



The Chartered Society for
Worker Health Protection

Controlling exposures to prevent occupational lung disease - A BOHS Campaign



Founded

1953

Charity

1967

Chartered

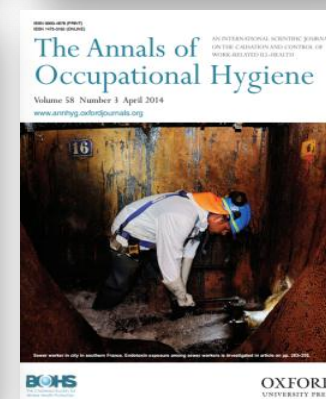
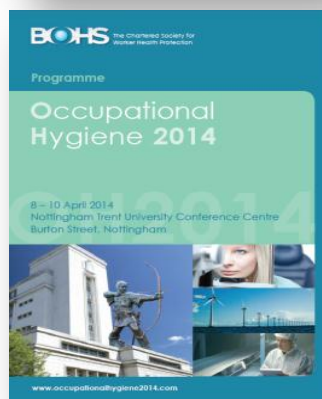
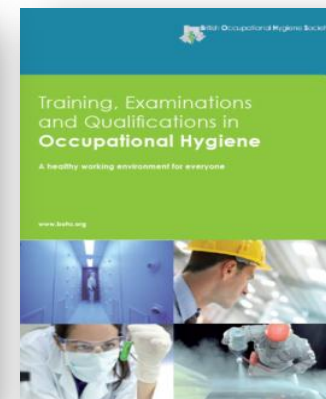
2012



- 1800+ members in 50 countries
- Membership grew by 9.4% in 2013
- Work in industry, regulation, research and consultancy
- Hygienists, doctors, nurses, health specialists, epidemiologists etc.

Products and Services

- **Membership** services, networks and professional development support
- **Qualifications** in occupational hygiene and health risks; at awareness, basic, intermediate and advanced levels
- **Conferences** for scientists and professionals; nationally and globally
- **Publications** including world's No.1 occupational hygiene research journal



