

**HAMPSHIRE HEALTH SAFETY AND ENVIRONMENTAL GROUP  
CONFERENCE,  
22 OCTOBER 2008,  
MARRIOTT HOTEL, PORTSMOUTH**

*(Thanks go to Andy Collier, Charles Cole, Peter Hewick, Terry Palmer and Andy Wood for their contributions to this report - Paula Gilfillan, Web-Editor).*

Taking the themes of “Sensible” “Culture” and “Management” from the Health and Safety Executive (HSE) and the Environment Agency (EA), gave us the inspiration for the running theme of our conference **The Management of Health Safety and Environment “A Culture for Common Sense”**.

Hampshire Health Safety and Environmental Group (HHSEG) have a long history and strong association with many eminent speakers from the various fields, many having held executive positions with either our group or sister organisations. Our programme was extremely strong and the speakers and links to their presentations can be found below:

**Rear Admiral David Bawtree** set the scene with the mention of culture that is driven not just accepted. His take on “Challenger” “Piper Alpha” “Marchioness” “Kings Cross” “Bradford” is that all suffered systemic management failures through a poor safety culture. A memorable caption “Good Managers Balance the Moment”.

**Councillor Richard Jensen, Lord Mayor of Portsmouth** opened the conference and took the opportunity to recognise all the hard work and diligence safety professionals everywhere contributed, congratulating all present. He was proud to be part of a long association with the group.

**[Health and Safety the Facts the Myths a HSE perspective – Jim Nielson, HSE](#)**

Jim is currently the head of the Sensible Risk Management Team in the HSE. This includes the responsibility for busting many of the myths that regularly appear in the Media. Until recently he was project manager for Workplace Health Connect; this was a HSE telephone and workplace visit support services for smaller businesses in England and Wales. Jim has been an HSE Inspector and worked in a range of challenging policy areas, such as developing an Occupational Health Strategy for Great Britain, leading the HSE’s contribution to the anthrax threat on the postal system, Mad Cow’s Disease and Foot and Mouth.

*A flavour.....“Sensible practical steps not bureaucracy – myth busting success – 90% of CEO’s believe H&S requirements help businesses, 55% think it is still too bureaucratic! Involve the workforce, enable and encourage. No one can act irresponsibly and then blame others when they get hurt! No “paper work mountains”*

**Common Sense in Occupational Health – Dr Grant McMillan JP MD MSc FRCP FRCP(Glasg) FFOM CFIOSH Occupational Health Physician.**

Grant was appointed a Consultant in the medical sense in 1981 and practised in the Royal Dockyards, the Institute of Naval Medicine and elsewhere until he left the Royal Navy in 2004. Grant also served as an Honorary Physician to HM The Queen from 1997 until 2004. He is now a consultant in the commercial sense; engaged largely in commissioned research writing and the determination of occupational health disputes. *A former President of HHSEG* he gained his initial formal qualifications in safety in 1983 and has worked through the ranks to become a Chartered Fellow of IOSH where he serves on the Research Committee. Grant is also a Justice of the Peace sitting on the South Hampshire Bench at Fareham and Portsmouth.

*A flavour..... “Companies do not consider Occupational Health enough – Musculoskeletal disorders biggest cause of occupational absences from work – Flu Pandemic we should build on the action to deal with this – Educate the workforce and make occupational health an integral part of the management systems”.*

**A Focus for Real Health and Safety Issues - Professor Neil Budworth , EON UK and Past President of IOSH.**

Neil is the Corporate Health and Safety Manager of EON UK. He is a visiting professor in occupational safety and health in the department of human sciences at Loughborough University and is the Past President of IOSH. Neil has worked in the utility, chemical, engineering and printing sectors as a health and safety advisor. As a professor he has undertaken research into the measurement of the “Safety Climate”; the management of lifting and handling in the workplace with a special emphasis on the management of back pain and pioneered the use of an automated health check system which is now a part of the Association of British Insurers Making the Market Work Initiative. Neil worked extensively with IOSH promoting the safety of young people and with government committees and most recently the Continuous Improvement Programme Action Group where he was the primary author of the strategic document “Examining the role of market segmentation in effectively delivering Health and Safety Messages.

