, sector injury trends, risk management and online learning resources.	Web resource providing statistics on fatal and non-fatal injuries in the transport sector published. Injury and risk profile for the sector established.



Operational Area	Planned Actions	Performance Indicator
Transport and Storage (continued)	Promote awareness of the main risks, with an emphasis on workplace transport and load securing.	Risk management resources promoted through website, newsletters and stakeholder publications, events and seminars.
	Promote the online workplace transport safety management courses on hsalearning.ie.	Four seminars/briefings on e-learning courses completed.
	Carry out a programme of inspections in the transport sector, concentrating on: workplace transport safety management systems at transport and logistics premises and distribution centres, load securing, safety of tail lifts, and the certification, testing and examination of vehicle-mounted cranes and bus passenger transport.	150 inspections completed. Training, advice and support provided to inspectors as required.
	Promote the inclusion of health and safety in undergraduate and vocational transport programmes, and identify areas where further support may be required. Develop agreements with the relevant education bodies for learner access to elearning courses.	Education programmes identified and learning outcomes developed and agreed.
Chemical Manufacturing, Importation and Formulation	Undertake audits to determine compliance with Registration, Evaluation, Authorisation and Restriction of Chemicals (REACH) and Classification, Labelling and Packaging (CLP) requirements with respect to registration, safety data sheets (SDS), labels, packaging and, in particular, child-resistant fastenings.	Five REACH registration audits completed. Ten CLP and SDS audits completed. 150 product assessments completed.

Operational Area	Planned Actions	Performance Indicator
Small Business Support	Implement the second year of the Taking Care of Business Plan 2014–2016 to enable small businesses to manage workplace safety and health efficiently.	Year 2 activities completed as outlined in the plan.
	Launch new construction and agriculture sections of the BeSMART online tool.	Construction and agriculture sections live on BeSMART.ie, with initial set of business types for each sector.
	Maintain and develop the BeSMART.ie website portal by:	Additional business types added. Legislative changes reflected in content. BeSMART.ie is
	 adding content to existing sectors, including new business types and risk assessments 	available to users without disruption.
	 updating risk assessments to reflect changes in legislation and guidance 	
	 resolving system issues without delay 	
	Provide subject matter expertise to support the development of two further e-learning modules, one for employers and one for employees.	Relevant content provided as required for e-learning modules.
	Network with other industry and business support groups to promote the use of BeSMART.ie.	BeSMART.ie promoted at a number of third party events.
	Work with other agencies to provide a one-stop shop to support small business.	Three nationwide Taking Care of Business one-stop shop events organised, with the Authority as the lead agency.
Chemicals	Provide lead role nationally on chemicals and their health impacts, through ministerial briefings, policy advice, participation in national committees, support to DJEI and specific technical advice as requested.	Briefings provided. National advisory committees attended.



Operational Area	Planned Actions	Performance Indicator
Chemicals (continued)	Fulfil Competent Authority role in relation to the EU Detergent Regulations. Continue to network and raise awareness among relevant stakeholders.	Briefings provided. EU meetings attended.
	Fulfil Designated National Authority (DNA) role in relation to the Rotterdam Regulations on the export and import of hazardous substances. Continue to raise awareness among relevant stakeholders.	Export notifications/explicit consents received and processed. Factsheet published on new Prior Informed Consent (PIC) requirements. DNA meetings attended. Briefings provided.
	Meet national obligations to the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW) under the United Nations Chemical Weapons Convention.	International inspections facilitated under the UN Chemical Weapons Convention. Meetings of the OPCW attended.
Control of Major Accident Hazards (COMAH)	Fulfil Competent Authority role under COMAH II/III Regulations, including inspections, safety report assessments, land use planning (LUP) advice and stakeholder support and engagement.	Number of safety reports received and processed. Number of notifications assessed. Number of major accident prevention policies assessed. Number of LUP advices provided. Number of emergency plans attended. Number of COMAH inspections completed (150 estimated).
	Carry out risk-based inspections of COMAH sites, focusing on safety management systems and risk control systems, with direct links to the relevant major accident hazards. Publish a detailed COMAH inspection programme.	Risk-based inspection programme in place. Routine inspection programmes and plans published for each COMAH establishment.

