



Safer Sphere appreciates that the CDM Regulations 2015 and Health and Safety Legislation can be a burden to small and medium sized contractors. Such organisations rarely have the resource to employ internal Health and Safety professionals, meaning the burden is applied to those managing the organisation or supervising construction activities.

Our aim in this department is to reduce that burden by providing compliant Contractor CDM Safety Support, which enables contractors to make Health and Safety a simple process and gives them ability to concentrate their efforts in providing quality and cost effective solutions in their chosen field. Whether you are a "contractor" or acting as "Principal Contractor", Safer Sphere are here to help you!

# THE RANGE OF SERVICES AVAILABLE FOR CONTRACTOR CDM SAFETY SUPPORT INCLUDE:

### LITE PACKAGE

- Provision of Competent Person in accordance with Regulation 7 of the Management of Health & Safety at Work Regulations 1999.
- Annual audit of client competent health & safety advisor Reg 7 certificate.

- Access to advice by phone and email.
- Monthly safety bulletin

### **STANDARD PACKAGE** Lite Package Plus

- Fully compliant Safety Management System.
- Monthly site audit.
- Accident and Incident investigations.
- Annual office / premises risk assessment and fire risk assessment.

### **PREMIER PACKAGE** Standard Package Plus

- 1No. additional project site audit per month.
- Development of up to 2No. bespoke risk assessments / method statements / COSHH assessments.
- Assistance in obtaining or maintaining SSIP accreditation.
- Attendance at annual management meeting to review organisational H&S.

If the packages do not suit your particular needs then Safer Sphere can develop a bespoke subscription to suit your requirements, with additional ad-hoc services available when and where you need them.

Please contact Safer Sphere for any health & safety consultancy service fee quotations on 01744 768023 or email: info@safersphere.co.uk





**THIS** month's Safer Sphere Today provides an insight into our business and provides topical bulletins. Included is an update on the Occupational Health side of design mitigations and expectations of the industry.

I also had the privilege this month to present for the North West Construction Safety Group on the topic of Contractors being requested to accept the appointment of Principal Designer. A great session with a fantastic audience full of relevant scenario based questions. It really brought home that the Principal Designer role is still causing much confusion. Hopefully those who attended went away much more knowledgeable on the subject....

Safer Sphere operate on nationally from our headquarters in the North West. If you have a need for any business or project support please do get in contact with our team.

**Kind Regards** 

Mike Forsyth

T 01744 768023

**E** info@safersphere.co.uk

www.safersphere.co.uk





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### 1 KING STREET MANCHESTER REFURBISHMENT

### **CLIENT**

EPIC / WALKER SIME LTD

### **CONTRACTOR**

SUSTAINABILITY INC LTD

### **SERVICES**

CLIENT CDM ADVISOR AND PRINCIPAL DESIGNER ADVISOR



### THE BRIDGE INN - SALE

### **CLIENT**

J W LEES / BRIDGEWATER CONTRACTS LTD

### **CONTRACTOR**

BRIDGEWATER CONTRACTS LTD

### **SERVICES**

PRINCIPAL DESIGNER ADVISOR





# LIF – WEST FLOAT BIRKENHEAD – SLAB REMOVALS AND REMEDIATION

### **CLIENT**

PEEL HOLDINGS / WALKER SIME

### **CONTRACTOR**

TDS DEMOLITION

### **SERVICES**

CLIENT CDM ADVISOR & PRINCIPAL DESIGNER ADVISOR

Following demolition of the former Mobil Oil site this scheme involved the grubbing up of the external slabs and ground remediation to prepare the site for future development. The site is part of the wider Wirral Waters development.



### **NOMA ANGEL MEADOWS**

**CLIENT: FAR EAST** 

CONSORTIUM INTERNATIONAL **SERVICES: CLIENT CDM ADVISOR** & PRINCIPAL DESIGNER ADVISOR

NOMA has been identified by Manchester Place as one of the major residential growth areas for Manchester, the United Kingdom. NOMA is a key city centre location and the Angel Meadow plots mark the first phase of the Northern Gateway, a sweep of land from Victoria station north taking in New Cross, The Irk Valley and Collyhurst which in total has the potential for a new neighbourhood of 7,000 homes supported by social infrastructure.

FEC has built a diverse and widely-acclaimed property portfolio of quality residences in Australia, Mainland China, Hong Kong, Malaysia, Singapore and the United Kingdom, which has demonstrated its ability to develop, build and launch multiple large scale mixed-use developments across the region. The Group recently won planning consent for Alpha Square in London, a scheme that will deliver 700 apartments, a new school and new health hub, hotel and pocket square.

