

# SaferSphere Today

EXPERIENCE  
RANGING FROM  
MINOR PROJECTS  
OF £20K THROUGH  
TO MAJOR  
DEVELOPMENTS  
TO THE VALUE  
OF £500M

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[www.safersphere.co.uk](http://www.safersphere.co.uk)





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RANGING FROM  
MINOR PROJECTS  
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£500M.

# OUTSOURCED SAFETY SUPPORT AT A FRACTION OF THE COST

## CONTRACTOR SAFETY SUPPORT

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@safer sphere.co.uk](mailto:info@safer sphere.co.uk)

welcome!!



**THIS** month's Safer Sphere Today provides an insight into our business and provides topical bulletins. Included is an article on the benefits of e-learning and confirmation on the e-learning account provisions available with Safer Sphere. Safer Sphere had the privilege to attend the North-West Construction Safety Group Awards, and event that we also sponsored. It was great to see the rewards for people who have contributed to the H&S successes of the industry, well done to all the nominees and winners.

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**

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "M. Forsyth".

**Mike Forsyth**

**T** 01744 768023

**E** [info@safersphere.co.uk](mailto:info@safersphere.co.uk)

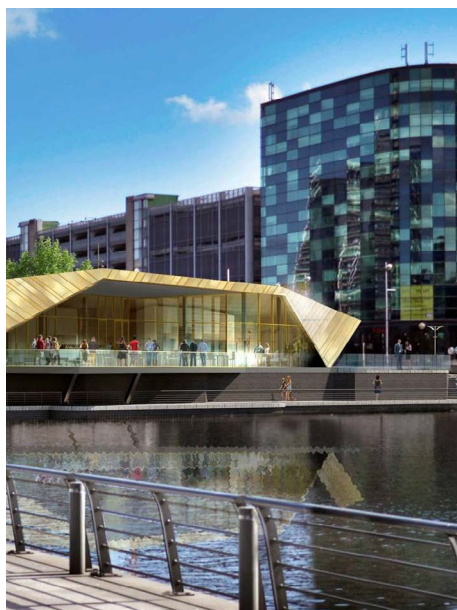
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# wins & completions..



## DOCK 9 MEDIA CITY (ALCHEMIST)

### CLIENT

PEEL MEDIA DEVELOPMENTS

### CONTRACTOR

ARTEZ GROUP

### SERVICES

CLIENT CDM ADVISOR AND  
PRINCIPAL DESIGNER ADVISOR

**COMPLETED**

## DORSET ST ANNS PICU

### CLIENT

FAIRHURSTS DESIGN GROUP

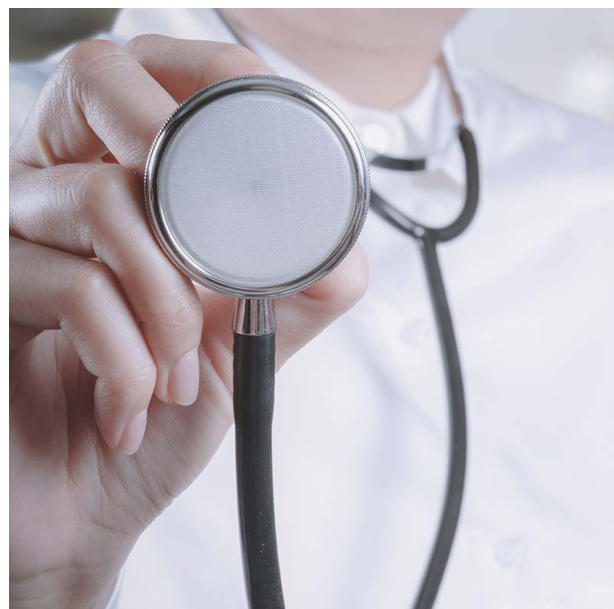
### CONTRACTOR

BRYMOR

### SERVICES

PRINCIPAL DESIGNER ADVISOR

**COMPLETED**



## SHEPWAY LEISURE CENTRE

### CLIENT

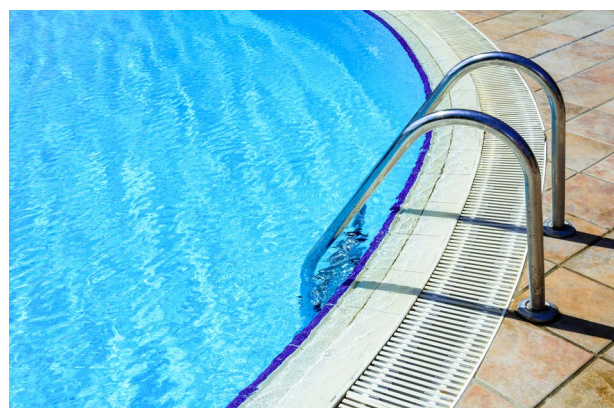
WALKER SIME / GT3  
ARCHITECTS

### SERVICES

CLIENT CDM ADVISOR &  
PRINCIPAL DESIGNER ADVISOR

**WON**

Development of a new multi-purpose leisure centre in Kent working with GT3 Architects and Walker Sime.