filmine minis 2. Cross-Sector Programmes

Operational Area	Planned Actions	Performance Indicator
Control of Major Accident Hazards (COMAH) (continued)	Provide technical advice to DJEI, as requested, regarding the transposition of the Seveso III Directive (required by 1 June 2015).	Legislation and technical advice provided to DJEI in a timely manner. Public consultation completed and regulations in place on 1 June 2015.
	Review Memoranda of Understanding with Environmental Protection Agency, An Bord Pleanála, and Commission for Energy Regulation.	Memoranda reviewed and revised as appropriate.
	Report to EU Commission on implementation.	EU Commission report submitted on time.
	Provide structure for electronic notification and provision of information to the public.	Portal provided and monitored for correct notification and provision of information to the public.
	Publish guidance on the new regulations and on technical aspects of the regulations. Promote the regulations and guidance.	General guide to the regulations published. Technical guidance developed in association with stakeholders. Held stakeholder conferences on Seveso III Regulations. Held sector meetings with operators, planners and local competent authorities.
	Perform risk-based sub-COMAH inspections. Inspection and enforcement of requirements in relation to oil jetties, large petroleum bulk and liquid petroleum gas stores and sub-COMAH sites.	Number of sub-COMAH sites inspected (50 estimated).



Operational Area	Planned Actions	Performance Indicator
REACH and CLP - Policy	Fulfil lead Competent Authority role in relation to the REACH and CLP Regulations.	Input given to DJEI on the Authority's activities for MS Article 117 Report (REACH) and Article 46 (CLP).
		Provided technical and policy input to European developments on nanotechnology in the context of REACH Regulation amendments and ongoing developments.
		2014 Report on Chemicals Act provided to the Minister for Jobs, Enterprise and Innovation. Number of Irish positions submitted. Number of Competent Authority and European Chemical Agency (ECHA) meetings attended.
	Participate in ECHA screening activities with a view to identifying substances for further work under the REACH and CLP processes.	Number of justification reports prepared for substances screened for further risk management under REACH or CLP.
	Provide the REACH and CLP national helpdesks.	Number of queries processed by the helpdesk. Input provided to development and agreement of ECHA's REACH and CLP 'Frequently Asked Questions' resource.
	Evaluate one substance from the 2015 Community Rolling Action Plan (CoRAP) under substance evaluation.	Number of screening reports prepared. Substance evaluated within twelve-month deadline. Substances identified for evaluation by Ireland in subsequent years.

Operational Area	Planned Actions	Performance Indicator
REACH and CLP - Policy (continued)	Contribute to the EU Commission's goal to identify all relevant substances of very high concern (SVHC) by 2020 under the SVHC roadmap.	Number of screening reports prepared. Number of interactions on risk management options prepared by other Member States.
	Continue the campaign initiated in 2014 to raise awareness of chemicals among importers, formulators and users, as part of the CLP 2015 Act Now campaign.	Communication campaign continued throughout 2015.
	Conduct campaign, together with the National Poisons Information Centre, to alert consumers to changes in product labels due to CLP in 2015.	Communication campaign conducted
	Provide subject matter expertise to support the development of an e-learning module on chemical hazard communication.	Relevant content provided for e-learning module.
	Continue efforts to maintain awareness of REACH and CLP among stakeholders.	Number of e-bulletins, information sheets and other publications provided. Number of seminars organised and presentations made.
REACH and CLP - Inspections	Complete (as the National Enforcement Authority) a programme of inspections, involving desk-based assessments and on-site visits, to assess compliance with REACH and CLP.	Number of desk-based compliance assessments on imported and formulated products completed. Number of on-site follow-up inspections completed.
	Target manufacturers, importers, distributors and formulators to assess compliance with the requirements of REACH and CLP, looking in particular at: - ECHA communications, including Article 36, 40(3) and 41(3) decisions - registration duties - provision of information in the supply chain (e.g. SDS) - CLP rules for hazardous substances and mixtures	Followed up all ECHA communications and statements of non-compliance and took appropriate action as necessary, including enforcement.



Operational Area	Planned Actions	Performance Indicator
REACH and CLP - Inspections (continued)	Check (in relation to market surveillance on REACH restrictions under Annex XVII) that substances identified as carcinogenic, mutagenic or toxic for reproduction (CMR) are not being sold to consumers as chemical substances or mixtures. Participate in EU Forum projects on authorisation, and on child-proof packaging.	Number of CMR product assessments undertaken to determine if CMRs are for sale to general public. Ireland's enforcement project completed under the Forum on Enforcement plan.
Work-Related Vehicle Safety (WRVS)	Complete review of Work-Related Vehicle Safety Plan 2010–2014.	Review conducted and published, including lists of achievements and areas for future work.
	Develop a new WRVS plan for 2016 to 2020.	New plan developed and actions approved for implementation from 2016.
	Manage and co-ordinate initiatives with the Road Safety Authority (RSA) and An Garda Síochána related to joint programmes on driving for work, load securing and working on or near the road.	Actions assigned to lead agencies under the 2015 plan completed to an agreed schedule.
	 Implement a national programme for load securing in the workplace and on the road, including: promote e-learning course on load securing risk management develop evidence-led enforcement approach with Gardaí and the RSA develop profile of injuries arising from loading, unloading and load securing in the workplace and on the road 	Programme prepared and implemented, including joint agency actions around awareness, education and enforcement. Guidance promoted. Injury profile established and published.



