

Case study:

Translating Big Build Health successes into SME context

Summary

An SME delivery group, within the main IOSH CG Committee is to work towards decanting the excellent progress of Build Construction into core principles/ bite size steps that SME organizations may be able to utilize

Problem statement

With an Industry emphasis on improving Occupational Health, there has been an increasing growth in good practice. However, these improvements are focused towards either mega construction projects, or some of the major Contractors.

Solution / what you did

A group of interested parties has been brought together as an initial roundtable forum to develop the overarching framework and inform the initial strategy outlined by IOSH CG.

Attendance at the round table is dependent on one of three characteristics:

Past involvement in Occupational Health good practice experience: ODA, Cross rail, Major Contractors with OH team,

Representatives of Construction SMEs: FMB, National Federation of Builders, etc

Representative of supply chain (who can connect with SME): ie Builders Merchants, Plant hire and materials suppliers

Key challenges faced

The feedback from the initial roundtable indicates that the needs of the sector are:

- Greater collaboration between industry bodies including IOSH, WWT, Trade bodies, CDP & HCLG
- The need to raise health risk awareness
- Education and training for new entrants
- Providing meaningful content in an appropriate yet easy to use manner

Outcomes and benefits

The initial roundtable, based in the Bristol area has provided the base to develop a collaborative approach to bridging the gap to better support and inform SME's in health risk management

Measures of success

This is likely to be a two to be a long-term process, so initially we have scheduled a 2 year programme.

Our initial successes have been in better understanding the challenges in the SME arena and the need to language supporting materials in a more appropriate manner.

Lessons learnt

YouTube output from initial meeting is available at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oEmLIFsZtIA>

Proposals for supporting better sharing of appropriate knowledge and information on Occupational health for SMEs are in development.

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Figure 1: SME Industry representatives