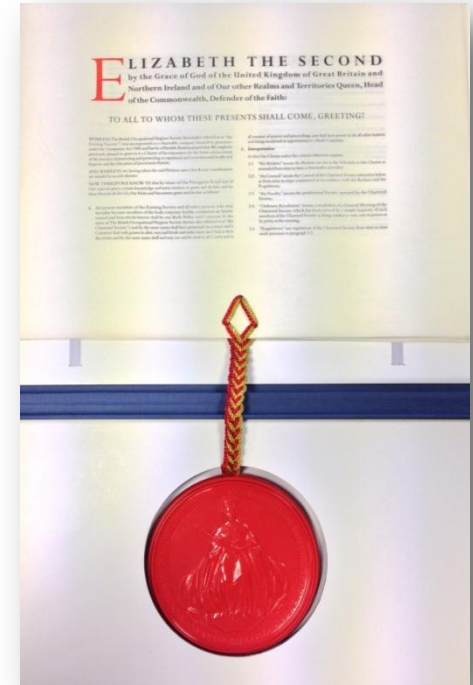
PURPOSE

Worker Health Protection

“3. Royal Charter Objects

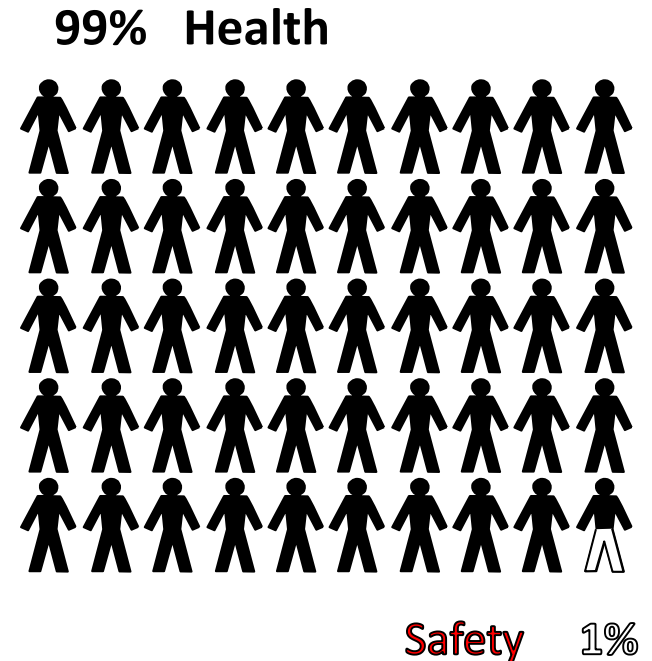
The objects for which the Chartered Society is incorporated are the promotion and protection of occupational and environmental health and hygiene. In furtherance of this object the Chartered Society will:

- 3.1 promote public and professional awareness, good practice and standards; and
- 3.2 research and advance education in the science of occupational and environmental health and hygiene in particular by operating a professional Faculty.”



Prevention through Awareness

- **UK** - HSE estimates 13,000 (99%) disease deaths and 133 (1%) from accidents p.a.
- **World** - ILO estimates 2,020,000 (86%) disease deaths and 320,000 (14%) from accidents p.a.
- **Fatal** diseases like cancers and COPD
- **Debilitating** diseases like asthma, noise induced hearing loss and skin disease



Occupational disease is preventable through good occupational hygiene

Tackling the burden of occupational disease

Tackling this shocking occupational disease burden to protect the workers of today and tomorrow is the single most important issue for BOHS and the occupational hygiene profession to address. We want to convert this 'need' for ill-health prevention into 'demand' for real, practical solutions.



Tackling the burden of occupational disease

In order to work towards this, BOHS plans to lead on an awareness-raising campaign which aims to reduce the incidence of ill-health from occupational disease. It has been decided that the campaign will focus specifically on **occupational lung disease** and the first phase of the campaign will target the **construction industry**



