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HAZRED

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HAZRED

Working with small businesses to reduce hazardous waste

www.hazred.org.uk

Case study – Beech Builders

LeRoux Cilliers, Beech Builders

What was your main reason for applying to take part in HAZRED?

We were very aware of the growing importance of acting in an environmentally responsible manner and wanted to make positive changes now rather than wait for legislation to force them upon us.

There is also little specialist advice available that is tailored specifically to the needs to small businesses – HAZRED directly addresses this.

How do you think your business will benefit?

There are lots of rules and regulations telling businesses what they need to do but not enough advice to help them achieve it. We hope to be able to put into place straightforward guidelines that our tradesmen can easily follow. Any cost savings will be an added benefit.

What were your initial concerns, if any?

One initial concern was the management time required. However, the advisor has been flexible and worked around our needs. Another concern is that we wouldn't be able to share best-practice and learn from other construction companies that are taking part.

Nb. A key component of HAZRED is to produce a catalogue of best-practice based on learnings achieved across the project. This will be accessible to all.

Industry expertise helps take EU HAZRED project into final phase

Having recruited 12 specialist advisors and dozens of businesses to take part, the HAZRED team is now poised to begin the final year of the project which aims to demonstrate the benefits of developing waste reduction targets and plans in partnership with the following industry sectors:

- Treatment and / or coating of metals
- Maintenance and repair of motor vehicles
- Speciality organic chemicals
- General construction / building
- Photographic / print processing
- Manufacture of machinery and equipment

Image courtesy of Envirowise



Construction is one of six sectors that HAZRED will work with.

Firms signed up to the project will now be allocated an advisor whose expertise best matches their business requirements and receive the first of a series of on-site visits. A bespoke action plan will be developed to provide free, expert advice on the effective reduction, management and evaluation of hazardous waste.

A final recruitment drive is also being undertaken to secure the additional participants required to fulfil the project criteria.

HAZRED project manager, Gill Ross-Jones, said: "We are pleased to be embarking on the final phase with an excellent team of advisors on board – and would urge any businesses interested in finding out more to get in touch, while there is still a chance to take part. All advice is free and confidential and we can help businesses secure valuable cost savings by dealing proactively with hazardous waste."



Construction e-alerts from NetRegs

DON'T MISS the spring campaign from NetRegs.

If you're in the construction business you will need to know about changes to legislation that will affect Site Waste Management Plans.

Register now at www.netregs.gov.uk for free NetRegs e-alerts to make sure you're kept up to date.

Project extended for printers

A limited number of places are now available to small printing companies, which will work with businesses to monitor and evaluate reduction in hazardous waste produced and cost savings achieved. The printing sector already benefits from a number of high quality guidance documents, and the HAZRED project aims to take this one stage further by offering free consultancy support on implementing a range of measures to progressively reduce a company's environmental impact and yield cost-savings.

HAZRED Project Manager, Gill Ross-Jones, said: "The production of printing plates for lithography, flexography and screen printing mean that hazardous waste remains an issue for printers. HAZRED represents an excellent opportunity for businesses in this sector to improve their productivity as well as demonstrate the good environmental credentials that are being asked of them."

Dale Wallis, Membership Director-Designate at the British Printing Industries Federation, commented: "Approximately 90% of the printing industry is comprised of businesses with less than twenty-five employees. Many of these businesses simply do not have time and resources to dedicate to environmental issues such as this. I would encourage any small printing company concerned about hazardous waste to apply to take part in HAZRED."



HAZRED is an EU Life-Environment partnership project



Q&A – engineering and construction

Machinery & Equipment – Q&A

By Richard Thomas – Machinery & Equipment Lead Advisor

Q. What exactly will an on-site visit involve?

A. A typical on-site visit will involve discussing the activities taking place on site, gathering data on raw materials, wastes and financial data and identifying opportunities for reducing hazardous wastes.

Q. What kind of processes will you look at?

A. We will be looking at a wide range of manufacturing and assembly processes, including machining, component finishing, pressing and forming processes as well as treatment and preparation processes.

Q. What types of hazardous waste will be addressed?

A. Opportunities to reduce swarf, metalworking fluids, solvent waste, effluent filter-cake and various oils will be examined.

Q. What kind of recommendations will you make?

A. Recommendations will be based around best-practice technologies, techniques and measures. For instance, automatic recovery of metalworking fluids has been successfully trialled and shows savings for high consumers with pay-back periods of around 20 months – this could be something we suggest to put into place.