Operational Area	Planned Actions	Performance Indicator
Work-Related Vehicle Safety	Develop guidance on securing high-risk loads in specific work sectors such as construction, agriculture, transport and logistics, and forestry.	Guidance on high-risk loads published and promoted.
(WRVS) (continued)	Develop guidance on safe vehicle maintenance, vehicle tail-lift safety, preventing falls from vehicles, vehicle-mounted cranes and delivering safely.	Guidance and multi-media resources developed and published.
	Provide subject matter expertise for development of the driving for work risk management course on the Authority's e-learning platform.	Appropriate content provided for the driving for work e-learning course.
	Develop arrangements with the RSA and Gardaí to agree data collection and sharing requirements and to establish baseline data to meet the Authority's obligations under EU Regulation 834/2011 to report on work-related road collisions.	Baseline data on work-related road collisions available for submission to Eurostat.
	Review current rider-operated lift truck training requirements and liaise with Quality and Qualifications Ireland in relation to any future development of a training award and associated guidance.	Review completed.
	Carry out inspection campaigns in selected organisations and sectors, including transport and storage, waste management, construction and bus passenger transport depots.	Awareness raised through the inspection process.
	Participate in joint roadside inspections with Gardaí and the RSA to assess safety in relation to load securing.	Inspections carried out and reported on.
Slips, Trips and Falls	Develop guidance to address the key risks associated with slips, trips and falls.	Guidance developed and published.



Operational Area	Planned Actions	Performance Indicator
Slips, Trips and Falls (continued)	Undertake root cause analysis of slip, trip and fall accidents to identify areas in need of further research. Review the implementation of preventive measures in relation to slips, trips and falls in the manufacturing and healthcare sectors during inspections.	Analysis completed. Preventive measures in relation to slips, trips and falls assessed in inspections in the manufacturing and healthcare sectors (estimated 50 in each sector).
Engineering	Analyse and follow up on examination reports on defective lifting and pressure equipment. Inspect offshore fixed and mobile installations.	Number of installations inspected.
Market Surveillance	Contribute to a national market surveillance plan in relation to: - checks on industrial chemicals with human health effects - 150 product assessments for compliance with REACH and CLP - processing relevant RAPEX alerts - transportable pressure equipment - personal protective equipment Provide ongoing support to Customs in monitoring chemical exports under the Rotterdam Regulation.	Number of values inputted into the European Commission's market surveillance tool. Number of RAPEX alerts processed. Support provided as required.





Operational Area	Planned Actions	Performance Indicator
Market Surveillance (continued)	Carry out inspections on the installation of lifts in new building projects and monitor compliance with the EU Lifts Directive. Inspect existing lift installations. Carry out an inspection programme on the manufacture of agricultural machinery and the supply of power take off drive units, quick hitches and earth-moving equipment in compliance with the EU Machinery Directive.	Inspections completed and outcomes reported on. Inspections completed and outcomes reported on.
Occupational Hygiene	Fulfil lead authority role in relation to the enforcement of Asbestos, Chemical Agents, Carcinogens and Biological Agents Directives through a nationwide inspection programme. Inspections will focus on: - asbestos removal sites and asbestos awareness and management - legionella risk assessments, including water-cooling towers - respiratory protective equipment programmes and fit testing - carcinogen, asbestos and biological employee exposure lists - occupational hygiene programmes in the pharmaceutical and chemical industry - local exhaust ventilation and personal protective equipment - noise and health surveillance - radon - occupational health in the hairdressing and construction sectors	850 occupational hygiene inspections completed. Inspection data collected and reported on.



