

Time to get active on Health & Safety

Community have produced a new series of Health & Safety posters. These will be distributed to branches in early 2009.

The theme of the posters is 'Get Active', encouraging all members to take steps to improve Health & Safety in their workplace. The three posters tackle the issues of near misses, the problems of bullying and harassment as well as workplace inspections.

Near miss reporting is an important Health & Safety strategy. Every near miss is a potentially fatal accident. For every 600 near misses there are 30 accidents that damage property, 10 injuries and one death. Reporting a near miss makes your workplace safer.

Bullying and Harassment are unacceptable at any time and create unsafe work environments. Displaying this poster in your workplace makes a clear statement that Bullying and Harassment are not part of the job.

Workplace inspections can prompt action on Health & Safety issues. Alerting your union Health & Safety rep to an unsafe work practice or environment can prompt a workplace inspection to address the problem.

European campaign on risk assessment

The European Agency for Safety and Health at Work supported by the Health and Safety Executive (HSE) and the TUC has highlighted the importance of risk assessment to workplace safety.

Risk assessments allow members to feel safe and secure in the workplace while addressing the employers' legal responsibility to address Health & Safety issues.

The HSE has published a booklet detailing how to perform five step risk assessments in the workplace, which is available through the Community website www.community-tu.org/healthsafety

Community members win prestigious Health & Safety award

The SHP IOSH awards, organised by Safety and Health Practitioner magazine from the Institute of Occupational Health and Safety, were held in October.

Nominated for the Best Health and Safety Achievement in Manufacturing, Livewire were up against BAE Systems, Balfour Beatty Rail Track Systems, Sellafield, Springfield Fuels and Westinghouse Rail Systems.