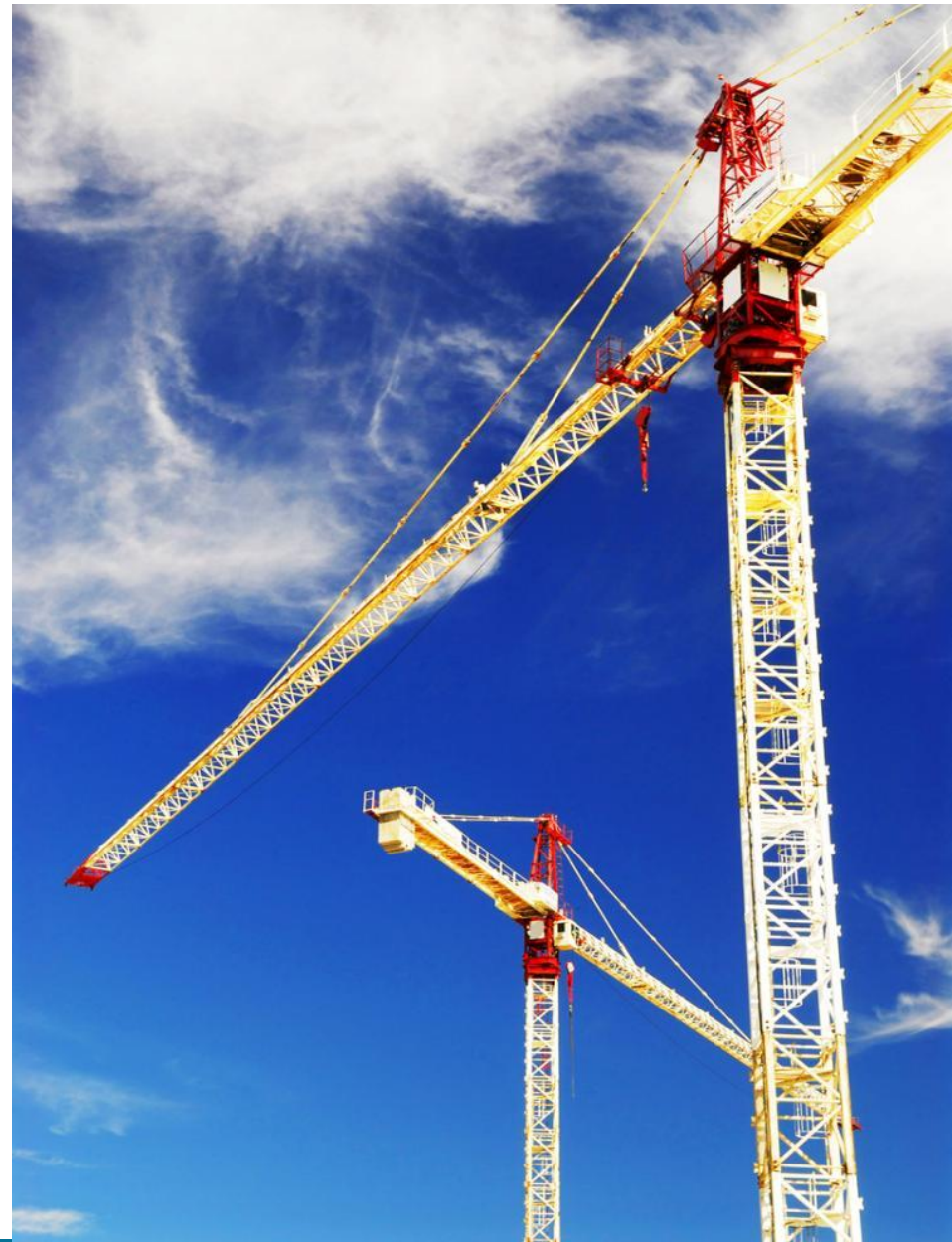
Why construction?

It's a high-risk and growing sector

- **39** fatal injuries to workers in Construction in 2012/13

but

- over **500** workers believed to die from exposure to silica dust
- about **5,500** occupational cancer cases in construction every year



Why construction?