Operational Area	Planned Actions	Performance Indicator
Occupational Hygiene (continued)	 Fulfil lead Authority role in relation to the administration of Asbestos, Chemical Agents, Carcinogens and Biological Agents Directives, including: review and process all relevant statutory notifications and applications continue engagement with the asbestos industry and other key stakeholders represent Ireland on SLIC CHEMEX publish the Chemical Agents Code of Practice for Occupational Exposure Limit Values (OELV) commence review and update of guidelines supporting the Chemical Agents Regulations 2001 promote all relevant new biological- and chemicals-related guidance and codes of practice continue to act as the national contact point for the Scientific Committee on Occupational Exposure Limits (SCOEL) 	Number of asbestos and biological agent notifications processed. Number of applications processed for asbestos in articles exemption certificates. EU meetings attended and DJEI briefed as appropriate. Chemical Agents OELV Code of Practice published. Guidance reviewed and updates commenced. Information disseminated to relevant stakeholders. Meetings and seminars attended/organised. Active participation during any SCOEL consultation process on proposed OELVs.
Ergonomics, Manual Handling and Musculoskeletal Disorders	Develop a resource demonstrating examples of good practice, where engineering interventions minimise exposure to risk factors caused by poor ergonomic conditions in the workplace.	Ergonomic good practice document published and disseminated.

Operational Area	Planned Actions	Performance Indicator
Ergonomics, Manual Handling and Musculoskeletal Disorders (continued)	Continue the Musculoskeletal Disorder (MSD) Risk Management Project. Develop a technical guidance factsheet on the risk management of manual handling in construction. Continue to address manual handling, display screen equipment and upper limb disorder issues at corporate and workplace levels. Engage with employers to manage MSD. Complete the investigation of the supply and distribution of 50 kg fertiliser bags across the farming sector.	MSD Risk Management Project continued, including priority inspections to observe work practices and to develop competence in the use of the Mac tool to address poor ergonomic conditions in the workplace. Factsheet produced and published. Referral inspections completed in co-operation with inspectors. Issues resolved in consultation with employers. Report presented on the findings of the investigation.
Occupational Health	Manage contracts for occupational first aid assessment agent and occupational medical services. Review existing occupational first aid administration system. Commence transposition of Electromagnetic Fields Directive.	Service provider operated to agreed contract requirements and timelines. Consultation completed with external stakeholders, including Pre-Hospital Emergency Care Council, Quality and Qualifications Ireland and training providers. Regulations and guidance in place by transposition date of 1 July 2016.

Operational Area	Planned Actions	Performance Indicator
Occupational Health (continued)	Support THOR ROI (The Health and Occupation Reporting Network) and encourage more doctors to report. Review data on occupational illness from the Department of Social Protection, Central Statistics Office, Economic and Social Research Institute and THOR to identify trends. Develop guidance on occupational health and safety for the hairdressing sector.	Number of GPs who reported. Key trends in occupational illnesses identified and reported on. Guidance developed and published following stakeholder consultation. Training sessions
Work-Related Stress	Develop online Work Positive tool to include section on critical incident stress management (CISM) for emergency personnel, and promote it alongside use of the general Work Positive tool for generic stress audits. Develop guidance based on the EU Joint Action Pan-European Project report, specifically its 'Outcomes and Recommendations' chapter.	Increased numbers from the emergency services completed the online tool. Two seminars/events organised to promote CISM tool. Guidance developed, published and disseminated.
	Support the Authority's farm safety programme in the ongoing integration of learnings from recently commissioned research on farm safety in Ireland, including stress issues. Organise and present at three conferences on the topic of reducing exposure to work-related stress, in line with the second year of the EU Safety Week theme ('psychosocial stress').	New strategies, based on research findings, incorporated in the farm safety programme. Presentations and press activity completed.

Operational Area	Planned Actions	Performance Indicator
Work-Related Stress (continued)	Present guidance materials for roll-out to Authority inspectors, based on the International Labour Organisation (ILO) document on addressing psychosocial risks at inspection.	Guidance documents finalised and presented.
Work-Related Bullying	Develop content on work-related bullying and psychosocial factors for inclusion on the Authority's e-learning platform. Co-host a seminar with the National Anti-Bullying Coalition for managers and supervisors on handling bullying investigations and complaints.	E-learning platform included relevant bullying and psychosocial content. Seminar organised.
Transport of Dangerous Goods by Road (ADR/TPE)	 Fulfil Competent Authority (CA) roles and obligations under ADR/TPE legislation, including: providing guidance and support to stakeholders through the Authority's website and helpdesk processing CA authorisations managing the contract for ADR and related services covering statutory requirements under ADR representing Ireland as national CA at UN and EU working groups developing national policy and procedures in relation to tank testing (certification, accreditation, etc.) by engaging with relevant stakeholders 	Appropriate guidance and advice disseminated to stakeholders. All CA authorisations processed as required in accordance with agreed procedures. Services provided in line with agreed ADR contract and service-level agreement. Number of EU and international meetings attended. Tank-testing regime (for tanks for national use only) in place and register of tank testers available.

