

Network meeting – 21st April 2009, Stephenson Coates (1pm-3:45pm)

1pm - Welcome

Coffee, tea, and biscuits were served while we made ourselves comfortable.

1:15pm – Introductions

Who was in the room, their skills and expertise.

Jim Fraser (Fire Safety / First Aid / H&S consultant and trainer)

Tony Chamberlain (Manager – Catering equipment, S/S fabrication & installation)

Billy Davies (NEBOSH qualified, looking for new employment)

Jen Maddison (H&S manager, property maintenance)

Richard Watson (Waste recycling and recovery of used materials)

Ian Rienewerf (H&S consultant and trainer)

Tony Coates welcomed us to his meeting room facilities, and briefly explained the Stephenson Coates ethos of providing fixed price services, with no hidden extras. Specialised company advisors can provide valuable support to clients regarding some of the more complex benefits available – e.g. vehicle lease deals, over purchase options. Contact details are on their website <http://www.stephensoncoates.co.uk>

1:30 - Legal updates – Discussion of any significant changes since the last meeting.

The Chemicals (Hazard Information & Packaging for Supply) Regs

http://www.opsi.gov.uk/si/si2009/pdf/uksi_20090716_en.pdf

Labelling of hazardous (CoSHH) materials for use or supply

Globally Harmonised System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals

<http://www.hse.gov.uk/ghs> Aim: one chemical = one label - worldwide.

1:40 - Networking – discussions around the table.

A chance to resolve any problems or work issues by asking the group for advice

Topics included:

- The advantages (& disadvantages) of the **Tracker** system in company vehicles
- **Safecontractor** approval scheme, compared to the **CHAS/Constructionline** version
- The changes to driving competence qualifications with **Driver CPC** requirements
http://www.direct.gov.uk/en/Motoring/DriverLicensing/CaravansTrailersCommercialVehicles/DG_171186
- and the **ADR regulations**, already established for the transport of hazardous goods
<http://www.hse.gov.uk/cdg/manual/adrcarriage.htm>
- Ian explained how Lord Technical at Gateshead had provided an excellent **Calibration service** for measuring equipment – e.g. gas analysers, temperature, distance and noise meters <http://www.lordtechnical.com/index.php?page=range>
- Richard explained how the ever-changing environmental regulations enable JBT **Recycling** to keep their clients fully up to speed on waste management obligations. As a previous customer, I can vouch for the services provided. Why pay good money for landfill disposal when <http://www.recycleitall.com> can increase your company's environmental performance with no additional costs or significant business disruption.

3:45 - Close

A chance to exchange business cards & gather contact information

Advice is never too far away. We can always give someone a ring if we hit problems.

Date of the next meeting - Early July. Potential Metro Centre visit to be organised.