



# **Saving lives, reducing injuries at work**



## Saving Lives

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RoSPA is Britain's leading safety charity. Our mission is to save lives and reduce injuries. Our vision is to lead the way in safety and accident prevention 24/7.

Every year more than 200 people die as a result of workplace accidents. About 14 die in work-related road accidents and more than 70 as result of past exposure to asbestos. In total there are more than a million workplace injuries and more than two million cases of ill health caused or made worse by work. Big health issues include stress, musculo-skeletal disorders, respiratory diseases, deafness and dermatitis.



The cost to individuals and families is incalculable.

The cost to society exceeds £30billion or more than 2 per cent of GDP.

The vast majority of accidents and ill health can be prevented by good health and safety management.



Prevention works – and it pays.

## Leading the way

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RoSPA plays a unique role in UK health and safety. As a member organisation that campaigns for safety change we also provide services and support to help organisations on their own journey to become safer and healthier places in which to work.



- We research and pioneer new health and safety concepts.
- We lobby and campaign
- We encourage, inform, train and advise
- We recognise and celebrate performance achievement

RoSPA enjoys widespread stakeholder support, not only from regulatory bodies such as HSE and IOSH, but industry and trade associations, unions, major companies and numerous professional and specialist organisations.

## Focusing the minds of directors

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RoSPA initiated Director Action on Safety and Health, a campaign theme designed to highlight the importance of health and safety as a strategic performance issue for all organisations and their boards.

Since then new joint HSE/loD guidance has been introduced (INDG417), the law on manslaughter has been strengthened, more boards are reporting on performance, and more directors and senior managers are providing visible, felt leadership at the sharp end.



RoSPA is assessing the impact of all these changes, providing briefing and training for boards and pressing for health and safety management to be brought into the mainstream of business education.

## Involving the workforce

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You can only “do” healthy and safety *with* people - not *to* them. But many organisations fail to realise that workers themselves are often their biggest health and safety resource.



RoSPA is undertaking unique work to revitalise worker involvement in safety and health in non-unionised workplaces. We want more opportunities to spread this approach to organisations that have yet to tap into their workers’ knowledge and engage their enthusiasm for health and safety.

## Learning from accidents

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Because they lack expertise most organisations fail to extract vital lessons which can be learned by fully investigating accidents and incidents. Together with a partner organisation, NRI, RoSPA has developed DORI (Definition of Organisational Readiness to Investigate).



We stress the importance of director-led, team-based investigation which draws on workers' knowledge and insights, teaches them how to investigate and creates champions for the implementation of resulting recommendations.

## Managing Occupational Road Risk

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In an increasingly service-based economy, millions of workers now have to drive on the road as part of their job.



High-mileage car and van drivers face injury risks equivalent to those in high hazard sectors such as construction.

Since 1996 RoSPA has led the campaign to ensure risk on the road is managed and regulated as a mainstream health and safety issue, when it is part of work activity. We have brought key stakeholders together and developed guidance and training for managers as well as drivers. We also have a special award for higher performing organisations in work related road safety.

Most large organisations in the public, private and voluntary sectors have begun to address the issue, cutting crashes as well as costs. At RoSPA we want to help more organisations to move in this direction, particularly SMEs. We are keeping up the pressure to secure acceptance of managing occupational road risk as the number one safety issue in most organisations.

## Young workers, older workers, healthier workers

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Young workers are our future but too many are being injured. We are failing to embed sufficient understanding of sensible safety into education and vocational training.

At the same time, because of demographic change the average age of the workforce is changing and many older workers are staying in work. While not necessarily at greater risk of accidents they need help and support to cope with health problems associated with ageing.



RoSPA is working with partners to provide guidance to business on this vital issue.

We have also developed a unique approach to working with young drivers at work, showing how to change attitudes, change behaviours and cut crash rates.

We are also working to raise general awareness of workplace health risks and encourage proactive approaches to well-being, so as to cut absenteeism and support those returning to work after illness or injury.

## Enhancing team leadership

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Delivering board-level health and safety expectations and engaging workers in all these areas depend critically on the role of team leaders and supervisors. This has not received enough attention.

So RoSPA has begun a “Big Workplace Discussion”, seeking views from health and safety committees in its award winning organisations, to get ideas from the grass roots on the key ingredients for successful leadership at this level.

In consultation with partners we plan to distil new guidance on core actions and good practices that will raise the bar in workplaces across the UK.



## Taking stock

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Health and safety never stops. We have developed a unique range of tools and services to help organisations answer the question, “Where are we now?” when it comes to developing their management approach, ensuring compliance with standards and cutting accidents, incidents and days lost.

We are passionately committed to the “plan, do, check, act” philosophy of continuous improvement that underpins contemporary thinking about health and safety management. Whether it is reviewing systems, re-assessing specific risks and procedures, or measuring and reporting on performance RoSPA has a wealth of experience and in-depth knowledge which organisations can draw upon.



## Contact us

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If you think you can help us in delivering our mission, or if you think we can help you, please call us, 0121 248 2233 or visit us at [www.rospa.com](http://www.rospa.com).



RoSPA Occupational Health and Safety Award Winners

Consider becoming a RoSPA member or helping us by making a donation.

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