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NEW MEMBER OF THE AGA TEAM

PHOEBE CORDICE JOINED AGA IN FEBRUARY AS A PROJECT ADMINISTRATOR

Phoebe joined Andrew Goddard Associates in February 2019 as part of the administration team.

Her day to day role includes communicating with project teams and ensuring they have the required information updated throughout the project, she also assists with general office duties such as setting up new projects, issuing out pre-construction information and compiling construction phase plans.

When she's not in the office Phoebe enjoys eating good food and spending time going out with friends and family.

HSE INSPECTION INITIATIVE

HSE CONSTRUCTION HEALTH INSPECTION INITIATIVE - 17 JUNE 2019

WHAT: Starting on 17 June, HSE will be carrying out its latest construction inspection initiative. This initiative will continue the focus on health, in particular the measures in place to protect workers from occupational lung disease caused by asbestos, silica, wood and other dusts when carrying out common construction tasks.

WHY: Priority is often given to safety but thousands more workers suffer ill-health at work than are harmed by at-work accidents. Asbestos and dust are 'slow killers'. HSE estimates that annually there are around 8,000 work-related cancer deaths a year. The construction industry accounts for around 3,500 of these with asbestos and silica the major causes. Construction businesses and workers need to be aware of how dangerous and hazardous to someone's health such substances can be.

HOW: HSE inspectors will be looking to ensure those involved with construction projects know the risks, properly plan their work and use the right controls.



WORK AT HEIGHT FAQs

What is Work at Height?

Work at height means work in any place where, if precautions were not taken, a person could fall a distance liable to cause personal injury. You are working at height if you:

- work above ground/floor level
- could fall from an edge, through an opening or fragile surface or
- could fall from ground level into an opening in a floor or a hole in the ground

Work at height does not include a slip or a trip on the level, as a fall from height must involve a fall from one level to a lower level, nor does it include walking up and down a permanent staircase in a building.

When is a ladder right for the job?

The law says that ladders can be used for work at height when a risk assessment has shown that using equipment offering a higher level of fall protection is not justified because of the low risk and short duration of use; or there are existing workplace features which cannot be altered.

As a guide, if your task would require staying up a leaning ladder or stepladder for more than 30 minutes at a time, it is recommended that you consider alternative equipment. You should only use ladders in situations where they can be used safely, eg where the ladder will be level and stable, and where its reasonably practicable to do so, the ladder can be secured.



What do the Regulations say about guard rails in respect of working platforms?

The Regulations require that, for construction work, handrails have a minimum height of 950 mm, and that any gap between the top rail and any intermediate rail should not exceed 470 mm. The Regulations also require toe boards to be suitable and sufficient (e.g. a toe board of a minimum 100 mm height would be acceptable).

SAVE LIVES BY PROMOTING SUN SAFETY



THOUSANDS OF SKIN CANCER CASES IN THE UK COULD BE PREVENTED IF BUSINESSES DEVELOP 'SUN SAFETY STRATEGIES'

At least 1,500 new cases of non-melanoma skin cancer (NMSC) and 240 new cases of malignant melanoma linked to solar ultraviolet radiation (UVR) exposure at work are diagnosed in Britain each year.

But 90 per cent of all skin cancer deaths can be prevented if businesses – and their employees – take proper precautions.

As it was Sun Awareness Week in May, Andrew Goddard Associates Ltd is urging employers to save lives by developing 'sun safety strategies' that include regular updates on the UV index from weather forecasts, minimising sun exposure in the middle of the day, potentially swapping jobs among team members at regular intervals, and asking employees to wear long-sleeved, loose-fitting tops and trousers.

non-melanoma skin cancer is the world's most frequently diagnosed cancer, with an estimated 2-3 million cases registered every year. The economic impact of work-related UVR is significant, with the annual healthcare costs in Europe estimated to be as high as EUR 853 million per year.

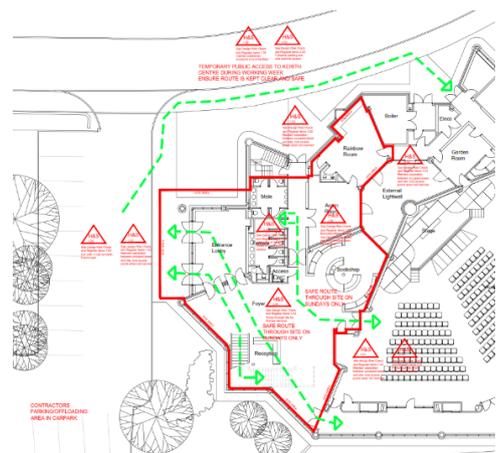
Ultraviolet radiation is a risk that particularly affects outdoor workers, who receive 5-10 times the yearly sun exposure of indoor workers.

Outdoor workers in construction, farming, fishing, recreation, sports and public services are regularly exposed to UVR for more than 75 per cent of their daily working hours. It is estimated that the risk of developing skin cancer increases significantly with five or more years of outdoor work.

CDM DIFFERENTLY

When conveying critical safety and health information, sometimes less is more.

