

Newsletter Highlights:

Ray's Legal Update	2-3
Conference Special Report	4-6
Past student case study	7
Charitable Activities	8
News from Woodward	9-10

Produced by:



Woodward Conference Special Report

As part of our Alumni network for our past students, we want to give something back to you.

With this in mind, earlier in the year we began to organise an Annual Conference.

We hoped that the conference would serve to help our Alumni to network with fellow professionals, to update their Health and Safety knowledge and finally to meet up again with course mates with the opportunity to catch up on 'old times'.

The conference seemed to be a great success; more information can be found on pages 4 to 6 overleaf.



The ITEC Diploma in Business Competence

The pilot course for the ITEC Diploma in Business Competence ran in October 2007, and was a great success.

This first course achieved a 75% pass rate, and even the individual who failed told us that it was a good learning

experience and that he was pleased to have done the course.

We now plan to fully introduce the course and run it twice a year.

Don't hesitate to contact us if you would like some more information about this course.





Ray's Legal Update

Ray has once again highlighted a few important legal cases from the past few months that he feels may be of value to our alumni.

Whilst every care has been taken in compiling the articles and comments in this newsletter, Woodward cannot be held responsible for any

errors or omissions; the notes are not intended to be a substitute for specific legal advice.

MANSLAUGHTER !

With the Corporate Manslaughter and Homicide Act trundling slowly along towards April next year and its introduction, how many of us in the safety business are really holding our breath in anticipation. It reminds me of the fireworks eagerly awaited as a child; they seldom if ever fully met expectation. Damp squib springs to mind.

Perhaps I'm a little disillusioned as the only sanctions available to the courts are fines. The new guidance (guidance only, I may add) relating to directors and senior managers are to my mind too little, too late. A change of working from the old 2001 guidance; again, I get that sinking feeling.

Perhaps, in an effort to quash my cynicisms, case law

resulting from cases brought in the future using the Corporate Manslaughter and Homicide Act may make clearer the scope and effect of this new law. The guidance may also find usage in subsequent cases as suggesting best practice in directing a jury as to how committed directors and senior management may have been. I really don't know, we must wait and see. Don't forget fellow anoraks, guidance and its legal status or lack of it.

Remember the recent legionella case in Barrow in Furness. Plenty of guidance was available but how many people really feel justice was done and hope that the new law will be more effective. Again, I'm not holding my breath.

Word is there may be

charges brought in the future against Tunbridge Wells NHS Trust and the subsequent deaths there from Clostridium Difficile.

Will this be the sequel to the Barrow debacle?

Maybe if the Government really wanted to make a determined effort to improve the situation a better resourced and better trained HSE might be the answer!

I direct you to an article on page 10 of the SHP (Safety and Health Practitioner (SHP) magazine, November 2007 issue. (ICL Plastics)

DIY – Is it dangerous?

Who said DIY was dangerous? Is it heck! Going into the DIY shop, now that's dangerous.

Chichester Crown Court heard the case against B&Q where a stack of kitchen doors fell 4.5metres onto some customers.

Then, when a paramedic went to assist the injured people, he was hit by more falling doors.

This was the 10th prosecution B&Q have had since 1996.

Not in any way do I want to make out that B&Q are any worse or any better than any other DIY store. I only wish to highlight problems associated with this type of retail establishment.

Storing heavy materials on high

racking above customers heads needs present no problems at all as long as they are suitably secured and managed.

Would you take this risk at home with the heavy mirror on your bedroom ceiling?

I rest my case.

Do you understand ?

Nicolai Danut-Puiu didn't and consequently lost his leg.

The government does not seem to know just how many immigrant workers are currently working in the UK but employers do. They employ them and a considerable number of these migrant workers do not have a full understanding of the English

language which without doubt places them at greater risk than their English speaking colleagues with regards to their interpretation of health and safety instructions and information.

City of London Magistrates Court 26 September, Ethos Recycling pleaded guilty to two offences of HASAWA section2.