## NEW RULES SPARK SHARP RISE IN HEALTH AND SAFETY FINES

The amount UK firms paid out in health and safety fines rose sharply last year following the introduction of tougher rules, new research has found.

Law firm BLM said there were 292 fines issued during the year, with more than £61m paid out in total - a 148% rise since 2015.

The average cost of a fine rose from £69,500 to £211,000.

BLM partner Helen Devery said strong safety processes were vital for businesses "big or small".

The firm attributed the rise to new legislation on health and safety, food hygiene and corporate manslaughter offences introduced in February 2016.

The rules impose fines proportionate to the size of a business, rather than using a universal figure for all offences.

They also judge a penalty using metrics such as

the seriousness of an offence and likelihood of harm in cases of "near misses".

BLM said fines for businesses with a turnover more than £50m could now be as high as £10m for health and safety offences, and £20m for corporate manslaughter.

It also said more than 18 fines topped £1m last year, compared with just two in 2015.

These included the £5m fine issued to Merlin Entertainments following the Smiler rollercoaster accident at Alton Towers that injured 16 riders, some seriously.

It remains the largest fine for a single incident and would have been £2.5m higher had Merlin not pleaded guilty.

BLM said that as a sector construction had paid the most in fines, followed by manufacturing, leisure, logistics and transport, industrials and the public sector.



## SOLAR PANEL FIRM FINED £250K AFTER ROOF PLUNGE

A Bristol based solar panel installation specialist has been fined £250,000 after a 49-year-old worker fell more than 3.5 metres through a void in a roof. The fall inflicted serious injuries on the victim including bleeding on the brain, a ruptured spleen and fractured ribs.

Bristol Magistrates Court heard how the worker was one of several contracted by Solarjen Limited, known as Paul O'Brien Solar Installations (SW) Limited at the time, to undertake roof works at Fairlawn School in the city in June 2015.

An HSE investigation found the company failed to ensure physical guarding was in place to prevent the worker and his colleagues

from falling through voids in the roof.

The inquiry also found the company failed to appropriately supervise the work.

Solarjen Limited of Bedminster, Bristol, pleaded guilty to breaching Work at Height Regulations and was fined £250,000 ordered to pay costs of £12,073.14.



## TALKS START ON INDEPENDENT APPEALS AGAINST FFI CHARGES



Consultation is underway on changes to the appeal process against charges under the controversial Fee for Intervention (FFI) scheme.

Contractors are currently charged £124-an-hour for visits by Health and Safety Executive inspectors when they break safety laws.

And any appeals against the charges are currently heard by a committee of HSE staff.

Complaints by the industry about the current system have prompted a rethink and the

HSE is now consulting about the possible introduction of an independent appeals system.

It said: "HSE is consulting on a revised and fully independent process for considering disputes in relation to FFI.

"We are consulting on the details of how the process should operate.

"In particular, we recognise the need to ensure that the process is accessible to all types and sizes of business and is proportionate to the issues involved and amount of the fees."

# CASE STUDY



## Safer Sphere

### COMPLETION

Base Build – 2010

Landlord Fit Out - Ongoing

### CLIENT

Peel Media Ltd

### VALUE

Base Build £500m

Landlord Fit Out £100k - £2m



"Safer Sphere have successfully carried out CDM services for me on a range of projects at MediaCityUK. They continue to maintain a high level of service due to their conscientious and proactive approach and I look forward to working with them on future projects."

**Scott Lally** Client Project Manager  
Peel Media Ltd

## 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.





# ...AND THE 2017 WINNERS ARE...

The North West Construction Safety Association held its annual awards ceremony on Friday 21st April 2017. The event, held at the Park Royal Hotel, Warrington welcomed more than 120 attendees from a wide range of companies; all committed to ensuring Health and Safety within the construction industry is recognised as being paramount in day-to-day activities on site.

Awards were presented by Andy Gay, HSE Head of Operations, (Construction), North West and North Midlands.

These winning individuals go above-and-beyond to make a real difference in their roles.

