

## **BOHS Report for POOSH meeting 28 January 2013**

### **News**

- **Royal Charter**



In October 2012, Her Majesty the Queen approved the grant of a Royal Charter to the Society, in recognition of its unique and preeminent role as the body representing the scientific discipline and profession of occupational hygiene in the United Kingdom. We have now completed the necessary legal work to become a Royal Charter Company and Charity. The Royal Charter grants the right to the Society, through its Faculty of Occupational Hygiene, to award the protected status of 'Chartered Occupational Hygienist' to those Members and Fellows of the Faculty who are:

- Practising occupational hygienists; participating in the Faculty's mandatory CPD Scheme
- Holders of the Diploma of Professional Competence in Occupational Hygiene

Those Fellows and Members of the Faculty of Occupational Hygiene who meet the above criteria, are now 'Chartered Occupational Hygienists' and may use this title.

The post-nominal letters are CFFOH (Fellow) or CMFOH (Member).

We hope that the Royal Charter will help BOHS in further raising awareness of the issue of occupational exposures; and that the introduction of the 'Chartered Occupational Hygienist' will raise standards of competency even further.

We are holding a reception at the Royal Society in London in March 2013 for invited guests, to celebrate the achievement of the Royal Charter. Speakers will include Professor Sir John Beddington CMG FRS, Government Chief Scientific Adviser.

- **60th anniversary**

2013 marks the 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary year of BOHS, which will be a focus of the Annual Conference in April 2013. We are also producing a publication which outlines the key achievements of BOHS over the 60 years, with a particular focus on the public benefit of these achievements.

- **3M Young Hygienist Award**

BOHS have teamed up with 3M to open up this award which recognises and reward young talent within the occupational hygiene profession. Open to BOHS members who are under 35 and have been working for less than 5 years as professional occupational hygienists, the prize is an expenses paid trip to the AIHA conference in Montreal, Canada which takes place on the 18-23 May 2013. The prize also includes attendance at the BOHS Annual Conference in Manchester on the 24 April 2013. The winner will be announced shortly.

### **Publications**

- **Annals of Occupational Hygiene**

The latest issue (**Vol 57 (1)**) is now online <http://annhyg.oxfordjournals.org/content/current>

This issue includes an open access paper on 'Development of Off-Gas Emission Kinetics for Stored Wood Pellets'  
<http://annhyg.oxfordjournals.org/content/57/1/115.full>

In addition, there is a free online topic collection of papers on Exposure – methodology and practice currently available on the Annals web-site at [http://www.oxfordjournals.org/our\\_journals/annhyg/free\\_online\\_topic\\_collection.html](http://www.oxfordjournals.org/our_journals/annhyg/free_online_topic_collection.html)

### **Consultations**

- **CD242 - HSE Proposals to exempt self employed people from health and safety legislation.**

BOHS responded to the consultation on proposals to exempt from health and safety law those self-employed whose work activities pose no potential risk of harm to others, essentially arguing AGAINST exemption for the self-employed.

- **CD243 – HSE Proposals to revise the Reporting of Injuries, Diseases and Dangerous Occurrences Regulations 1995 (RIDDOR '95)**

BOHS responded to this consultation, arguing against the proposal to remove the reporting requirement for cases of occupational disease, other than those resulting from a work-related exposure to a biological agent, citing three main areas of concern as 1) Lack of surveillance data for epidemiological purposes; 2) Lack of intelligence for HSE inspection; 3) Sending a message to Industry about HSE priorities.

### **Major Conferences**

- **OH2013 – BOHS Annual Conference 23 – 25 April, Hilton Deansgate, Manchester, UK**

The BOHS Annual Conference is a major international conference promoting the science and practice of addressing health hazards in the workplace. The Conference brings together researchers, practitioners, regulators and business leaders from around the world to discuss issues - current and on the horizon - that affect health at work:

<http://www.bohs.org/events/annual-conference/>

- **Inhaled Particles XI - 23-25 September 2013, Nottingham, UK**

Inhaled Particles XI (IPXI), is the latest in a long line of highly successful and prestigious meetings and is the oldest ongoing symposium series. For more information and bookings visit <http://www.inhaledparticles.org/>

### **Asbestos Roadshows**

This year will see further developments in the control of risks from asbestos in the workplace. BOHS in conjunction with HSE are holding a series of roadshows in June to reflect a number of changes and developments in the industry.

One key development is a revision to HSG248, The Analysts Guide. This very important HSE guidance document is used by all those who need to commission, manage or carry out asbestos analytical services, from bulk and air sampling to clearing asbestos enclosures after asbestos removal works.

#### **Venues / dates**

4 June	Glasgow
5 June	Manchester
6 June	Birmingham
11 June	London
12 June	Cardiff

## Provisional programme

- 1) The revised analyst's guide
- 2) The role of the analyst and consultant
- 3) Asbestos in retail and new initiatives
- 4) Training / competency developments
- 5) Ventilation of asbestos enclosures
- 6) Plenum ceiling voids and asbestos
- 7) Update of L143 – Asbestos ACOP and Guidance

To book a place or find out more go to [www.bohs.org/events](http://www.bohs.org/events) or contact Cat Lee on 01332 250713.

## Regional Events

All open to non-BOHS members and some are free: <http://www.bohs.org/events/events-list/>

Here is a selection of forthcoming events. Follow the website link above for full details of them all.

- **Tuesday 12 February 2013, 9am – 1pm**  
**Scotland Regional Meeting - Lead Regs or not Lead Regs that is the question**
- **Wednesday, February 13, 2013, 12.45pm – 4.30pm**  
**North West and North Wales Regional Meeting - Direct Reading Instruments**

## Education

- **Bursaries for Modules Scheme open for applications**

The BfM scheme offers bursaries to cover the cost of the first of any core occupational hygiene module, taken in the UK, including the training course and the examination.

The scheme aims to encourage those already working in the field of occupational health and safety to take their first steps towards a possible career in occupational hygiene.

For full details of eligible courses and how to apply, visit the BfM Scheme page:

[www.bohs.org/education/bursaries/](http://www.bohs.org/education/bursaries/)