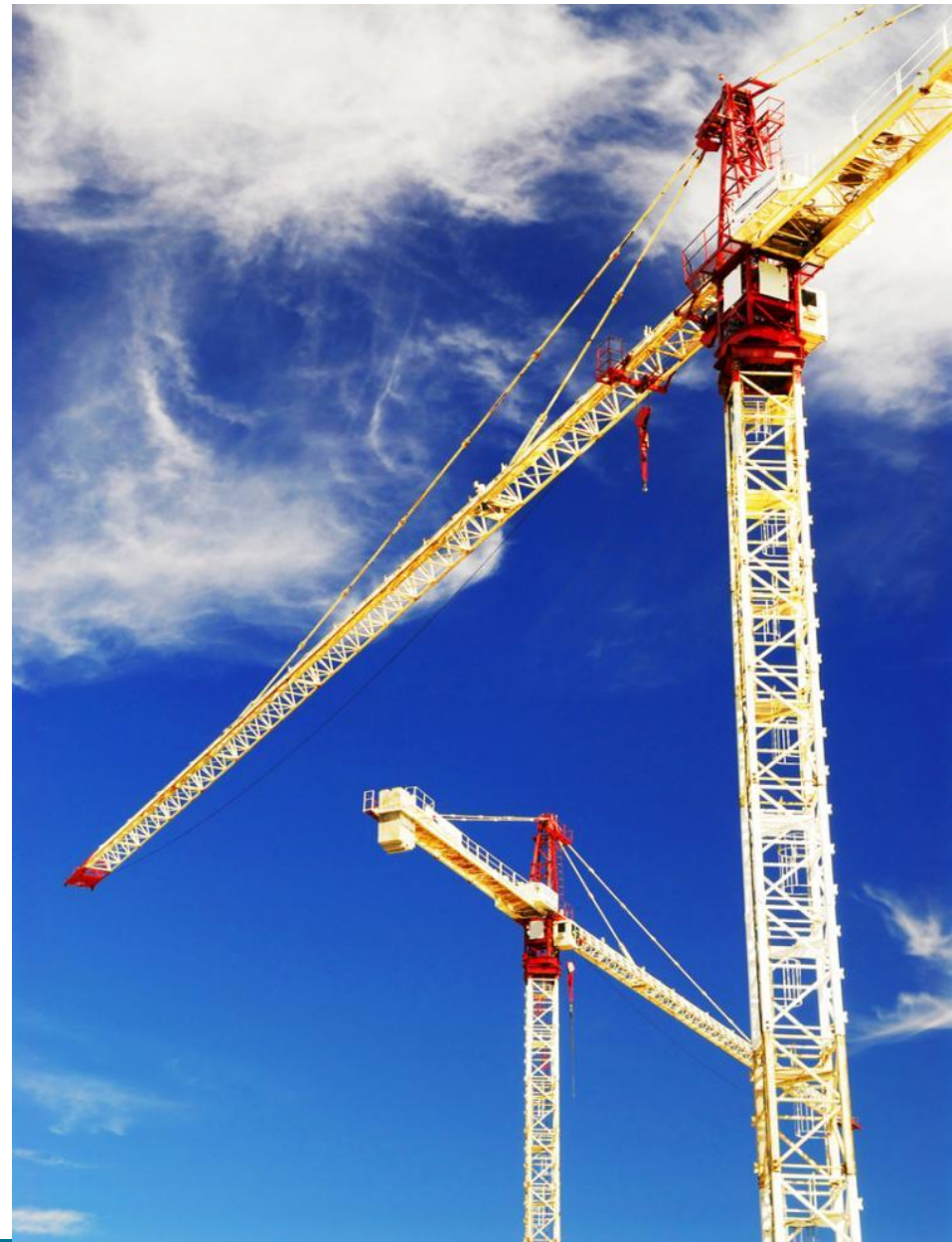
It's a high-risk and growing sector

Exposures:

Diesel Exhaust, silica & other dusts, asbestos, welding fume, legionella, solvents, isocyanates, epoxies and other resins

Diseases:

COPD, silicosis, asbestosis, lung cancer, mesothelioma, asthma, legionnaires' disease



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Stonyhurst College fined for stonemason's lung disease



Stonyhurst College, near Clitheroe, admitted a Health and Safety breach

A Lancashire boarding school has been fined £100,000 after a stonemason developed an incurable lung disease.

A worker in a high-visibility yellow protective suit with reflective silver stripes and a blue helmet is bent over, using a steam cleaning tool on a sidewalk. A large plume of white steam is rising from the tool's nozzle. The worker is positioned next to a brick wall and a metal fence. In the background, a blue truck is partially visible.