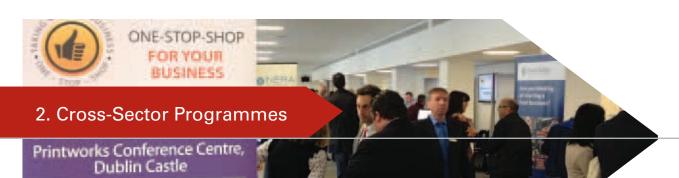


Operational Area	Planned Actions	Performance Indicator
Transport of Dangerous Goods by Road	Provide technical support to DJEI in relation to the transposition of ADR 2015.	Briefing materials and technical advice prepared, stakeholders consulted, meetings attended as required.
(ADR/TPE) (continued)	Enforce the ADR/TPE legislation, taking account of the requirements of the Road Checks Directive.	300 road checks completed. 120 inspections completed on premises with dangerous goods safety advisor.
	Report on enforcement activities to the Commission as required.	Annual report provided to DJEI within deadline.
	Carry out investigations under ADR/TPE as required, and provide technical support to other compliance programmes as necessary.	Number of investigations completed.
Dangerous Substances Act (DSA) and Retail and Private Petroleum Stores (RPPS)	 Fulfil Competent Authority roles and obligations under DSA legislation, including: providing guidance and support to stakeholders through the website and helpdesk further developing policy and procedures to implement DSA legislation, in particular in relation to local authority licence refusal appeals providing technical support to DJEI in relation to the planned reform of the DSA legislative regime 	Appropriate guidance and advice disseminated to relevant stakeholders. Meetings held with relevant stakeholders to establish policy and working procedures. Authority procedures in place and applied. Briefing material provided as required to DJEI. Draft legislative proposals developed as required.
	Raise awareness of training requirements for staff in RPPS.	Improved awareness and standards in relation to training requirements and competence for RPPS sites.
	Enforce the DSA and RPPS legislation.	120 RPPS site inspections completed. All licence refusal appeals processed as required.

Operational Area	Planned Actions	Performance Indicator
Work at Height	Provide technical support and guidance relating to work at height issues.	Technical queries and information requests answered.
	Work with industry bodies (e.g. Construction Industry Federation and National Access and Scaffolding Confederation) to identify challenges and practical solutions.	Meetings held with stakeholders. Actions agreed.
	Develop initiatives to raise awareness among farmers, and others who work at height on farms, of the dangers involved and the appropriate controls to be used.	Campaign completed.
Education	Roll out Choose Safety programmes for post-primary and further education levels for 2015/16 with special emphasis on promoting digital badges as awards for participation.	High levels of usage of Choose Safety programmes (21,000) and target of 2,000 digital badges reached in 2016.
	Develop the Authority's e-learning portal (hsalearning.ie) with a view to expanding the number of courses available and attracting learners across all sectors to the site.	An attractive, high-performing learning management system developed, combining functionality with ease of use.
	Develop and promote further courses for:	Courses live on the e-learning portal.
	 small business: employer (level 2) small business: employee (level 2) managing driving for work managing bullying at work chemical hazards 	
	Upgrade the online learning portal to Moodle 2.5.	Improved functionality and mobile responsiveness of courses.



Operational Area	Planned Actions	Performance Indicator
Education (continued)	Hold six Keep Safe events nationwide to raise risk awareness in groups of primary schools, in conjunction with ten regional/state agencies with a safety remit.	Six well-attended events held nationwide, which attracted high levels of local and regional publicity.
	Hold two national competitions aimed at construction and nursing undergraduates, with subject-specific learning outcomes.	High levels of participation of students across higher education institutions in the two competitions.
	Develop an education strategy for the further and higher education sectors.	Strategy developed and ready to be implemented across the Authority.
	Maintain and grow the Authority's education Facebook page, Choose Safety, aimed at the youth market (age 15–19).	Page live, attractive and interesting to the target market, with appropriate and engaging content.
Communications	Manage media relationships on both a proactive and a reactive basis.	Positive and/or accurate media representation of the Authority. Inaccurate or unfair coverage challenged.
	Develop and enhance website usability and navigation to maximise user experience.	Website content laid out in a highly accessible format using innovative features. Web statistics reports available.
	Plan and co-ordinate events, such as seminars and workshops, to ensure a high level of customer satisfaction.	High level of attendance and satisfaction recorded at all Authority events.