*A flavour.....”Recognise evaluate control monitor! Perception still remains the biggest issue – Ensure we promote the same image – rebut rapidly all nonsense”.*

**Business Insurance and Litigation - Dr David Arrell, Pro Vice Chancellor of a Portsmouth University**

Dr David Arrell is a mathematician by training, having studied in the Universities of St Andrews and Oxford. He first joined the University of Portsmouth in 1993 as its first International Director. Subsequently he spent over seven years as

Dean of the Faculty of Technology before joining the University's Directorate as a Pro Vice-Chancellor in 2003. David's role in the University is two-fold. One is in managing all aspects of Human Resources including workforce well-being and health and safety. The other is in promoting the transfer of knowledge and skills to the regional economy, working closely here with the South East of England Development Agency, the defence industries and armed forces and the Portsmouth City Council. David also plays a lead role in the University's liaison with various regional agencies involved in economic development and inward investment to support regeneration and social inclusion. This involves promoting enterprise and entrepreneurship within the staff and student body of the University.

*A flavour....."business is a driver! Don't use H&S to ban an opportunity – Keep tabs on the evolution of the culture – Develop training strategy and encourage a hunger for involvement – inclusive participation".*

**Effective Waste Management – Peter Kelly MBE Chartered Chemist MRSC Chartered Waste Manager MICWM, Environment Agency Manager for the Solent and West Hampshire**

Peter currently works as an Environment Manager for the Environment Agency; he manages a number of specialist teams working in process industry regulation, incident response, fisheries, recreation, biodiversity, groundwater and contaminated land as well as Environment Management Field Teams. Formerly Chief Waste Regulation Officer for Hampshire County Council he transferred to the Environment Agency when it was created in April 1996. He has a background in the management of waste activities including hazardous waste. His career started as an Industrial Chemist with the National Coal Board and Heavy Engineering Industry in the West Midlands and moved to the public sector in 1973 when he was employed as a Hazardous Waste Officer for the former West Midlands Metropolitan County Council. In 2007 Peter was awarded an MBE for services to the Environment and Community in Hampshire.

*A flavour....."management of waste urgent – No landfill in Hampshire in 5 years – 3.2 Million Tonnes of Waste (1.5 M in Construction). Better regulation needed. Waste management plans a good start – Harmonise Environment and H&S management to good effect".*

**The rest of the day.....**

Together with The Marriott we received sponsorship from IOSH, Tyco Healthcare (Wyeth Laboratories), Grosvenor Health Ltd, Blake Laphorn, O'Heal Ltd and stands from Key Tools, Gully Howard Technical Ltd and Clouds Consultancy.

The centre piece of the event was the Award Ceremony for the **Solent Safety Award; Grant McMillan Trophy and the Jack Bennett Trophy**. The group had fewer entries than previous years, however the contributions submitted represented a varied range of Safety, Health and Environmental Topics. The Group extend our thanks to everyone involved at the schools, training

establishments and organisations for their contributions. A well done to all those who submitted applications.

The **Solent Safety Award** was won by Portchester Community School, and Runners up were VT Flagship.

The **Grant McMillan Trophy** was won by Park Community School, Leigh Park, Runners Up was Front Lawn Junior School, Leigh Park and Highly Commended for 2 submissions went to King Richard School, Paulsgrove.

Paul Walker of VT Flagship's Advance Apprenticeship Scheme won the **Jack Bennett Trophy**. Runner up and Highly Commended went to Edward Hart and Tim Taylor respectively also of VT Flagship Advance Apprenticeship Scheme.

Tributes were made to Allan St.John-Holt OBE and other past members that had contributed to the success of the group, including Roger Chaplen. Allan was a past president and was always very supportive of the group and it's activities. Charles did express our sorrow in his and Roger's passing but added we should cherish the memory and celebrate their lives.

For a complete view of the day, please see our [slide show presentation](#) of snapshots of the day.