

ROSPA NOHSC meeting Thursday 8 October 2015

Notes from Sheila Pantry OBE

1. Fake Chargers and other fake goods that are fire hazards

Members and others may be interested in a recent Seminar that I organised for the Fire Information Group UK.

Many people have chargers for equipment such as telephones and various pieces of electronic equipment. An interesting Seminar on Fake chargers was held Thursday, 17 September 2015, 3.30 pm Imperial Hotel, Russell Square, London WC1B 5BB by the Fire Information Group UK (FIG UK) entitled *Mind the Gap Update 2015 Seminar on fake chargers and other fake goods that are fire hazards* talk which was given by Andrew Vaughan-Davies, London Fire Brigade Investigation.

At the end of the talk there was a question and answer session and discussion.

See Presentation including photos of fake and genuine chargers, fire damage etc :

www.figuk.org.uk/conferences/2015/counterfeit.pdf

www.figuk.org.uk/conferences/2015/

More details

Watch Manager Andy Vaughan-Davies has worked for the London Fire Brigade for 28 years and has been a full time member of the fire investigation team for 8 years.

Andy's duties include identifying patterns and trends, while progressing fire investigations, particularly in regard to white goods and electrical appliance fires. As a result of these investigations, in-depth research has been carried out into several key areas including fires involving refrigeration insulation, capacitor failures leading to ignition and of course the hazards surrounding counterfeit chargers.

These detailed investigations involve liaising with manufacturers and the appropriate Trading Standards Authority. Investigations are also carried out in conjunction with the Brigade's Scientific Advisors and feed into the community safety and prevention work the Brigade conducts, in order to help protect the people of London.

Andy holds a strong belief that to contribute to the prevention of fires and public safety, the fire investigation sector has a crucial role to play and a responsibility to supply quality data. Seminars such as those organised by Fire Information Group UK provide an excellent opportunity to share this knowledge within the sector, which should ultimately help to reduce risk.

2. History of Occupational Safety and Health (HOSH) website update see
www.historyofosh.org.uk

Current situation

This Summer the website has been growing in size, amongst the new additions:

a) **Extensive specially written new report** see David Matthey's [*History of Occupational Safety and Health in Agriculture*](#) that charts the development of the Agricultural Inspectorate. www.historyofosh.org.uk/resources/agriculture.html

b) **Timeline** – has been updated – some more additions to be added.

c) **Legislation** – has been updated – some recent additions to be added.

d) **More biographies added** – but please send any names/biographies of those people that you know who ought to be added.

e) **Lectures** – have got the Alan St John Holt lectures up to and including 2011, so now need 2012, 2013, 2014 and after 20 October 2015 the 2015 new lecture.

Does anyone know of other worthy lectures that should be added?

f) **Museums** – many more museums to be added but if you know of any museums in your own sector please send me notification.

g) **Donations by retired HM HSE Inspectors**

An appeal was made to members of the HM HSE Inspectors asking if they had any historical documents in their collections.

A number of documents have been donated which in some case are over 100 years old. These are being checked and indexed in HOSH. Once this task has been completed the actual documents are being donated to British Library (BL) for safe keeping, and indexing into their extensive database that contains over 57 million documents, books and reports. Once indexed in the BL system a link will be made within HOSH so that anyone can ask BL for photocopies, a loan or consult at the BL.

HOSH website is designed, produced, and maintained by Sheila Pantry Associates Ltd. It is free of charge to use.

3. OSHUPDATE+FIRE electronic service produced by Sheila Pantry Associates Ltd

OSH UPDATE+FIRE collection of electronic information contains 26 databases from worldwide validated and authoritative organisations such as the ILO, US NIOSH and UK Health and Safety Executive, European Agency for Safety and Health at Work, British Standards Institution etc.

OSH UPDATE+FIRE contains over 1,123,621 records with 95,567 full text documents including all the UK FIRE and OSH UK and EU legislation, plus reports, research reports, journal articles. Enlarges with about 10,000 new items per year. It covers all aspects of occupational health, safety, hygiene, environmental, chemicals, transport, fire and fire related topics and many other work related topics from worldwide sources.

Now in its second decade, it is used worldwide by organisations, universities, colleges, inspectorates, research workers and organisations, governments, trainers, consultants and covers all industry sectors. Internet based, user friendly and budget conscious.

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