### **Phil Chambers**

From: Phil Chambers at Strategic Safety Systems Ltd. [phil@strategicsafety.co.uk]

Sent: 26 January 2012 10:30 To: phil@strategicsafety.co.uk

**Subject:** News and Legal Updates from Strategic Safety Systems Ltd.!

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## Strategic Safety Systems Ltd. Newsletter

## January 2012

#### Dear Philip,

Welcome to the January edition of our newsletter. What we aim to do is to provide information which is of use to you and to let you know the activities in which we have been involved. We also aim to let you know of any incidents that have occurred in, and legislation that is related to, the areas in which we work. We realise that, with the broad sprectrum of our activities, some may not be relevant to you but we hope you find the rest useful.

Whilst the intention of this newsletter is to be useful, we realise that most people are plagued by spam and should you wish to prevent future issues being sent to you, unsubscribe using the link at the botton of the page.

Regards,

Philip Chambers Strategic Safety Systems Ltd.

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### SSS-recommended safety feature now used as a selling point

During a <u>CE assessment</u> for equipment provided by a Northamptonshire client, we recommended the inclusion of a simple device to stop the machine's hydraulic head from dropping under it's own weight. This device, a pilot operated checkvalve, is low cost but addresses the need to isolate all energy sources, including the potential energy of a raised part of machinery. I understand that competitor's machines do not have such devices and the company is now using this as a selling tool.

## Isolation procedures are critical

Make sure that whenever it is necessary to enter machinery or access dangerous parts, you have a robust isolation procedure to ensure that there is no possibility of the machine starting up with a person at risk.

We have had one recent incident where a complex line had several isolation points. An operator thought he'd isolated one of the machines but he had to get out of the way quickly when it started when he was inside it.

In <u>another incident</u>, a supervisor lost 2 fingers when cleaning in-running rollers. The company were fined £17,000 including costs.

The number of directors and senior managers prosecuted under section 37 of the HSWA 1974 has rocketed by more than 400 per cent in the last five years, so it is not just the company who is liable for a penalty. See more about this.

# Congratulations to Alpha for winning major NHS contract



Congratulations to one of our customers, Alpha Colour Printers of Gloucester, on winning the 3-year contract for all of the high quality print work for Gloucestershire Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust. SSS have worked with Alpha for many years to provide health and safety support, and established the systems that enabled Alpha to gain certification to ISO 9001, ISO 14001, FSC and PEFC.

# Keep up to date with your health and safety programme

We've just helped one company who have not been managing actions arising from health and safety reviews. Their insurance company was about to penalise them heavily for this, even though the issues arising were not that major and many of the actions had been completed.

#### What we did was:

- Transpose the list of issues and actions into the SSS INTACT action management system.
- Respond to these issues and define action to be taken (or had been taken)
- Provide a report from INTACT to be sent to the insurance company
- Introduce the SSS risk, CoSHH, fire risk and other risk assessment methodologies with their review and action management links to INTACT

I hope you have found this information of interest. If you have any suggestions of other information you would like to see, please contact me. Regards,

Philip Chambers Strategic Safety Systems Ltd.

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