

Employee Involvement and Communication of Health and Safety in the Construction Sector Health and Safety Executive



*Best practice
examples of employee
involvement in health
and safety, and how
health and safety
can be effectively
communicated*

The Health and Safety Executive (HSE) provides advice and guidance to employers about how health and safety hazards can be managed in order to safeguard the health and safety of employees and the public. This guidance may be provided through the HSE web site, in technical research reports or concise, user-friendly guidance booklets. The research and development of such guidance is often commissioned externally. Entec has assisted HSE in developing a number of such documents.

This project investigated the extent of employee involvement and current approaches for communicating health and safety. A telephone survey was conducted across a sample of construction companies in the UK. The survey highlighted the extent to which employers involve their workforce in health and safety management and the methods by which they achieve this, as well as highlighting the range of methods used to communicate

health and safety issues. A number of organisations demonstrating best practice approaches were identified, including small as well as large organisations. Interviews were conducted with a range of stakeholders in each organisation, such as health and safety professionals, senior management and employees. These discussions formed the basis of case studies demonstrating how health and safety can be more effectively managed through employee involvement in decision making and effective communication.

The case studies will be launched on the HSE 'Working Well Together' web site and published as part of HSE's 'Contract Research Series', providing valuable advice to employers seeking to improve their health and safety performance.