### **PROJECT ORPHEUS**

**CLIENT: PEEL LAND & PROPERTY SERVICES:** CLIENT CDM ADVISORS

On a demolished former industrial site and creation of a new large scale manufacturing facility. The project will involve a complex design including land remediation, new build manufacturing and warehousing facilities.





### **NELSON GATE - SOUTHAMPTON**

**CLIENT:** FI REAL ESTATE MANAGEMENT /

WALKER SIME LTD

**SERVICES:** CDM CLIENT ADVISOR & PRINCIPAL DESIGNER ADVISOR

### **FROBISHER HOUSE**

WON Forming part of one of Southampton's biggest and most prominent office complexes, Frobisher House provides large well proportioned and comfort cooled floor plates.

### **NORWICH HOUSE**

Forming part of one of Southampton's largest office complexes, Norwich House is a prominent landmark 14 storey building.

The available accommodation is situated on the top four floors of the property each of which provide panoramic views of the city.

Each floor is open plan with common areas providing a ground floor manned reception, DDA compliant passenger lifts, W/C's and kitchenette facilities.



# COMPANY FINED £700,000 FOR MEWP DEATH FALL

Whirlpool UK Appliances Limited has been fined £700,000 after a self-employed contractor fell from a mobile elevated work platform (MEWP) and later died from his injuries.

On 21 March 2015 the contractor had been working at a height of nearly five metres installing fire detection equipment, at the site of the former Indesit factory in Yate, near Bristol.

At the same time Whirlpool UK maintenance workers started an overhead conveyor unaware that the contractor was working nearby.

The movement caused the MEWP to tip over and the 66-year-old man fell to the

factory floor. He later died from his injuries.

An HSE investigation found there was no effective control or supervision in place to prevent the conflicting work tasks from being undertaken at the same time.

Whirlpool UK Appliances Limited pleaded guilty at Bristol Crown Court to breaching the Health and Safety at Work Act and was fined £700,000 and ordered to pay costs of £11,466.

Speaking after the hearing HSE inspector Matt Tyler said: "This is a tragic case where the incident could have been prevented if the company had planned and controlled the work properly."





# BUILDER KILLED IN NORTH LONDON SITE EXPLOSION

A man has died following an explosion on a construction site in Highgate, North London on Thursday.

He was taken by air ambulance to hospital following the blast but later died from his injuries.

The site in Swains Lane is being redeveloped by Noble House.

A 1920s row of shops is being demolished with plans to replace them with a new residential and retail scheme.

The BBC also reported that the site once contained a petrol station requiring the removal of underground tanks as part of the demolition work.

Highgate councillor and Green London Assembly Member Sian Berry told the BBC: "It's absolutely shocking. I was there last Friday and saw a big tank that used to store petrol. The first stage of construction was taking these tanks away."

A spokesman for the Metropolitan Police said: "We were called just after 2pm to reports of an explosion at an address in Swain's Lane, N6.

"London's air ambulance attended and took a man aged in his 50s to an east London hospital. Unfortunately he has since passed away. His next of kin have been made aware.

## **CASE STUDY**



### **COMPLETION**

Base Build – 2010
Landlord Fit Out - Ongoing
CLIENT

Peel Media Ltd

**VALUE** 

Base Build £500m Landlord Fit Out £100k - £2m



### **SERVICES**

### CONSTRUCTION HEALTH & SAFETY, ADVISORS AND PRINCIPAL DESIGNER ADVISORS

### SERVICE DESCRIPTION

Mike Forsyth, Managing Director of Safer Sphere, was the lead CDM Coordinator for the base build of this prestigious and multifaceted development. The project commenced in 2007 to provide a new and innovative media, leisure and commercial development including the new northern operational facility for the BBC.

The development included for the construction of:-

- 3no multistorey office facilities for BBC tenancy
- Central studio complex consisting of 6 major recording studios
- 2no multistorey residential towers containing over 100 apartments
- 4 storey media university building with 9 storey speculative office facilities.
- 2no commercial towers with a hotel.
- Multi Storey Car Park
- Tri-generation heating and power network
   & Energy Centre
- External infrastructure and landscaping
- Pedestrian bridge linking the development to Trafford Wharf.
- 1.16km of highway linking the development to the M602 motorway.
- Ongoing Landlord Category A fit outs under CDM 2015.