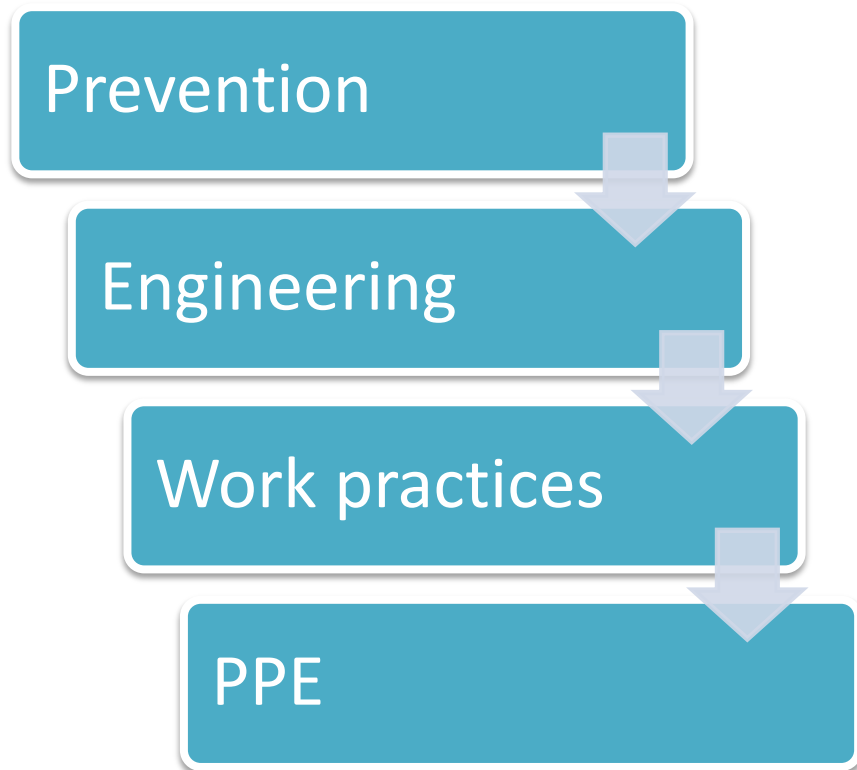
Convert the *need* for preventative
ill-health solutions into *demand*



Occupational hygiene is about **preventing** ill health caused by work.

Occupational hygienists can help employers to achieve this by :

- **Anticipating** and **recognising** hazardous agents in the workplace – chemicals, dust, fumes, gases and vapours and physical hazards such as noise, vibration, heat, cold and UV radiation
- **Evaluating** the degree of risk using their experience and by designing and implementing effective sampling and monitoring strategies
- Advising on cost effective **control measures**



Control isn't just about providing personal protection. It can be an important way of reducing exposure but should be used as a last resort or as a secondary control measure.

Other solutions to **prevent exposure** or **controls** such as engineering measures or good working practices are more effective at dealing with the source of the problem.



