

EASY TO BE SMART WITH ONLINE RISK ASSESSMENT TOOL

Over 50,000 organisations are now using the HSA's free, easy to use, online tool to prepare safety statements and risk assessments specific to their workplace. Since its launch in 2011 BeSMART.ie is estimated to have saved Irish businesses between €37 million and €55 million in administrative costs.

BeSMART.ie helps small and medium-sized enterprises deal with health and safety in a way that is quicker, easier and cheaper. The aims and benefits of using the tool include:

- Fewer accidents
- Less paperwork
- Reduced cost
- Less absenteeism
- Simplifies managing health and safety
- Improved staff morale and motivation.

The outline tool guides users through the risk assessment process in a way that is simple and straightforward. Also the safety statement produced using BeSMART.ie already contains relevant information and templates, so it saves valuable time.

Minister of State for Trade, Employment, Business, EU Digital Single Market and Data Protection, Pat Breen TD,

whose remit covers workplace safety, said that BeSMART.ie has been well received by small businesses.

“I think it is a great achievement that so many small businesses are now aware that managing health and safety in their workplaces is not something to fear and is relatively easy to implement. BeSMART.ie gives them the confidence to routinely manage health and safety by simplifying the process of developing a safety statement. This is leading to a reduction in accidents, increased staff morale and a long-term reduction in costs in these companies.”

Ronan Dillon, founder of corporate health provider Healthy Workforce Ireland, was recently the 50,000th user of BeSMART.ie. He says that the resource is perfect for the needs of his business, which is about making health professionals available to a wide variety of workplaces and providing advice to employees on physical activity, wellbeing, nutrition and physical therapy.

“Our highly qualified team includes nurses, physiotherapists, sports scientists and nutritionists. BeSMART.ie is a perfect resource for us as we visit many different work environments. It means that we can proactively manage the health and safety of our people.”

Minister Pat Breen said that Ronan Dillon's business aim of facilitating healthy workforces is consistent with the Government's policy as expressed in the 'Healthy Ireland' initiative.

The Minister is now calling on any small business that has not yet used BeSMART.ie, to try this resource. “In a time of almost full employment, attention to health and safety issues can offer a source of competitive advantage to companies looking to recruit and BeSMART.ie makes this process considerably easier.”

All that is needed to register for BeSMART.ie is an email address. The information provided is completely confidential, and this online resource can be used at any time and location.