The five categories & winners are as follows:-

## 1. Non-Safety Professional.

**Winner:** Andy Hall, FLT Driver, Cruden Construction

*Andy is a long standing and proactive member of a site team. Recognised by the Cruden's management team for this award, Andy's Site Manager said; "He pro-actively maintains the site, acts without prompting and reports any unsafe acts to the management team. His actions make a huge difference to the efficient running and maintaining of the site" His organisation recognises that his input are invaluable in promoting a positive safety culture.*

## 2. Innovation in respect of Health & Safety onsite.

**Winner:** Redrow Homes.

*The H&S Team at Redrow Homes where tasked with developing a campaign to engage contractors and their employees in key areas of health related issues:- As a result, nine divisional roadshows where delivered across the country to raise awareness of the hazards associated with Inhalation of construction dust and hand arm vibration syndrome. More than 120 contractors and their employees attended the interactive events. The initiative showed how working together with partners, contractors and supply chain really makes a difference.*

## 3. Personality of the Year in respect of Health & Safety.

**Winner:** Madeleine Abas, Senior Partner Osborn, Abas, Hunt Law.





*Madeleine is an inspirational individual who has significantly contributed to the industry by raising awareness of the consequences of poor H&S standards and the risks to businesses this has the potential to create. She is a regular speaker on safety leadership on the international stage. Additionally she takes time to contribute to the NWCSG, presenting regularly to its members on a range of H&S laws. For her contribution to H&S in the UK, Madeleine had been included in "Who's Who" since 2013.*

#### **4. Outstanding Organisation Award.**

**Winner: Pochin Construction**

*Pochin embraced change of a well in bedded H&S system and listened to issues and barriers workforce reported around recording data from inspections and audits within the organisation. As a result, they implemented a new innovative management*

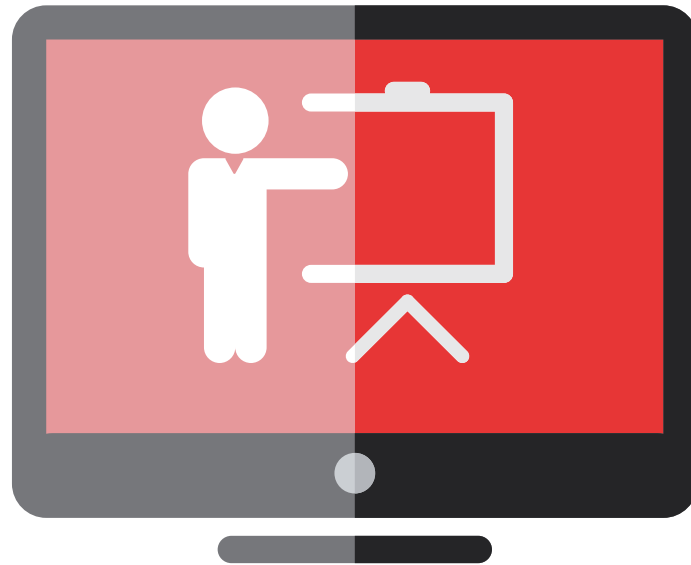
*system and approach, moving away from traditional paper based documentation to I auditor, an electronic based system that records digitally in real time. The system has allowed the business to cut out duplication and become smarter with its resources. It enables evaluation and identification of areas to focus on; such as fire management plans. The system has reduced time and effort whilst improving the output from a labour perspective and improvement of legal compliance. It has also had a positive contribution in respect of environmental impact by reduction of paper and waste.*

#### **5. Lifetime Achievement Award for recognition of working in a safety role.**

**Winner: Claire Oakes, Create Construction.**

*Claire has made a significant contribution to H&S over a sustained period-of-time. Dedicating more than 25 years to construction in*

*H&S related roles in the North West. She has shown clear leadership; inspired others within the industry by mentoring and encouraging three individuals to progress from site labouring roles to fully qualified safety professionals. In a male dominated industry, there are still very few female professionals and it is commendable as to what she has achieved. Her efforts and positive contributions have earned her a directorship at Create Construction. Promoting a positive behavioural approach to safety rather than enforcement, her influence has led to seven consecutive RoSPA Gold Awards, including a Gold Medal. In 2014, Claire was honoured with the RoSPA Guardian Angel award. Later this year she will attend Buckingham Palace to celebrate RoSPA's Centenary.*



## THE FULL BENEFITS OF E-LEARNING

E-learning has definite benefits over traditional classroom training. While the most obvious are the flexibility and the cost savings from not having to travel or spend excess time away from work, there are also others that might not be so obvious.

It's **self-paced** -- Most e-learning programs can be taken when needed. Module-based design allowing the learner to go through smaller chunks of training that can be used and absorbed for a while before moving on.