Operational Area	Planned Actions	Performance Indicator
Communications (continued)	Provide the communications support for major awareness-raising campaigns by the Authority, across press, radio and digital channels.	Effective campaigns carried out with evidence of impact and value for money.
	Develop social media campaigns with a view to maximising impact from the official Facebook and Twitter platforms for a range of key areas such as BeSMART.ie, farm safety, chemical safety and work-related vehicle safety.	Audience size for key social media channels increased by at least 20%.
	Manage the production of Authority publications, ensuring that all guidelines and other documents are appropriate for their target market.	Appropriately produced publications, designed and laid out to meet the needs of the external customer.
	Ensure that people contacting the Authority's customer service unit (approximately 25,000 contacts each year) are dealt with as per service-level agreements.	Quantitative evidence that customer service commitments were met.
	Manage proactive outbound customer service campaigns.	Evidence of effective outbound campaigns.
	Manage and co-ordinate the European Focal Point activity, including European Safety Week campaigns.	Actions for the second year of the 'Healthy Workplaces Manage Stress' campaign implemented.

3. Irish National Accreditation Board Programmes

Operational Area	Planned Actions Performance Indicator	
Accreditation	Maintain a programme of surveillance and re-assessment site visits for existing accredited clients. Maintain surprise visit programme. Process new applicants efficiently as received.	Maintained accreditation for existing base of 200 accredited clients.
	1 rocess new applicants emolently as received.	Processed applicants from date of application to accreditation within twelve months.
	Award new accreditations across all sectors.	Awarded 15 accreditations (by INAB Board) and 80 extensions to scope (by INAB Manager).
INAB ICT Platforms	Develop INAB database application.	Consolidated database with enhanced functionality for improved efficiencies.
	Introduce electronic document submission and retrieval.	Reduced costs and improved efficiency through use of electronic documents.
	Introduce e-papers for the INAB Board.	INAB Board meetings operated with electronic paperwork.
International Representation and Peer	Fulfil European Co-operation for Accreditation (EA) and Eco-Audit and Management Scheme (EMAS) mandate for peer evaluator person days.	Participated in two peer evaluations of EA accreditation bodies.
Evaluations	Fulfil multilateral agreement requirements through participation at relevant meetings.	Represented at 24 EA technical committees and working groups.

3. Irish National Accreditation Board Programmes

Operational Area	Planned Actions	Performance Indicator
Monitoring Authority for Good Laboratory Practice (GLP)	Continue surveillance programme for four facilities. Maintain international obligations.	Continued surveillance programme for GLP compliant facilities. Attended OECD and EU Commission meetings on GLP. Co-operated on study audits requested by regulatory agencies as necessary.
EMAS Functions	Discharge Competent Body functions and work programme on behalf of the Department of the Environment, Community and Local Government (DECLG) as agreed.	Maintained register of EMAS sites in Ireland. Attended EU Commission meetings on behalf of DECLG. Received €60,000 for work on behalf of DECLG. Attended accreditation body meetings for EMAS verifiers.

4. Corporate Programmes

Operational Area	Planned Actions	Performance Indicator
Facilities and Services	Ensure that the office accommodation for the staff of the Authority is adequate to meet operational requirements and that there is a robust facilities management programme in place for the office network.	All issues addressed in a timely and costeffective manner.
Human Resources (HR)	Implement new electronic HR system to allow automation of a range of HR processes.	HR administration activities transitioned to new system. Full roll-out of system across all offices.
	Implement public sector reform measures in line with government policy, and related recruitment guidelines.	All relevant efficiency measures implemented; regular monitoring of staffing and reporting to DJEI; regular liaison with the Public Appointments Service as required.
	Manage the occupational health and welfare service and employee assistance programme for Authority staff.	Services delivered in accordance with agreed work programmes.
	Integrate INAB fully within all existing HR processes.	Adequate and timely co-ordination with INAB resulted in all HR systems reflecting INAB staff requirements.
	Co-ordinate delivery of annual learning and development programme. Ensure ongoing development of staff competence.	All priority programmes delivered in a timely manner. Competence levels assessed.
	Provide technical support and assistance to line managers on all HR systems and policies.	Appropriate support provided in a timely and effective manner.