Prevention

Engineering

Work practices

PPE

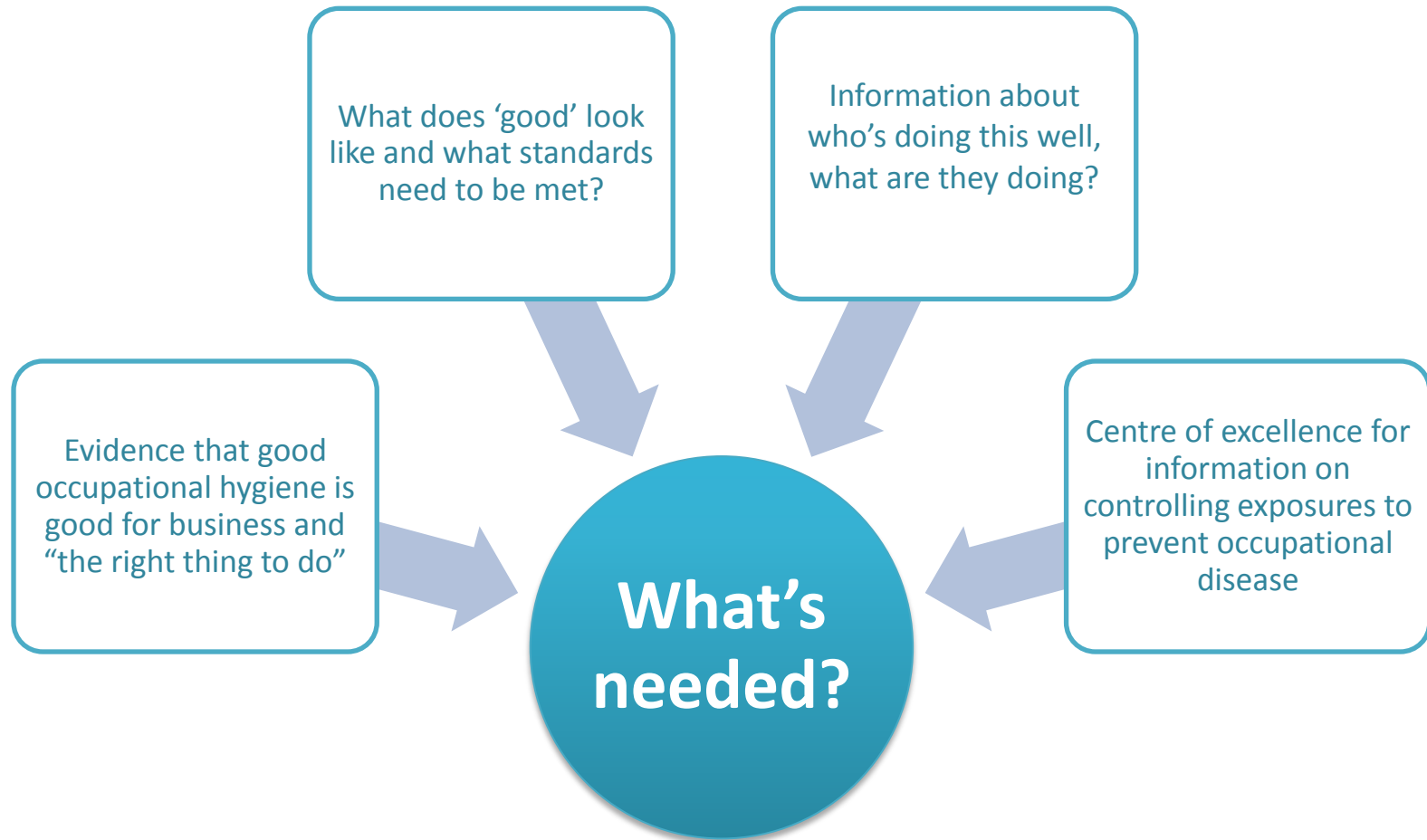
A lot of good guidance is available for common problems. Occupational hygienists know where to find it and what is likely to be applicable to a specific situation. They also have the skills, knowledge and experience to develop controls where there isn't an "off the shelf" solution.

Employers are responsible for their employees health, safety and welfare and have the key role to play in minimising health risks at work.

But to do that they need commitment from employees and their representatives and help and support from the HSE and practical advice from specialists, including occupational hygienists.



Helping employers to protect workers by controlling exposures



Need

Evidence that good occupational hygiene is good for business as well as “the right thing to do”



The BOHS offer

The “**good business case**” demonstrating why good occupational hygiene is good for business

Need

“What does ‘good’ look like and what standards need to be met?”



The BOHS offer

Management Standard
Guidance document setting out standards to be met in order ensure effective and efficient control of exposures

Need

“Who’s doing this well?
What exactly are they
doing and how?”



The BOHS offer

**Case studies and good
practice examples –**
bringing the
management standards
to life – showing how
'good' looks in practice

Need

“Centre of Excellence”
for information on
controlling exposures
to prevent occupational
disease



