

MARCH NEWSLETTER

BUILDING SAFETY ACT

As you will all be aware there have been changes within the construction sector with The Building Safety Act setting out new requirements with various pieces of secondary legislation. One of the changes relates to Building Control and the new processes for ensuring compliance. CSS have issued guidance on the difference between the PD (CDM) v PD (BSA) which has also been re-issued with this newsletter. They are different roles, with different skill sets, but do have the same title. Please read the attachment for some further clarity. The most up-to-date presentation from Build UK is also attached as this month's safety campaign to assist with all the changes.

MEET THE TEAM

PAUL LYDON

Hi, my name is Paul and I'm a Safety Advisor for CSS. I'm based near Crawley, West Sussex and cover projects in London and the Southeast. I have been with CSS for over 6 months now and can say that I'm enjoying my work, meeting people, and the variety of clients and projects.



I believe in fostering good relationships with my colleagues, clients and contractors and working with them to achieve delivery of our services, compliance, and improvements towards industry best practice. Having effective training with my colleagues since joining CSS, relevant qualifications, and experience in my career, I feel able and supported in providing sound assistance, guidance, and advice on construction health and safety. The daily exposure I'm given to our varied construction and fit-out industry projects, clients, principal contractors, and contractors is of benefit to my further development and the service CSS provide.

Outside of work, I like to watch sports particularly football and rugby, attending home matches at Sutton United FC when I can. Other interests are occasional pub quizzes, visiting historical sites and gardens, and frequent countryside walks. I also enjoy the arts, events, museums, live theatre, and shows locally at the Hawth. But in the main, I'm a passionate music fan and former DJ / radio presenter who has a very eclectic taste from all the decades 1950s onwards.

Best Practice Examples Fire Points



Each month we will share some good examples that we have seen on a particular topic. This month will be on-site fire points. The above photos show three clear and well-presented fire points. When carrying out site inspections CSS will be looking for;

- Clear and unobstructed fire points
- Extinguishers provided in accordance with the fire risk assessment
- A suitable means of raising the alarm which are interlinked
- Extinguishers are serviced and in date
- Fire points are clearly identified
- Weekly tests are being undertaken and recorded.

Each construction site must have a fire risk assessment undertaken which must be specific to the work and environment. PCs must consider what firefighting provisions are required, where these will be located, and that they are sufficient for the work taking place.

The site fire risk assessment should be updated as the project progresses along with any fire plans to ensure they remain current. Further guidance on fire safety in construction can be found on the [HSE website](#).

Falls From Height



40 workers in the year 2022/23 were killed due to falls from height. This has been a key HSE focus point for many years and will be for many years to come. We still see far too many instances where the hierarchy of control is not followed. If a work-at-height incident were to occur, you will be asked why the hierarchy of control was not followed, and you will need to have a very good reason as to why.

SIGNIFICANT FAILINGS OF THREE COMPANIES RESULT IN £780,000 IN FINES AFTER MAN FELL FROM ACCESS EQUIPMENT

A link to the case is above in which a worker was killed installing lightning protection on a building. The Principal Contractor, and Contractor who appointed the company did not consider using a safer means of working and opted for rope access. The judge was clear in sentencing that safer means such as scaffolding or a MEWP could have been used and that the Principal Contractor, and Contractor who had appointed the specialist sub-contractor to do the work should have reviewed their safe system of work. The specialist company were also fined as part of the £780,00.

'Principal Contractors and Contractors should be aware that appointing subcontractors with specific specialisms does not remove the duty that they have to ensure the work has been properly planned and can be undertaken safely'

Please consider signing up for 'No Falls Week ' which is in May to keep help pushing the message about working safely from height. A link can be found to this [here](#).



NO FALLS WEEK

Help us save lives by stopping falls



PROSECUTIONS



[Company Director avoids prison after wood dust failures](#)

[Worker killed by excavator](#)

[Two companies fined after roofer fall](#)

WE ARE HERE TO HELP!

CSS strive to ensure that we offer the best possible advice as early as possible. If you have any concerns, or questions in relation to the project you are working on, please call us so that we can advise and offer any assistance that may be needed. We have a very approachable team who are there to help through the whole project process.



CDM TRAINING



CSS offer a range of CDM training sessions which can be carried out at a location that suits you, or online. This includes CDM training for all duty holders.

If you would like training undertaken please do not hesitate to contact our office on 01869 220649 where we will be happy to help.

Alternatively, if you want to discuss safety matters, or the newsletter contact Phil Davies on 07718 096940 or phildavies@constructionss.co.uk