Operational Area	Planned Actions	Performance Indicator
Human Resources (HR) (continued)	Continue to work co-operatively with staff and their union representatives to implement improvements and efficiencies in the Authority's working environment. Co-ordinate the roll-out of feedback sessions from staff survey, and the development of an action plan for the implementation of recommendations.	Ongoing dialogue and consultation with staff maintained. Series of workshops delivered. Action plan prepared.
Finance	Provide outsourced financial services to the Authority so that all payments to staff, pensioners and suppliers are made promptly and with probity, and managers have adequate information to manage expenditure. Provide the Finance and Audit Committees of the Board of the Authority with adequate information so that they and the Board can perform their roles.	Payroll, purchasing, invoicing and accounts payable services provided and management accounts produced. Regular reports provided, including expenditure, internal audit and risk register reports.
	Complete and seek Board approval for the 2014 draft financial statements before the end of February 2015.	Statements presented to Board.
	Ensure that the insurances in place for the Authority are both adequate and appropriate to our operational activities.	Insurances in place and regularly reviewed.
	Review and update the procurement system, and support staff in using the system, to ensure that the Authority is a best practice organisation in the area of public procurement.	Procurement managed in accordance with public sector guidance.
	Review the operation of the travel desk function to ensure its continued effective and efficient operation.	All official travel justified and reasons recorded.



Operational Area	Planned Actions	Performance Indicator
Information and Communication Technology (ICT)	Continue to drive innovation and implement enhanced processes and technologies to enable new and more effective ways of working.	Suitable systems identified and developed.
	Maintain and develop the Authority's ICT systems to enable the most productive use of resources.	User service-level agreement metrics achieved. Specified actions to update the inspection management system implemented.
	Obtain best value in ICT procurement.	Mobile, landline and PC frameworks in place. E-government website used for significant ICT purchases.
Corporate Governance	Deliver corporate publications, including: - Annual Report 2014 - Quarterly Reports on Programme of Work 2015 to the Board of the Authority and to DJEI - Programme of Work 2016	All statutory obligations and deadlines met in relation to corporate publications.
	Issue warrants to Authority inspectors, in accordance with the introduction of new legislation or changing inspector responsibilities. Warrants for temporary inspectors to be issued as required within tight deadlines.	All permanent and temporary inspectors appropriately warranted to conduct their work.
	Facilitate the work of the Board in 2015.	Board papers available to the Board members seven working days in advance of each Board meeting.

5. Corporate Support Programmes

Operational Area	Planned Actions	Performance Indicator
Corporate Governance (continued)	Respond to Freedom of Information, Data Protection and Access to Information on the Environment requests. Prepare Authority's Statement of Strategy 2016–2018.	Responded to requests and appeals within the legal timeframes. Statement of Strategy submitted to DJEI by 30 September 2015.
Research and Statistics	Represent Ireland at EU level at the Eurostat working group. Submit annual datafile of reported injuries to Eurostat. Collate and publish statistics on injuries and ill health to inform national and Authority policies and targeting. Continue to survey the inspection process (initiated in 2012).	Made appropriate input at the Eurostat working group. Submitted datafile for reported injuries in 2013 to Eurostat by 30 June 2015. Summary of Workplace Injury, Illness and Fatality Statistics 2014 published. Assessed the survey responses to determine the effectiveness of and outcomes from the national inspection programme. Implemented any changes deemed necessary.

Appendices

Appendix 1: Inspection and Investigation Programme 2015

Inspections in 2015 will concentrate on workplaces with the highest risk levels. Interventions in lower risk sectors will be carried out in response to complaints, injury reports or dangerous occurrences. Some inspections of lower risk workplaces will be performed as part of specialist campaigns (e.g. to assess the implementation of the legislation on Registration, Evaluation, Authorisation and Restriction of Chemicals [REACH] and Classification, Labelling and Packaging [CLP]). Inspections will address issues such as the presence and implementation of health and safety management systems, consultation and training. Investigations will be carried out for all notified workplace fatalities and for serious workplace accidents and, where required, for complaint resolution.