It moves **faster**--. This is partly because the individualized approach allows learners to skip material they already know and understand and move onto the issues they need training on.

It provides a **consistent** message -- E-learning eliminates the problems associated with different instructors teaching slightly different material on the same subject.

It can work from any **location and any time** -  
-E-learners can go through training sessions from anywhere, usually at anytime. This **Just-In-Time** (JIT) benefit can make learning possible for people who never would have been able to work it into

their schedules prior to the development of e-learning.

It can be **updated easily** and quickly -- Online e-learning sessions are especially easy to keep up-to-date because the updated materials are simply uploaded to a server.

It can lead to **increased retention** and a stronger grasp on the subject -- This is because of the many elements that are combined in e-learning to reinforce the message, such as video, audio, quizzes, interaction, etc. There is also the ability to revisit or replay sections of the training that might not have been clear the first time around. Try that in a crowded auditorium!

It can be **easily managed** for large groups of students -- E Learning for business allows corporate training directors, HR managers and others to keep track of the course offerings, schedule or assign training for employees and track their progress and results.

There are many advantages to e-learning, and even the potential disadvantages (i.e. boring text-based courses, technophobia, loneliness) can be alleviated with a properly designed course.



**Safer Sphere have partnered with a company called VideoTile. They come from a film background and create promotional films for businesses. However they also create interactive video based online training courses.**

**With VideoTile, We've just completed a suite of Health and Safety training courses and the titles of these are .**

**Basic Legionella Management • Asbestos Awareness  
Asbestos Awareness for Architects and Designers  
Basic Fire Safety Awareness  
Fire Marshal • Fire Extinguisher • Abrasive Wheels  
Display Screen Equipment  
Control of Substances Hazardous to Health  
Working at Height  
Emergency First Aid • Working Safely**

These are not fixed videos they are resources which are updated every quarter in line with legislation. They are all approved by various organisations such as ROSPA and some are mapped against certain OFQUAL regulated qualifications.

As experts in Health and Safety, Safer Sphere advise VideoTile with the content for courses and help them keep the resources up to date. All the Health and Safety courses for example are written as per the Health and Safety executive guidelines

If you opened a business account with us you would get access to a learning management system, all accessible from our website. This would show you where your employees are up to the in the training for example

In addition to purchasing courses directly from our website and opening a business account, from the Learning Management System we can also assign large quantities of generic credit to your account. This will give you the opportunity to predict how much training you will need in the future and purchase this upfront.

In return you would be rewarded with lower prices and a more flexible solution giving you unlimited access to the full suite of courses while you are in credit with us. you don't need to know what courses you need or when you will need it, the credit is generic so can be used against any course and what's more it never expires

# MIKE FORSYTH

## CDM Consultant & Construction Safety Practitioner

With 20 years' experience in the construction industry Mike Forsyth has presented professional services to a number of public and private sector organisations in the role of Structural & Civil Engineer / Project Manager, and more recently in the role of Construction Design & Management Coordinator and Health & Safety Advisor. As a result Mike has extensive knowledge of building and civil engineering construction design and maintenance processes, planning, management, waste management and environmental health & safety. In these roles Mike has been responsible for leading professional teams in tender preparation and submission, concept and detailed design, construction monitoring and supervision.

To date Mike's career has taken him into a number of sectors including, education, healthcare, public buildings, residential, highway, waste, nuclear, petro-chemical, leisure, commercial, naval and aviation, which gives him a wide ranging experience of client requirements, design / construction restrictions and expectations, and the ability to provide a competent, compliant, quality and professional service to employers and clients.

Mike is a highly experienced and competent CDM Consultant, and has been appointed as CDM Advisor / Principal Designer Advisor on construction projects ranging from £20k to £600m within the media, commercial, healthcare, aviation, residential and education sectors. Mike was commissioned as lead CDM

Coordinator on the prestigious and multi-faceted MediaCityUK development, the home of the BBC North.

Mike has also had his experience and knowledge drawn upon by the Association of Project Safety, and presented on their behalf as a guest speaker to his fellow members at the APS Convention 2010.

As Managing Director Mike is the driving force behind Safer Sphere, leading the team of 7 consultants in delivery of best practice CDM and Construction Safety Consultancy.







# IS YOUR PROJECT COMPLIANT?

## CDM CLIENT SUPPORT SOLUTIONS

**SAFER SPHERE HAS AN ARRAY OF EXPERIENCE IN DELIVERING CDM SUPPORT IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE CDM REGULATIONS 2015.**

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.

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

# YOUR LEADING FULL SERVICE CDM & CONSTRUCTION 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

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