### **Service Challenges**

The project was one of the largest construction projects in Europe, with a multitude of project teams, consultants and contractors. At its peak the project involved approximately 2500 operatives on the site. Some of the key CDM challenges included:-

- Transition between CDM1994 to CDM2007 mid project and finally to CDM 2015 for landlord Cat A works.
- Poor ground conditions, contaminations and high water table.
- Working over and adjacent to the Manchester Ship Canal.
- Significant temporary works.
- Assisting designers in eliminating hazard and reducing risks in complex and varying designs.
- Development of safe cleaning, maintenance and plant replacement strategies for the high rise structures.
- Phased handovers catering for operational buildings with construction works continuing.
- Logistical challenges of Category A fit outs of shell and core space whilst the development is operational. Particularly with television and radio programming restrictions for vibration and noise.

# OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH CONSIDERATION FOR DESIGNERS



The latest HSE Stats for 2016 show a staggering 1.3 million workers are suffering from a work related illness. 25.9 million working days are lost each year to businesses.

In Construction, several high level work related ill and occupational health are presented in Musculoskeletal Disorders; Cancer; Asbestos Related and Respiratory Disease; Deafness; Skin Disease; Vibration related disease.

Contractors have made good headway in the last 15 years in tackling work related ill health.
Constructing Better Health (CBH) was started in 2001 to radically improve the health of the UK's construction industry workforce. CBH has published a health

assessment matrix outlining the job roles within the industry and advising where a health surveillance and a mandatory health check should be completed for their employees.

Heading into 2017 the latest Health and Safety Executive strategy is 'Help Great Britain Work Well'. Part of this strategy is Tackling ill Health. In Construction, priorities remain for Musculoskeletal disorders and Occupational Lung Disease.



The Construction (Design and Management) Regulations have been around since 1994, but with the recent revision in 2015 ever more focus is on the designer to consider the risk in accordance with the General Principals of Prevention.

So, what simple measures can a designer do in his duties to comply with both the latest CDM Regs 2015 and the Strategy in Construction for tackling III Health?

Using the CDM Red, amber and green lists as published by the HSE.

### **Musculoskeletal Disorders**

- the consideration of specifying heavy building blocks i.e. those weighing <20kgs;</li>
- Reduction in the size of glass panels;
- The specification of lighter lintels (the use of slim metal or hollow concrete lintels being alternatives);
- Specify half board sizes for plasterboard sheets to make handling easier;
- Provision of adequate access and headroom for maintenance in plant rooms:
- Removal of heavy construction components which cannot be handled using mechanical lifting

devices (because of access restrictions / floor loadings etc)

### **Occupational Lung Disease**

- The specification of concrete products with pre-cast fixings to avoid drilling;
- Removal of specifying solvent-based paints and thinners, or isocyanates, particularly for use in confined areas;
- Specify surface mounted services and removal of the need to chasing out of concrete / brick / blockwork walls or floors for the installation of services:
- Remove the need for On-site spraying of harmful substances;
- Consider the processes giving rise to large quantities of dust (dry cutting, blasting etc.);
- Remove the need for Hand scabbling of concrete ('stop ends', etc)

Managing health and safety in construction
Construction (Design and Management) Regulations 2015

From a designer perspective, it is not possible to eliminate all foreseeable risks associated with the construction industry and the concept of tackling ill health. But the designer should provide information

in a suitable format and help identify the steps they should take to reduce and control the remaining risks and in most circumstances, provide at a stage where designers can take account of it as early in the design process as is practicable.

Following the recession in 2008 an estimated 140.000 jobs were lost in Construction. With an ageing workforce and a poor pipeline of young people, the construction industry looks certain to face a skills crisis in the next decade. As reported in the Government Strategy Construction 2025, the industry faces a pressing need for a capable workforce that can deliver transformational change in the next decade. As the wider economy emerges from recession, construction firms must be able to recruit. retain and develop skilled, hard-working people in sufficient numbers to meet the increasing demand for construction. Herein lies the problem in tackling ill health and determining the continuity of the average construction worker well beyond retirement age.

A report commissioned by the CIOB in 2015, found that the built environment has a crucial role to play in terms of improving the lives of older people through measures designed to enhance the accessibility and liveability of buildings. Retaining ageing workers' knowledge and skills is also crucial, and the report sends a clear message to policymakers and industry leaders: to be successful, construction needs to see far greater investment and recognition of ageing workers. With 19% of the construction workforce set to retire in the next five to ten years, the report finds that employers need to overcome stereotypes and repurpose, where necessary, job descriptions to attract and, most importantly, retain older workers. However, the CIOB is clear that this not be considered a substitute for investing in training, and should work hand-in-hand to help alleviate the ongoing skills crisis.