Q. How long it will take?

A. The programme will last around 12 months. This allows sufficient time to implement and track changes.

Q. Is there a cost involved?

A. Based on an understanding of the companies' activities, tailored improvement plans will be assembled and some of the recommendation will involve capital investment. However, the consultant will identify potential savings and payback periods for these options. Most opportunities will be low or no-cost.

Q. What happens next?

A. Once recruited; a consultant will be in touch to arrange a suitable time for a visit.

Q. Give me an example of a common hazardous waste in this sector and outline actions to manage it.

A. Taking the example of metalworking fluids (MWF), smaller users might undertake the following actions following a benchmarking exercise:

- Optimise intervals between fluid changes
- Improve MWF longevity and reduce usage
- Understand consumption patterns and compare with other market competitors

For larger users, the installation of a MWF recycling machine would reduce disposal costs, improve longevity by decreasing consumption by up to 70% and reduce production outages. It would also provide a cleaner working environment and increase productivity.

Construction & Building – Q&A

By Caroline Richards – Construction & Building Lead Advisor

Q. What exactly will an on-site visit involve?

A. By volunteering to participate in the HAZRED project businesses will benefit from on-site advice from a specialist consultant. The initial visit will ideally be undertaken on an active site where an advisor can review the types of hazardous wastes produced and how they are currently managed.

The consultant will make recommendations for better hazardous waste management and will discuss possible actions to take over the forthcoming year. After the visit, businesses will receive a report detailing the agreed actions and will also benefit from ongoing support via dedicated communications channels, as well as further visits as the project progresses.

Q. How much will it cost?

A. The visits and advice are free. All that we ask is that you are willing to explore options for better waste management and monitor the amount of waste you produce. Your HAZRED advisor will provide guidance to help you do this.

Q. What kind advice would you give to a participating business?

A. As well as receiving tailored recommendation, businesses will also receive general guidance on when certain materials are classified as hazardous and therefore need to be treated in a different manner. For instance, empty containers of paints, solvents and adhesives that still contain some product are likely to be hazardous. And whilst plasterboard is not categorized as hazardous waste, loads containing more than 10% sulphate must be disposed of in separate cells to standard waste.

Meet the advisors



Rod Kellner

Rod Kellner has extensive experience in the metal finishing sector and has also worked with small businesses in the chemicals and photographic industries. He is the lead advisor for the metals sector.



Keith Lawton

Keith Lawton is the lead advisor for the motor vehicles sector, and has additional expertise in advising the engineering and photographic companies.



Philip Harden

Philip Harden has provided expert advice to chemicals, metals and motor vehicles businesses. He is the lead advisor in the chemicals sector.



Caroline Richards

Caroline is the lead advisor for the construction and building sector and has also provided consultancy advice to businesses in the motor vehicles industry.



Simon Binyon

Simon is the lead photographic advisor and has 25 years industry experience. He will also work with chemicals and motor vehicles businesses on the HAZRED project.



Richard Thomas

Richard has considerable experience across the engineering, photographic, metals, motor vehicles and construction industries. He is the lead advisor for the machinery and equipment sector.



James Diamond

James has broad consultancy experience across most of the six sectors that HAZRED is working with, with particular knowledge of the chemicals industry.



Ken Westlake

Ken advises industry on waste management measures for increased profitability. He will be working with construction, motor vehicles and metals businesses.



Jonathan Casey

Jonathan is experienced in working with metals, motor vehicles, photographic, construction and engineering companies and will be involved with all of these HAZRED sectors.



David Best

David will work with participating businesses within the motor vehicles, chemicals and photographic industries.



Mick Whitaker

Mick has advised construction, motor vehicles and engineering businesses and will work with all of these sectors for HAZRED.



Steve Waring

Steve is a chartered chemist and chemical engineer and is a former deputy programme manager of Envirowise. Within the context of HAZRED, he will focus on chemicals, vehicle maintenance, metal finishing and engineering.



Image courtesy of Envirowise



Did you know...?

HAZRED is open to any small business operating in this broad sector including the following key areas:

- Bricklaying
- Carpentry
- Decorating
- Labouring
- Demolition

And there are still places available for businesses in the construction sector to take part in HAZRED and benefit from specialist on-site advice and guidance.

Even sole-traders who are concerned about their production of hazardous waste can apply to take part. To find out more about how HAZRED could help your business reduce hazardous waste and save money, contact the project team on 0117 914 2721 or email hzred@environment-agency.gov.uk