Legislation Target	number of inspections
Occupational Safety and Health legislation	
Agriculture	2,300
Forestry	100
Fishing	150
Construction	3,150
Manufacturing	700
Healthcare	200
Public sector	100
Mines and quarries	150
Transport and storage	150
Docks	50
Reactive inspections due to complaint, injury report, dangerous occurrence, etc.	550
Proactive inspections in specific areas (as a result of 2013/14 findings, including the waste recycling industry, liquid petroleum gas bulk and cylinder storage, lifts, driving for work, workplace transport and load securing, risk management)	500
Return inspections due to low levels of compliance	900
Total inspections under OSH legislation	9,000

Appendix 1: Inspection and Investigation Programme 2015

Legislation Target number of inspection	
Chemicals legislation	
Occupational hygiene	850
COMAH (control of major accident hazards)	150
Sub-COMAH	50
Transport of dangerous goods (ADR/TPE)	420
Retail and private petroleum stores (RPPS)	120
REACH – registration audits	5
REACH – CLP audits	10
REACH – CLP market surveillance product assessments	150
Total inspections/audits under chemicals legislation	1,755

Investigations	
Expected investigations of fatalities, serious accidents, dangerous occurrences and complaints under OSH legislation	1,200
Total inspections and investigations	11,955

Appendix 2: EU and International Representation Programme 2015

As Competent Authority and national lead on occupational health and safety, chemicals and market surveillance legislation, we will actively participate in EU and international committees and expert working groups. We will communicate the Irish position effectively to influence an outcome that benefits Ireland, or that does not put Ireland at a disadvantage. We will provide technical, scientific and policy inputs at EU and international levels as requested by the Minister and the Department of Jobs, Enterprise and Innovation (DJEI).

European and international committees in which the Authority participates
European and international committees in which the Additivity participates
European Chemicals Agency Management Board
CARACAL Competent Authority meeting on REACH and CLP
Risk Assessment and Socio-Economic Analysis REACH Committees (RAC and SEAC)
Security Officers Network on REACH-IT
Member State Committee on REACH
HelpNet for Member State REACH and CLP Helpdesks
REACH Competent Authorities Sub-Group on Nanomaterials (CASG Nano)
Advisory Committee on Safety and Health
ECHA Forum on Enforcement of REACH, CLP and the Rotterdam Regulation (PIC)
ECHA Working Group Forum on Authorisation
RIME (Risk Management Expert Group)
ECHA Sensitiser Co-ordination Working Group
Detergent Working Group
CLEEN (Chemicals Legislation European Enforcement Network)
Designated National Authority for the Rotterdam Regulation (PIC)
Central Competent Authority for Seveso
Seveso Experts Group
Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW) Group
EU Technical Dangerous Goods Committee (TDGC)
UNECE Working Party in the Transport of Dangerous Goods (WP15)
Working Party on Reducing Vehicle Risks at Work

Appendix 2: EU and International Representation Programme 2015

European and international committees in which the Authority participates EU Expert Group in Cargo [load] Securing

European Transport Safety Council – Work-Related Road Safety

Transportable Pressure Equipment Advisory Committee

Technical Working Group on Machinery and Advisory Committee

Pressure Equipment Directive Working Group and Advisory Committee

Technical Working Group on Lifts and Advisory Committee

Personal Protective Equipment Working Group and Advisory Committee

ATEX (explosive atmospheres) Working Group and Advisory Committee

EU Chief Inspectors of Mines

Senior Labour Inspectorate Committee (SLIC)

SLIC Rapid Sharing of OSH Information

SLIC MACHEX Project

SLIC CHEMEX

Standing Working Party on the Extractive Industries

Technical Working Group on European Statistics on Accidents at Work

Focal Point EU Network Committee

EU Joint Action – Mental Health at Work

ILO-EU Committee on Psychosocial Risks

Appendix 3: Legislation Development Programme 2015

Legislative proposals to be finalised in 2015

Seveso III Regulations

CDGRR 2011 and 2013 amendment to transpose ADR 2015

Revise Dangerous Substances Act 1972 and associated regulations

Lifts Directive

New legislation planned for 2015

Transposition of Electromagnetic Fields Directive

Appendix 4: Guidance Development Programme 2015

Codes of practice planned for 2015

Publish Code of Practice for Occupational Exposure Limit Values

Publish codes of practice to support new Diving Regulations

Review of Code of Practice for Access and Working Scaffolds

Other guidance planned for 2015

Seveso III Regulations Guidance

Ergonomics Good Practice Guidance

Technical Guidance Factsheet on Manual Handling Risk Management

Guidance for Hairdressers

Joint Guidance (with Environmental Protection Agency) on Handling of Hazardous Waste at Civic Amenity Sites

Guidelines to Chemical Agents Regulations 2001 – revision

Guidance on load securing and high-risk loads in specific sectors, including construction, agriculture, transport and logistics and forestry

Guidance on safe vehicle maintenance, vehicle tail-lift safety, preventing falls from vehicles, vehicle-mounted cranes and delivering safely



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