Whilst 57% of respondents acknowledged that it was 'very important' to retain ageing workers, this was not reflected in the number of respondents who stated that their workplace had measures such as flexible working, succession planning, mid-life career reviews or retirement planning designed to encourage an extension to longer working lives.

So, with Designers considering Occupational Health Issues; Employers improving the standards of Occupational Health Management for their workforce and the Construction Industry in a buoyant mood over its workload for the foreseeable future. It appears the future is looking rosy for the average construction worker in delaying their retirement for the foreseeable future at least!.





# TONY JASSAL CDM and Health & Safety Advisor

**TONY** Jassal is a highly qualified Health & Safety professional with over 8 years of experience at management level working with major contractors and construction consultants. In total, Tony has 16 years of experience in construction with full industry knowledge including facilities management, building and engineering construction prior to taking up Health & Safety roles .

Tony's Health & Safety career began as an Assistant CDM Co-ordinator with Capita Simmons in 2008. Following on he has held various Health & Safety roles with major contractors and construction consultants.

Tony's experience in this period extends to many different sectors including construction, refurbishment, defence and shipbuilding and across a varied blue-chip client base including work for household names Kier, BAE Systems and Carillion Tony is currently responsible for servicing the needs of Safer Sphere clients on a Health & Safety advisory basis. His roles for these clients include all of the activities one would associate with an employed Health & Safety Advisor and include site safety monitoring, accident investigation, training, mentoring, statutory scaffold inspection, drafting safe systems of work and writing management systems.

An experienced and highly motivated manager who is able to demonstrate strong leadership, organisational and effective communication skills. Tony believes that high standards of safety and environmental management can be achieved, and maintained, in any organisation given the right corporate attitude and commitment.





We pride ourselves on delivering above and beyond the call of the CDM Regulations, our integration with the client project delivery teams and support provided to enable best practice solutions. Our delivery model ensures a superior service, competent advice and ultimately a project that meets with the very best practices of Construction Health & Safety.

# CDM 2015 PROJECT CDM CONSULTANT SERVICES INCLUDE:-

Acting as adviser to the Client in discharging their duties including:-

- Notify the HSE of the project via an online applications.
- Advise on and or collate the project Pre Construction H&S Information Pack on behalf of the client for issue to the project team.
- Assist with preparation of and advise the client as to the adequacy of the Construction Phase H&S Plan and welfare facilities developed by the

Principal Contractor.

- Monitoring of Principal Designer and Principal Contractor compliance.
- Advise on and or collate the project H&S File.

## ADDITIONAL SERVICES WHICH A CLIENT MAY ALSO WISH TO CONSIDER:-

- Stage 1 & Stage 2 Competence Assessments of duty holders against the requirements of PAS 91.
- PQQ / ITT H&S question setting for framework and or project tender enquiries.
- Independent Site Inspection and or Safety Audits of operations on site to ensure compliance.
- Liaison support with the Health & Safety Executive on behalf of the client.
- Client CDM training to assist client representative in understanding their duties under the CDM Regulations.
- Preparation of model contract / appointment clauses to hold designers and contractors to their duties and compliance.

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# YOUR LEADING FULL SERVICE SERVICE ACONSTRUCTION HEALTH & SAFETY CONSULTANTS

**CONTRACTOR CDM SAFETY SUPPORT** 

**CDM CLIENT SUPPORT** 

**E-LEARNING** 

PRINCIPAL DESIGNER CONSULTANCY

**MONTHLY SAFETY BULLETIN** 

Safer Sphere are the provider of choice for competent, professional and holistic Construction Health & Safety Solutions with a difference. We are specialist CDM Consultants in all areas of health and safety in construction including Construction Design & Management (CDM) and Project Health and Safety (H&S).

Our focus is to assist the industry in compliance through best practice, to provide simple and innovative solutions to a clients needs. As one of the leading CDM consultants and Construction Health & Safety consultants we are driven by our commitment to clients, our belief that we can always improve on what has gone before and that we can truly deliver the ability for us all to operate within a Safer Sphere.

"Our focus is to assist the industry in compliance through best practice, to provide simple and innovative solutions to a client's needs."

MIKE FORSYTH
MANAGING DIRECTOR