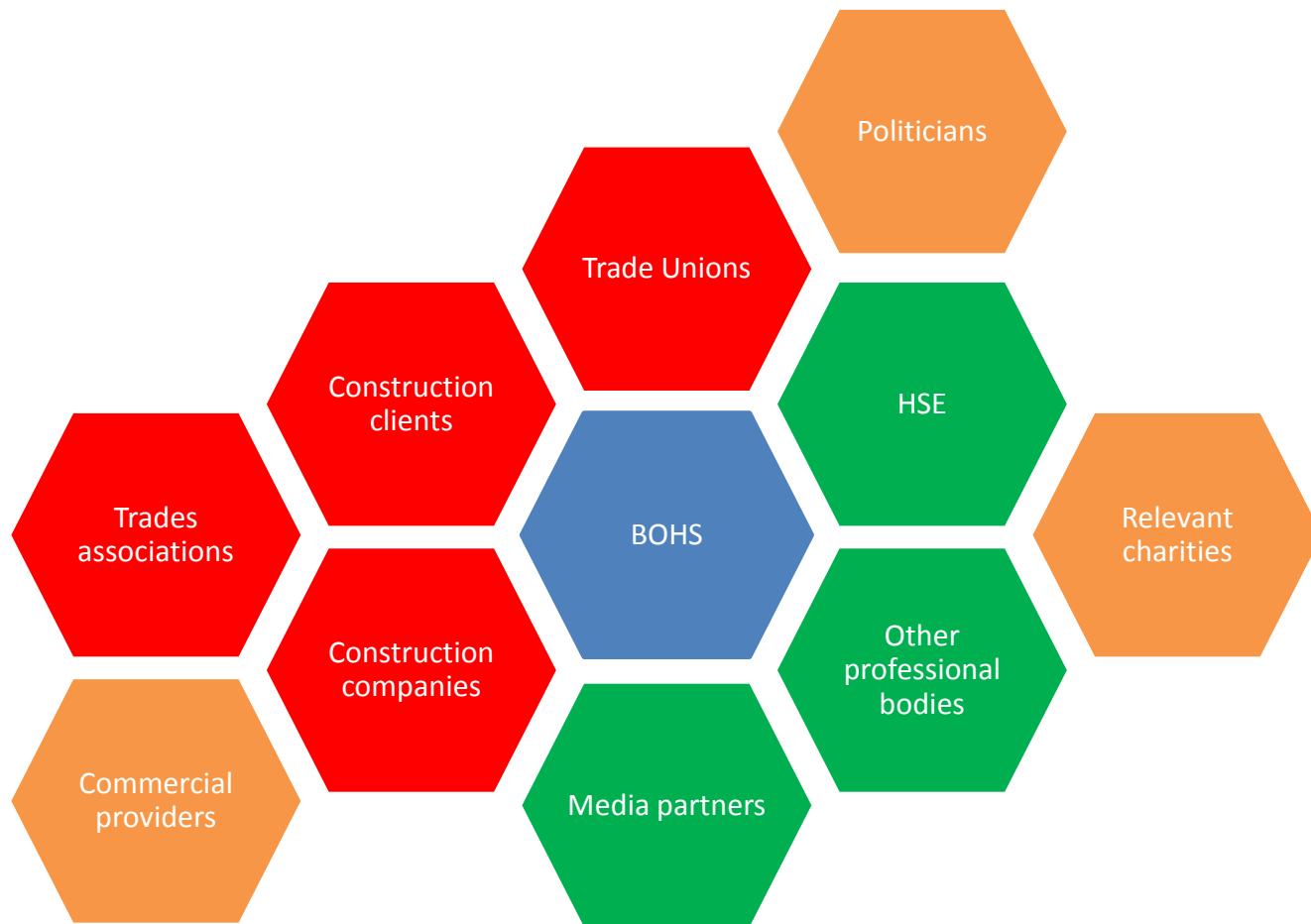
The BOHS offer

Information ‘hub’ for
new and existing
guidance and case
studies

Helping employers to protect workers by controlling exposures



Working in Partnership



Working in Partnership

Supporters

Publicly endorse the campaign

Use and disseminate campaign resources

Act as advocates to spread the word

Partners

Help to develop campaign resources

Publicly 'pledge' to buy-in and implement

