



info@esb.eu.com

RIDDOR
001
26.9.11
Phil Dryden

Changes to the RIDDOR reporting procedure effective from Monday 12th September 2011

Only fatal accidents and major injuries can now be reported by telephone (0845 300 9923, Mon – Fri 0900 to 1700). For reports outside of these hours, the HSE is keen to stress that it is not an emergency service and an “out of hours” number (0151 922 9235) is provided, with a Duty Officer to offer any necessary guidance.

Any amendments which may need to be made to a Fatal or Major Injury notification can also be made by telephone

All other RIDDOR reportable incidents must be reported on-line using the HSE website where a suite of suitable forms is provided. For any amendments to these notifications a duplicate on-line form must be submitted. There are now no facilities for fax, postal, or email reporting.

Although not directly connected to RIDDOR, it should be noted that the HSE telephone Infoline service will end on Monday 30th September 2011, and all requests for information should be made to the HSE website.

The HSE advise that none of the above changes require any amendment of the Health and Safety Law poster.

ESB trainers will need to be aware of these RIDDOR changes when advising clients and when training Managing Health and Safety. Amendments to the course handbook and Powerpoint presentation are in hand.

Other impending changes to RIDDOR

Lord Young’s report, “Common Sense, Common Safety” published in October 2010, dealt with health and safety in relation to the burgeoning “compensation culture”. One of his recommendations was to streamline the accident reporting procedure by increasing the absence from work as a result of an accident from the current 3 days, to 7 days. The HSE published a Consultation Document on the 31/01/2011 seeking comment on increasing the “over 3 day” reporting requirement to “over 7 days”. The consultation period ran for 3 months till the 29/04/2011, with 776 responses received, two thirds of which were favourable.

As a result, the HSE agreed to recommend the change at its Board meeting on the 17/08/2011; however as a number of respondents had identified that the change would leave only a two day window for employers to notify an over 7 day accident within the required 10 days it has also been agreed that the 10 day notification period will be increased to 15 days.

It is likely that the necessary amending legislation will be laid before Parliament in February 2012, with a view to the changes coming into force in April 2012.

End.