

## Road to Zero Harm

- NEPSI - the bi-partite European Silica Network - held its 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Conference in Brussels on 16 June 2016. The event included a video address by EU Commissioner, Marianne Thyssen, who spoke highly supportively of the NEPSI initiative. Mrs Thyssen, however, highlighted that 70% of exposed workers are in the European Construction industry which is currently outside NEPSI. In recognition of this fact, significant 'encouragement' is being re-applied from various quarters to the construction industry and its social partners (trade unions) to join NEPSI and thereby share in the proven benefits of the added-value provided by NEPSI over and above that derived by mere compliance with legislation. See 5 minute NEPSI promotional video at <https://vimeo.com/ecpvideoproductions/nepsi/video/169383913> [PASSWORD: silica] also paper entitled 'Optimising the Prevention of Silicosis' due to be published in the July/August issue of RoSPA's OSH magazine.
- The eagerly-awaited MPA Driver's Industry Handbook is to be launched at the Hillhead International Quarrying & Recycling Show, in Buxton, Derbyshire, on 28 June 2016.
- On 28 & 29 June 2016 at the Hillhead Show, MPA has teamed up with occupational health provider Industrial Diagnostic Company to deliver 'Work Health Checks' for the individual, whereby anyone can step into a booth for a check-up by a qualified nurse. Personal results can be donated anonymously to the MPA's 'Big Health Survey'. Data donors will be entered automatically into a draw for a road bike! The data gathered will be used to build a picture of the industry's health to inform MPA as to where best it should focus its resources and efforts to make a sustainable difference. The stand will also host a wellbeing section that will encourage visitors to optimise their own contributions to their health and wellbeing.
- The theme of the MPA's Health and Safety Awards on 10 November 2016 will be: 'Securing Sustainable Health & Wellbeing Together'.
- MPA is now a licensed provider for IOSH 'Leading Safely'.
- A new and expanded suite of hazard warning signs now comprises a revised series of health and safety signs as part of MPA's evolving 'Stay Safe' initiative.
- New guidance is being developed for customers collecting freshly mixed asphalt, based on a recent non-MPA fatality.
- Consultation has now ended on the drafting of MPA's Health Surveillance Protocol. The document now awaits printing.
- MPA's 'Healthier by Association' consultation is also now complete, prior to final design work.
- MPA response to CMD proposal and communication with UK & European partners in final draft.
- Three 'Safer by Sharing' seminars on Mental Health in the Workplace have been delivered in different English Regions. Each seminar was conducted by Dawn Collins of Mental Health First Aid England.

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