Beware!
This is a situation more and more employers may find themselves in if they don't ensure everyone employed within their undertaking understands Health and Safety instructions and information.

For Further Information.....

Ray has suggested that for further information, the following websites might be of use:

www.lawreports.co.uk
(links to www.iclronline.co.uk)

or www.lawteacher.net

– click on the “case law” link for access to a few case law database

Conference Overview



By Friday at 12:30pm the conference delegates had attended the opening welcome and the two full conference talks, three specialist breakout sessions [each lasting one and a half hours] and the closing speech on "Becoming a Change Manager". After all that there were still challenging questions from the conference delegates in the last open forum session.

Each of the breakout sessions was well attended and produced both interesting and at times heated discussions. The delegates explained that these sessions had provided them with knowledge and procedures so they

could be more effective in their health, safety and environmental management roles back at work

Over lunch on Friday every delegate, without exception, asked for booking forms for the 2008 conference. This was very pleasing as such responses are better than any feedback forms. Two organizations are going to hold their quarterly workshops for their site health and safety managers at the time of the 2008 conference and use the conference as the main thrust of their workshops.

The delegates all indicated that the conference had been "all in all a very tiring, challenging and rewarding experience."



The Conference Dinner

On the Thursday evening of the conference we had the conference dinner. The majority of the conference delegates decided to attend the meal and it was a very enjoyable experience. It was a good opportunity to reflect on the events of the day and network with fellow professionals in a relaxed environment.

Teresa Kirkby, Deputy Standards Manager from NEBOSH, was kind enough to agree to be our after dinner speaker. Teresa talked about her role at NEBOSH and dispelled some of the many myths surrounding the NEBOSH examination process.



The Breakout Sessions

“Topical, well explained, helpful for implementation, leading edge, explained by professional practitioners, much needed” were words used by delegates to describe the Breakout Sessions at the conference.

From looking at what the new legislation means for CDM, Fire Safety and Work at Height to actual problems with implementing ISO14001 and Hazardous Waste procedures the delegates responded by digging deep into the minds of the presenters to learn from their experiences from them working in a wide range of workplaces. Many of the “myths” of the legislation were discussed – the 2 metre rule – the role of coordinators – what is a fire risk assessment.



Exhibition Stands

“Book me an exhibition stand next year” was the request from three of the five exhibitors at the conference. As well as the conference delegates the IOSH and NEBOSH stands were inundated with another 55 students on health and safety courses in the hotel. These stands were so useful that delegates asked for additional stands to be added at the 2008 conference. So 18 exhibitors [IOSH and NEBOSH included] are being invited for 2008. 8 of the 18 stands have already been allocated.

Pens and other freebies proved as popular as leaflets and booklets but are we not all the same at exhibitions!!



Testimonials from Delegates

"I enjoyed the conference and found it informative. The main reasons for me attending were to keep abreast of what is happening with regard to H&S&E in general and I also saw it as a chance to meet with people who are working in the same environment.

It was interesting to see the mix of employed and self employed people from other parts of the country. As a consultant you can sometimes feel isolated and I found it refreshing to meet with other consultants working within the area.

The conference also gave me insight into other areas of work that I could become involved with and hence am now enquiring about the fire safety certificate."

Chetna - Chetna Reay Consultants Ltd

"The conference, being a first, was well organised but could have been better if more people had attended, for once I didn't have to travel many hours to attend a conference, All break out sessions and presentations were of a high quality, and easily understood by delegates, I will look forward to next years conference"

Archie Dryburgh - Magnox Electric, Chapelcross

"It was an excellent 1st conference, with informative presentation/breakout sessions, well worth finding the time to attend. I would recommend the future conference to anyone who needs to keep up-to-date with new legislation "

Pauline Gorley - Maryport Developments Ltd

Additional testimonials can be seen at <http://www.woodward-group.co.uk/PagesAll.aspx?pid=31>

Next Years Conference



We plan to make our conference next year even better than the first.

Improvements to the conference will include an associated exhibition, additional breakout sessions and an even lower price (!!), making the conference even better value for delegates.