Act as 'champions' – encourage others to implement - spread the word

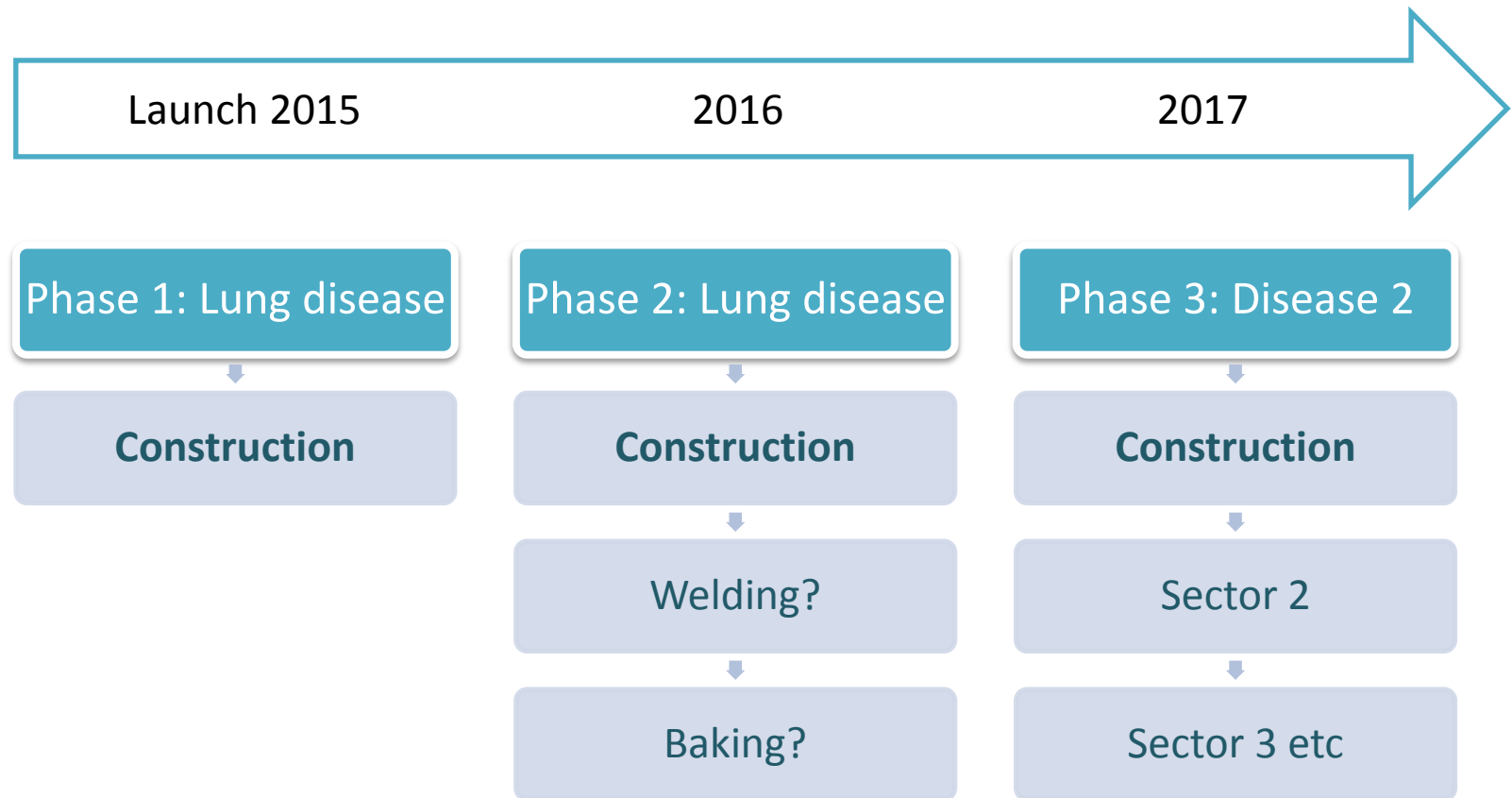
Sponsors

Strategic players with BOHS to develop resources and promote objectives

Fund campaign or specific elements of the campaign

Disseminate the messages and materials

A phased approach





The Chartered Society for
Worker Health Protection

Occupational Hygienists have the knowledge
and skills to help employers find solutions

<http://www.bohs.org>

