

Network meeting – 25th March 2010, Morpeth Riverside Lodge 10:30am

Attendees

Tony Chamberlain - Safety manager, metal work fabrication for large scale catering
Jen Maddison – H&S manager for a construction and property maintenance company.
David Orange – Machinery supplier / and procurement trainer for public sector tenders
Ian Rienewerf – Safety advisor / Environmental & Quality systems



10:20 – Breakfast meeting

Pre-meeting talks, Business recovery, procurement and public sector tender discussions.

Introductions

Tony started the introductions explaining that the CHAS approval is still a major requirement. David has been developing his machinery supply business & procurement skills to the point where he is providing manager training for the complicated tender process. Plenty of good advice was given with pointers to help with local authority and public sector tenders for work. Jen is fully back to work – the ISO9001 project has settled in nicely, so the next step is to develop and implement the environmental ISO14001 standard. Meanwhile the CHAS, Safecontractor, and Constructionline approvals keep coming in every year. Ian – is helping with a REACH project, which is critical for business continuity. CRB checks are new on the agenda for companies who access schools, hospitals, care homes.

Updated UK legislation for 2010 includes:

The Environmental Permitting (England and Wales) Regulations 2010 (No.675)

http://www.opsi.gov.uk/si/si2010/pdf/uksi_20100675_en.pdf

209 pages defining the requirements for waste management & recycling licences

CRB checks – There is a new CRB requirement before staff can gain access onto school, college, care home and hospital properties. Is there an easier way to check criminal records? Jen has some information that suggests the CRB process will be changing to allow individual workers to gain approval – at a cost. We will wait to see how the changes will unfold. At the moment, umbrella organisation costs add £10 per person surcharge, so 30+ employees mean that a company can find it more cost effective to pay £300 to become an umbrella org.

Business continuity – The Riverside Lodge is an ideal example of how to restart a business after a total loss situation. The tidemark from the flood is still visible 4ft up the outside walls. Liz explained the impact of nearly losing a business, which also happens to be her home.

Site walkabout

The concert room was in use, we can call in next time to see the conference facilities.

Photographs are here www.riverside-lodge.co.uk/conferences_and_events/

Close of meeting = 12:10

Next meeting - Will be at a suitable venue in 10-weeks time (late May / or early June)