When managing construction activities, the Construction (Design and Management) Regulations 2015 (or CDM) and associated guidance remind duty holders of the need to provide proportionate and relevant information clearly and concisely. This should prevent genuinely important information becoming lost in a forest of trivia.



Published by the Royal Institute of British Architects (RIBA), CDM 2015: a practical guide for architects and designers used the term "CDM differently" to describe an approach of conveying critical information visually. RIBA promotes the use of sketches or annotations of drawings in line with the industry guidance for designers.

Such a plan could form the basis of a simple site induction to ensure workers receive useful, site-specific information. Conveying critical information about a construction project in the form of annotations on designs and site plans is a simple but effective way of concisely passing on relevant and project-specific information. This is likely to be genuinely helpful for everyone involved in a project. In the spirit of "safety differently", it requires the courage to identify and dispose of unhelpful bureaucracy.

NEW SENTENCING GUIDELINES

NEW SENTENCING GUIDELINES PROPOSE JAIL TERMS OF UP TO 18 YEARS FOR GROSS NEGLIGENCE MANSLAUGHTER

The Sentencing Council published its definitive guidance on 31 July 2018 covering new sentences for individuals who commit manslaughter. This includes a step-by-step guide that judges must follow in determining sentences for gross negligence manslaughter, which is the most serious offence that can be committed by an individual for a health and safety breach.

The new rules came into force for sentences imposed from 1 November 2018, but it is retrospective in that it will apply to existing cases that have not concluded before that date. The message for the boardroom is to sit up and take note and above all to avoid the worst culpability flashpoints of cost saving and disregarding a very high risk of death.



HOW ARE THE PROPOSED NEW SENTENCES CALCULATED?

There are four levels of culpability, from 'low' to 'very high', each of which leads to a different starting point jail term. The starting points are:

- Very high: 12 years
- Medium: 4 years
- High: 8 years
- Lower: 2 years

Other factors can then be considered to move you down a little or up a lot within a specified range around each starting point. For example, the 'very high' range is 10 to 18 years and you move up the range if, for example, more than one person was put at risk or you ignored previous warnings.



FINES FOR WORKERS FALL

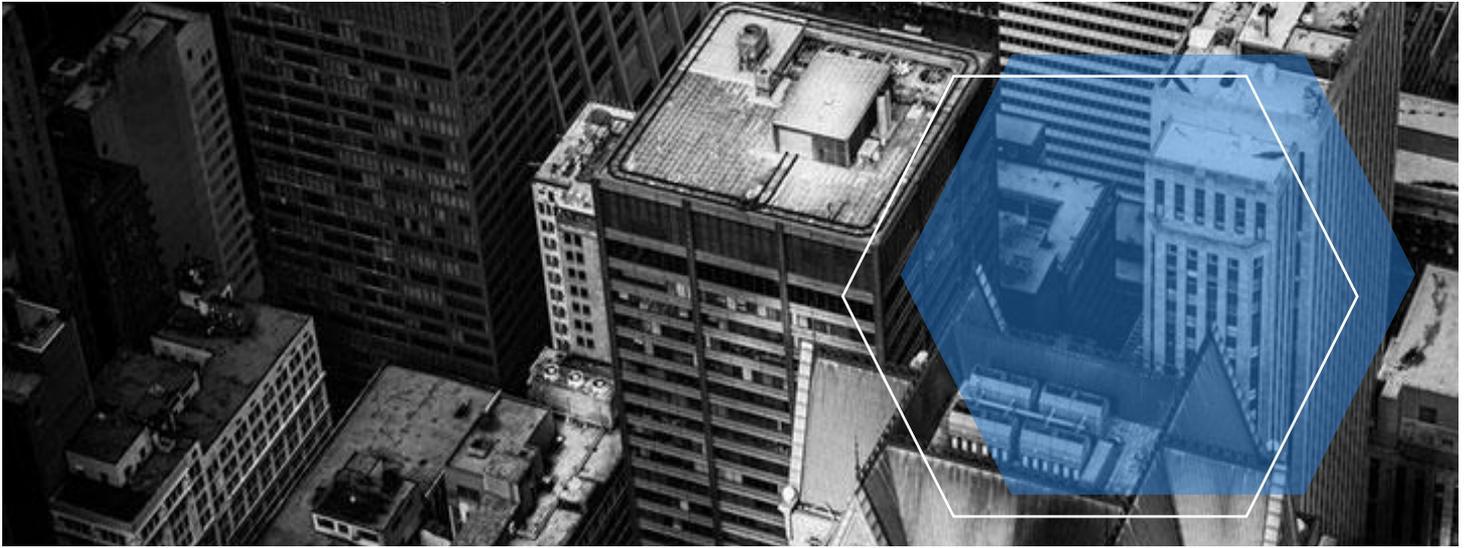
DOUBLE PROSECUTION FOLLOWING WORKER'S FALL FROM HEIGHT

Leeds Magistrates' Court heard how, on 4 January 2016, Brian Robinson was working as a sheeter cladder at the Weiser Construction site at the John Cotton factory in Mirfield, West Yorkshire.