The conference and exhibition will be held on Thursday 16th October 2008 and Friday 17th October 2008 at the Crown and Mitre Hotel, Carlisle.

Delegate places at the

conference will be limited to 110, but all are welcome to visit the exhibition.

We are currently negotiating with a sponsor who will help fund the conference and exhibition, and assuming this sponsorship goes ahead the prices for delegates at the conference will be as follows:

Woodward Alumni – FREE

Associated Institutes – £50

Other Delegates – £100

Accommodation - £50 a night

Conference dinner - £20

More information on the conference can be found at <http://www.woodward-group.co.uk/PagesAll.aspx?pid=30>

This will be updated as more of the conference details are finalized.

If you would like a book an exhibition stand, or present a breakout session at the conference, please contact us as soon as possible.

From Training to Job – Past Student Case Study

We want this newsletter to reflect the experiences of our Alumni. If you would like to submit an article to us, it would be greatly appreciated.

Richard Busby

I took voluntary redundancy from the RAF in September 2005 and for my resettlement I did the NEBOSH Certificate with Woodwards at Carlisle. The course was very interesting though I didn't find it easy and it seemed everyone else on the course did!

I would certainly recommend the course to anyone leaving the service and looking at entering the health and safety world.

I am now employed by Lincolnshire Co operative Ltd as a Health and Safety Advisor with a view to possibly getting the managers job when he retires. The Health and Safety department is a small one, manager, two advisors and an admin assistant, so we are always busy.

The company has a large number of food stores, 18 pharmacies, 11 funeral homes (two with facilities for embalming) a motor



dealership, 15 post offices, three warehouses, our own transport department and a bakery.

This is split between the two of us and covers the whole of Lincolnshire so days can involve a lot of travelling.

A day may involve accident investigation, inspecting and assessing a vehicle workshop, watching an embalming – just to see the process and look at the risks – or looking round a food store and advising the staff on how to avoid injury.

Plus there is always the chance of a meeting with the local authorities or the HSE.

The company is funding me through the health and safety diploma,

which is a more daunting prospect than I had imagined but very interesting. All in all the future looks pretty good, though with a lot of hard work to do to achieve what I'd like to.

Keeping up with legislation changes across the company keeps us very busy but it is absorbing work, a complete change from being an armourer in the RAF and something I really enjoy doing.

By
Richard Busby



Woodward joins Charity-Worker Training Scheme



As you'll be aware from our last newsletter, we recently accepted our first scholarship student, Ruth Hankins from Carr-Gomm (supported housing) onto our October (12 day) General Certificate Course.

Ruth is now two weeks through her course, and gave us the following comment:

"I would like to say thank-you to everyone at the Woodward Group and in particular the tutors who

taught me on the group I was with.

I work for a housing charity and was given the opportunity through a sponsorship scheme to undertake the Nebosh certificate. It was a really good experience and very supportive 2 weeks.

It is a long time since I have undertaken any type of formal education and although the course was packed with information it was pitched at just the right level for me to keep up.

There was some familiar ground and some completely new because the concept of health and safety covers so much and such varied occupations.

If I had had to do this on my own I would have found it very daunting. So with my manual, excellent handouts and personal notes fingers crossed for my exam in two weeks and a big, big thank-you."

How can managers avoid going to prison ?



On the evening of Tuesday 13 November 2007, following one of Christine's buffets, Ray gave a talk to both the Cumbrian Branch of the Chartered Management Institute [CMI] and the Chartered Institute of Personnel and Development [CIPD] entitled "How can Managers **avoid** going to Prison".

The context of the talk centered around the discussions "After the

prison sentences imposed following the Tebay disaster and the gross negligence manslaughter charges against a manager following the Barrow Legionella outbreak you may be asked to advise managers about their civil and criminal liabilities in the role they undertake within your organisation and to give help to them to ensure they do not end up in court on a serious offence which may result in heavy fines or a custodial sentence".

There were over 35 managers in the audience. The one hour talk prompted questions for about another hour and the enthusiastic applause

[and further networking discussions for about another hour after that] made a very pleasing evening.

