

## EDITOR'S COMMENT

In preparation for its forthcoming 2014-15 Healthy Workplaces Campaign on 'Managing Stress', the European Agency for Health and Safety at Work (EU-OSHA) will be making available practical tools for dealing with psychosocial risks.

Currently, only three per cent of enterprises are tackling psychosocial risks in a fully holistic and systematic way, while 12 per cent have not implemented any of the key measures for managing psychosocial risks covered by the Agency's European Survey of Enterprises on New and Emerging Risks (ESENER).

This issue of 'Health & Safety Times' features an in-depth interview with Dr Christa Sedlatschek, Director of EU-OSHA, in which she outlines the progress to-date on the current Healthy Workplaces Campaign 'Working Together for Risk Prevention'. And she also looks at future priority areas during the Agency's next two-year campaign, which will focus on the problems of psychosocial risks in European workplaces.

So, in that context, it is quite timely that IOSH Healthcare Section is joining forces with the Critical Incident Stress Management (CISM) Network for the first time to address the very issue of psychosocial risk. Turn to page 14 for details and conference programme.

Entitled 'Occupational Health and Safety: A Psychosocial Perspective', this joint conference takes place on Tuesday 11 June at NUI Maynooth.

Keynote speakers will include Dr Geoff King, Director of the Pre-Hospital Emergency Care Council; Patricia Murray, HSA Occupational Psychologist; Dr Lynda Sisson, Specialist Occupational Physician; and Adrian Twomey, Solicitor and Director of Employment Law Services at Advokat. The deadline for registration is Tuesday 4 June

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## 5 NEWS UPDATE



## 14 IOSH NEWS

IOSH Healthcare Section is joining forces with the Critical Incident Stress Management (CISM) Network to co-host a conference that will address the psychosocial perspective on workplace health and safety on Tuesday 11 June at NUI Maynooth.



## 19 HEALTH PROMOTION

University College Cork has officially started the journey towards accreditation as a Health Promoting University by 2014 through the 'UCC Health Matters' initiative.



## 20 EU AGENCY DIRECTOR

Ireland has really stepped up to the OSH plate over the last number of years, according to Dr Christa Sedlatschek, director of the European Agency for Safety and Health at Work.



## 25 GOOD PRACTICE AWARDS

The West Offaly Dairy Discussion Group has won a European Good Practice Award for its 'Group Farm Safety Case Study', recognised as a unique and innovative concept by the European Agency for Safety and Health at Work.



## 28 DRUG-ALCOHOL TESTING

More than 70 per cent of substance abusers are in full-time employment, while over €520m is lost on alcohol-related absenteeism and accidents in the workplace. However, the negative effects of substance abuse can be prevented through robust policies and testing services.



## 32 PERSONAL INJURIES

The steady increase in the volume of personal injury claims since 2007 is a real concern at a time when our roads have never been safer and fewer people are at work, according to Patricia Byron. The CEO of the Injuries Board outlines their latest findings across the board.



## 36 ROAD SAFETY

A new seven-year road safety strategy, rolled out to make Ireland one of the safest countries in the EU, will also focus on measures to curb the number and severity of serious injuries arising from road collisions.



## 39 MOTOR SAFETY

The quality and safety of car windscreens is being compromised due to a lack of regulation and cost-cutting measures, according to the findings of a new study, which has revealed that between 59,000 to 89,000 vehicles on Ireland's roads may have serious safety issues.

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## 40 CORRIB GAS PROJECT

The Corrib Gas Project is now in its final phase of construction, the major part of which involves laying the onshore pipeline from the landfall site at Glengad to the Bellanaboy Bridge Gas Terminal.



## 45 FARM SAFETY TRAINING

John McNamara, Teagasc national health and safety officer, claims it is vital that farmers integrate health and safety management into the overall management of their farms.



## 49 N. IRELAND FARM SAFETY

Analysis of results from a targeted farm safety inspection programme by the Health and Safety Executive of Northern Ireland (HSENI) shows that the majority of farmers admitted they could do more to keep their farms and their families safer.



## 51 SAFETY REPRESENTATIVES

Continuing its commitment and support for the NISO Safety Representative of the Year Award, Nifast is calling on safety reps from each corner of Ireland to stand up and be recognised for their achievements in making their workplace a safer environment for all.

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## 61 INTERNATIONAL NEWS

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