

# Safetyline 117

H & S UPDATE SEPTEMBER 2010

On 26<sup>th</sup> July, Usport staff in attendance at a football match at Northumberland Road site were able to provide emergency first aid to a player who collapsed with a suspected heart attack, and were able to keep him alive until the Ambulance Service attended. The person is now recovering in hospital. This incident clearly demonstrates the value of **first aid training**, not just as a work skill, but as a “life skill” which could help prevent an unnecessary death. Safety Services arrange both 1-day and 3-day courses First Aid courses during the course of the year, and have recently introduced training using external training providers. If you are interested in learning first aid, please check our website for the programme of scheduled training and if you wish to join a course please contact Debbie Fisher on [d.l.fisher@sheffield.ac.uk](mailto:d.l.fisher@sheffield.ac.uk) or ring on extn. 27466 and let her know your preference on length of course and whether you wish an external training provider. We do advise people to do a “Preliminary First Aid” course in the first instance to see how they fare

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*“Authorisation” is the lynchpin of the REACH process for preventing exposure to particularly hazardous substances. Substances in line for possible authorisation are known as “Substances of Very High Concern” (SVHC). Those needing authorisation by EU chemical safety body ECHA will eventually be shown in Annexe XIV of REACH (currently there are no substances in the Annexe), and will be accompanied by a deadline after which use of that substance in the EU must stop unless authorised. Some substances may be accompanied by a list of uses that do not require authorisation. . Fortunately, some uses are automatically exempted from the need for authorisation under REACH because they are controlled by other legislation; this applies to substances used for scientific research and development. The ECHA has added a further 8 substances to its Candidate List of Substances of SVHCs for authorisation. These can be viewed at [http://echa.europa.eu/doc/press/pr\\_10\\_12\\_candidate\\_list\\_20100618.pdf](http://echa.europa.eu/doc/press/pr_10_12_candidate_list_20100618.pdf)*

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Guidance on aspects to consider when **assessing risks associated with welding** can now be found on Safety Services website in the General Guidance / Work Equipment section. The link is <http://safety.dept.shef.ac.uk/guidance/Welding%20Guidance.pdf>

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*Over the next few weeks many new staff and students will be arriving here in Sheffield. For those who have mobility problems, **escaping from buildings in emergency situations** can be difficult, but information is available on Safety Services website under the “Disability Issues” button in the left hand margin, a document which will assist in finding appropriate ways of helping those with mobility impairment to escape from buildings from above ground level when lifts cannot be used. If you need any help with this process please contact Dewi Thomas ([d.g.thomas@sheffield.ac.uk](mailto:d.g.thomas@sheffield.ac.uk)) or Steve Massey ([s.massey@sheffield.ac.uk](mailto:s.massey@sheffield.ac.uk)) in Safety Services.*

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When **inducting new staff** to the University, don’t forget that there is an online “Health and Safety Induction training” package that can be found on Safety Services website in the “Online Training” section accessible from the left hand margin of the Home Page. Also for those who are required to use a PC as a regular part of their work here, there is an online “DSE Training Assessment” package accessible from the same button.

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*Over the first three weeks in October the annual round of **Fire Drills** will take place for all academic and residential properties. Information has already been sent to Department to warn them of the impending drills. We are looking for a swift response from all departments / staff as this is part of the University’s emergency procedures and is designed to help prevent loss by familiarising staff and students with the sound of the alarm in your building and the location of fire exits and assembly points. If your department has a specific event occurring during this period when you would prefer us not to conduct a drill on your building, do let your DSO or Departmental Manager know who will contact Safety Services avoid these dates and times. We need to know about such events by 15<sup>th</sup> September at the latest.*

*Safety Services - working to make your University safer*