

## **Health and Safety Executive update – January 2015**

### **Sikh hard hat legislation**

HSE have progressed an amendment to the Employment Act 1989, via the Deregulation Bill, that will see an exemption for turban wearing Sikhs from wearing head protection in all workplaces. This will include a specific exclusion for tasks carried out by organisations such as the emergency services and armed forces in providing an urgent response to a high hazard situation. The Bill is expected to start House of Lords report stage proceedings in February 2015.

### **ACOP publications**

Revised ACOP's have been published on the HSE website Consultation in respect of the following; Pressure Systems, Confined Spaces, Lifting Operations and Lifting Equipment Regulations.

### **Deregulation Bill**

The Bill has now reached the Report Stage in the House of Lords and is scheduled to take place in February 2015.

HSE is leading on two particular measures within the Bill, concerning legislation on the self-employed (clause 1), and an exemption for turban-wearing Sikhs From requirements to wear safety helmets (clause 5). The Bill and its progress through Parliament can be viewed at <http://services.parliament.uk/bills/2013-14/deregulation.html>.

### **EU OSHA Campaign – Healthy workplaces manage stress**

The campaign continues to run and HSE, as the UK Focal Point, is encouraging the social partners and H&S community to promote and raise awareness of the aims and key messages across industry and to identify suitable case studies that demonstrate practical approaches to addressing the issues. Campaign resources remain available for taking forward events and activities that re-enforce the focus on work related stress and psychosocial risk.

#### **European Good Practice Awards**

The European judging panel has considered all entries submitted by member countries and will announce the winners - enterprises or organisations successfully assessing, eliminating or reducing psychosocial risks and stress at work – in February 2015.

Further details can be found at: <http://www.hse.gov.uk/stress/european/index.htm>