



## *Important News*

22<sup>nd</sup> October 2007

To: BFFF Members' Health & Safety Contacts

### **FORTHCOMING HSE CAMPAIGNS - UPDATE OCTOBER 2007**

BFFF's recent meeting with our partners within the Health and Safety Executive (HSE) and the Local Authority (LA), has provided us with a valuable update for the members regarding the forthcoming HSE campaign profile for the beginning of 2008.

As we highlighted during our February update, during each campaign, Inspectors visiting all premises will focus on the key campaign areas and assess the standards, offer advice and enforce applicable legislation. It is also common during major campaigns that certain businesses will be targeted for inspection based on their activity profile i.e. if their work area is relevant to the current campaign.

Therefore the campaigns stated below are some of the key HSE campaigns for the beginning of 2008. It is important to note that some of these details of the campaigns stated below may change as the priorities change within the HSE, however the information will provide our members with the main areas of focus in the near future.

- **Falls from Vehicles**

This campaign is aimed at raising awareness of the risk of falling that workers are exposed to when accessing and/or working at height on vehicles, and the action that should be taken to minimise these risks.

The HSE has published supporting web pages for this campaign containing useful information for companies regarding:

- Highlighting the risks
- Planning loading and unloading
- Footwear and clothing
- Ground Level controls
- Access to vehicles
- Advice on surfaces
- Maintenance
- Case studies
- Information posters for employee awareness

These web pages are available from the link <http://www.hse.gov.uk/fallsfromvehicles/index.htm>

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One of BFFF's members, **3663**, have been actively involved in this campaign to share some of the best practices they have put into action to reduce falls from vehicles. The details of their specific case study can be accessed directly via the web link:

<http://www.hse.gov.uk/fallsfromvehicles/cs03.pdf>

- **Better Backs**

We would like to remind all members that a Better Backs campaign will take place in January/February 2008. This campaign is aimed at reducing the incidence of back pain and upper limb disorders at work and reducing the number of working days lost due to back pain. HSE are also continuing to promote the importance of managing back pain more generally by "staying active" and good return to work practices.

More details on the campaign and how companies can become involved is available from the web link: <http://www.hse.gov.uk/msd/campaigns/index.htm>

- **Slips and Trips**

Slips and trips incidents remain the main cause of major injuries in the workplace and continue to be one of the main target areas for the HSE in their work to reduce injuries. Therefore the HSE will be running a campaign at the beginning of 2008 aimed at producing publicity material to support companies' awareness of this important issue.

For general advice on the prevention and causes of slips and trips accidents in the workplace, the HSE has a series of web pages available that can be accessed through the web link <http://www.hse.gov.uk/slips/index.htm>.

- **General Further information**

BFFF will provide the members with a further update on the HSE campaigns in February 2008. Please do not hesitate to contact Joanna Hancock on [joannahancock@bfff.co.uk](mailto:joannahancock@bfff.co.uk) or 01476 515300 if you would like any further information in the meantime.

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