Already one company has asked Ray to do the same talk and answer the same types of questions for their middle, senior managers and directors.

If you would like Ray to visit your company [anywhere in the UK] to deliver this same talk please contact us on 01228 592614 or info@woodwardgroup.co.uk and we can discuss it.



The CIPD Exhibition 2007 (or "The Tale of Two Magicians and an Emu")

On Tuesday 18th September 2007, members of the Cumbria Branch of the CIPD were given the opportunity to go to Harrogate for the day to visit the CIPD

Exhibition. Tom and James decided to take advantage of this exciting opportunity to speak to a number of large companies which were exhibiting there.

There was a huge selection of HR specialisations being exhibited. There were many different ways that the exhibitors attempted to get your attention, from the

tradition leaflet throwing to "magicians" doing magic tricks. In fact, on two occasions Tom and James were approached by these magicians.

After our initial disappointment at the magicians' inability to conjure money out of thin air, we were suitably impressed at the card tricks which were performed (which still puzzle me to this very day) and this approach was a good way of drawing attention to the exhibition stand.

One of the highlights of



my day was catching sight of a bright pink emu, which we managed to get a photo of. Although this was just another type of advertising by another company exhibiting, the emu continued to draw quite a crowd.

By the end of the day I had gone round all of the stands, made some

valuable contacts and I'd got myself bags of freebies as well!

However, the CIPD exhibition was a valuable opportunity to make new contacts in the HR business and experience a busy exhibition environment.

I look forward to the exhibition in 2008!

Bolton H&S 07 Exhibition

Tom and Tom met up with a few old friends at the Health and Safety 07 Exhibition at the Reebok Stadium in Bolton on Wednesday 10th October 2007 and Thursday 11th October 2007.

We made several new contacts and met up with a number of past students.

It was great to catch up and see how people's careers have developed since leaving us.

Thanks to everyone who came to visit us.

If we missed you at this event, hopefully we will have the opportunity to catch up at a future exhibition.



Additional Environmental Diploma Dates Released

Due to the high level of demand for the NEBOSH Environmental Diploma, Woodward has scheduled a second

course to run in April / May / June 2008, ready for the 2008 National Examination Sittings.

If you are interested in

booking a place, please do not hesitate to contact us, as we are certain place will fill up very quickly.



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We're on the Web!

See us at:

www.woodwardgroup.co.uk

Do you want to be an Alumni Case study?

We want this newsletter to be about you, our Alumni. We'd like to feature a different past student each month and talk about what

you've done since leaving us.

If you'd like to be featured in our newsletter please send

a short article about yourself and your career to the newsletter at safetynet@woodwardgroup.co.uk

Course Testimonials Request

We would like to include some testimonials from past students on our website, so that potential students can get an idea about how we operate and what we have to offer.

students have suggested that they would have benefited from these.

If you would like to send us a testimonial please include your name and company (or rank if MoD) so that we can show that the

testimonials come from real people.

Testimonials of all lengths would be greatly appreciated.

Many thanks in advance!

Several current

Woodward Conference 2008 - Speakers Request

We would like to announce that for Woodward's 2nd Conference we will be accepting speakers for the conference

breakout sessions.

If you would be interested in presenting a session, about a particular product, service or aspect of

SHE legislation, please get in touch.

NB: You will get paid for presenting a breakout session !

About Our Company...

Woodward delivers health and safety training and also environmental management training. The majority of the training courses offered

are IOSH, NEBOSH or CIEH accredited. However bespoke training, consultancy and auditing work are also undertaken.

Woodward wants to continue to develop professional safety, health and environmental, fire and construction managers.

Do you have any feedback for us?

This is our third newsletter to our alumni and we want to make sure that it is something worth reading.

on how we can improve the newsletter we'd love to hear them. Equally if you have an article you'd like to see in our newsletter or a letter for us to publish we'd be

happy to consider them.

Please contact us on the usual address:

info@woodwardgroup.co.uk