He was on a factory roof affixing sheet metal cladding and capping to the gable end of an adjoining building. Whilst tying the capping to the roof, Mr Robinson fell through a roof light 9.7m into the active factory area below. He suffered an open fracture to his femur and multiple fractures to his pelvis. Mr Robinson underwent operations to insert six pins into his pelvis, two pins to the top and two pins to the bottom of his femur. An investigation by the Health and Safety Executive (HSE) found the original scaffold that had been constructed upon the roof had been removed prior to cladding works being completed.

No nets had been scheduled to be used in the area of the factory and as Mr Robinson fell, the top half of his legs struck the top of a storage cage, approximately 2.4m high, before continuing his fall to the floor behind the storage cage.

Weiser Construction Ltd (now in liquidation) of Clark Business Recovery Ltd, York Place, Leeds pleaded guilty to breaching Section 3 (1) of the Health & Safety at Work etc Act 1974 and has been fined £145,000 with £5,046.30 costs. Complete Cladding Systems Ltd of Newton Cap House, Toronto, Bishop Auckland pleaded guilty to breaching Section 3 (1) of the Health & Safety at Work etc Act 1074 and has been fined £165,000 with £5,114.49 costs.



E-LEARNING

[CHECK OUT OUR WEBSITE FOR OUR WHOLE RANGE OF NEW ONLINE COURSES](#)

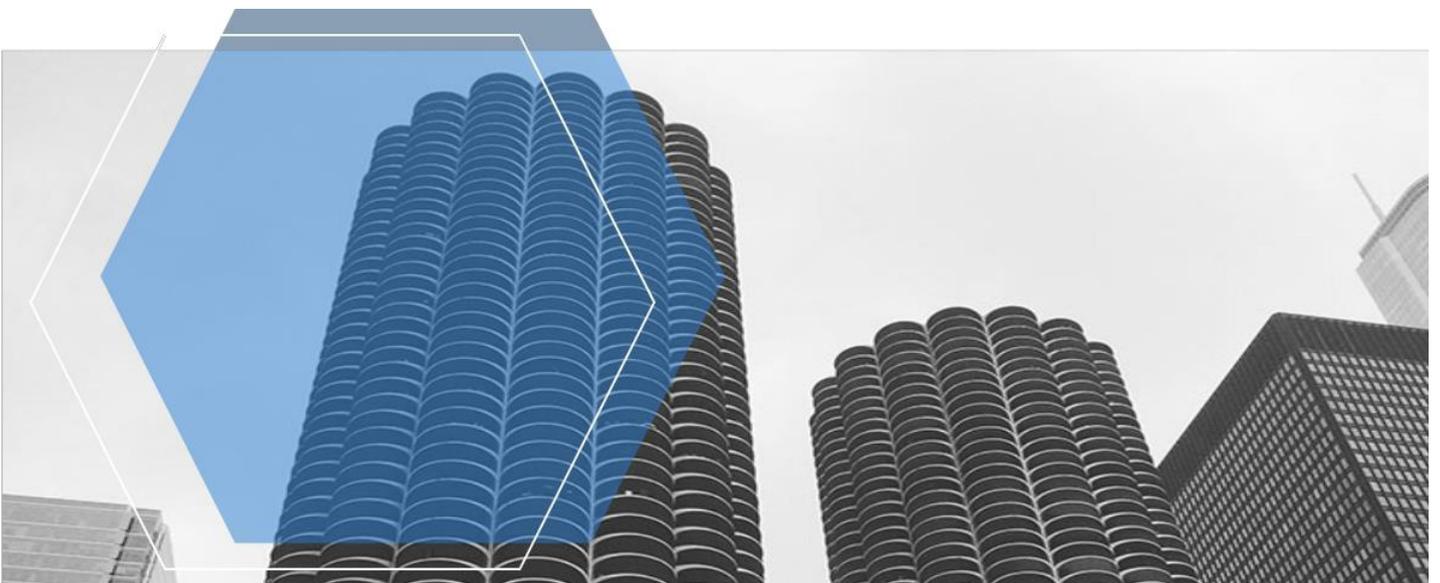
Whether you're looking to improve your own knowledge, or provide training to employees, AGA Ltd.'s new e-Learning portal will allow you to book easy to follow e-learning courses in a number of areas. Each course is followed by a short test to clarify your understanding regarding that topic, which after successful completion, you will be issued with a certificate. Get up to date, specialist training in Control of Substances Hazardous to Health, Fall Prevention, the Construction Design & Management Regulations 2015, Risk Assessments Manual Handling, Fire Safety and many more.

FREE CDM ADVICE

[CONTINUED PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT FOR ALL](#)

Do you need help understanding the CDM Regulations 2015? Not sure if you are complying with your duties correctly? We offer a free CPD consultation to keep you up to date. One of our experienced CDM Consultants will attend your offices or a location of your choosing and provide up to the minute, competent advice. We cover everything from Duty Holders to Design Risk Management and welcome any questions or scenarios you need help with.

Please get in touch if this would be of interest to you.





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