



Health and Safety in Waste Management

The UK case example.

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Chairman, ESA Health and Safety Committee

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In the next 15 minutes (or less!)

- H&S in the UK waste sector before 2004
 - Background terms
 - Evolution
- A strategy for improvement
 - The approach, Code of Conduct and Charter
 - The role of the ESA in changing the culture
- The results and the future
 - Accident rates, H&S work programme 2009 - 2013
 - Lessons learned - was it all worth it?



The background – key organisations

- **ESA** - The trade association for the waste management and secondary resources industry. Membership covers 25% of those employed in the sector, across the full range of waste management services.
- **Local Government** - Procure domestic waste collection and in some cases provide waste collection services.
- **The Health and Safety Executive** - The Government department responsible for the inspection and enforcement of health and safety related regulation.



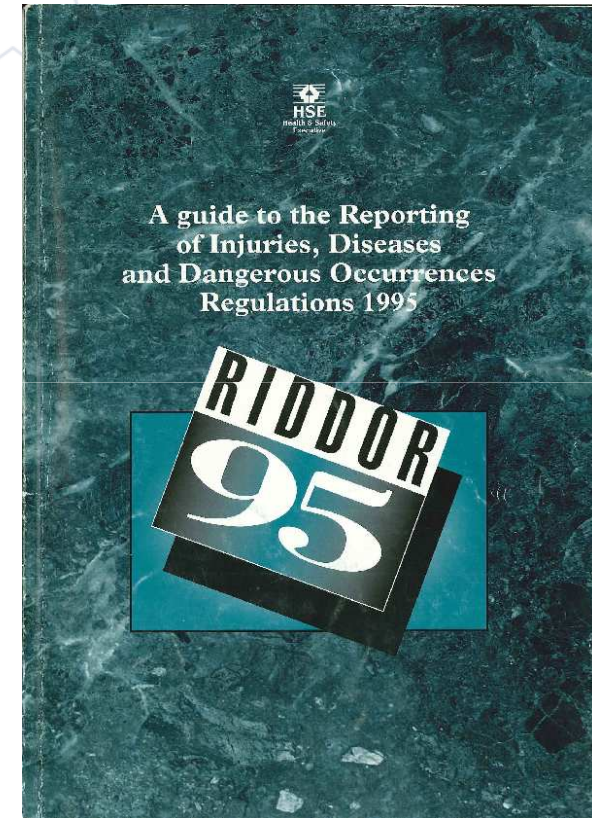
The background – key terms

- **RIDDOR**

Regulations requiring the reporting of all:
Fatalities;
Major Injuries (broken bones etc);
Accidents resulting in more than three days employee absence;
Work related diseases;
'Dangerous occurrences' non injury incidents with the potential to have caused significant harm.

- **RIDDOR Rate**

The number of RIDDOR accidents reported, per 100,000 employees per year.
In the UK since 2000 the 'all industry' average has fallen from 600 to 500 per 100,000 employees per year.



Evolution

- **1989-2000**

- The ESA's health and safety committee shares information on accidents and incidents, responds to government and regulator consultations and addresses some areas of common concern
- Some accident data is shared but it is inconsistent and incoherent

- **1995**

- Programme of work begins and is aimed at collecting accident data in an agreed format.
- H&S Committee starts to collaborate on H&S guidance documents for members.

- **2000-2002**

- Increasingly good quality,
- Comparable accident data indicates that the sector RIDDOR rate is over 4000 (8 x the 'all-industry' average)

Evolution

- 2002

H&S committee recommends to the ESA board that a strategy be developed, to which ESA members can subscribe and which can form part of the membership 'code of conduct'.

- 2003

Accident charter and code of conduct changes debated:

Accident rate reductions 10%, 20%, 50%? Over 3 years? 5 years?

A requirement to submit accident data to ESA?

A requirement to report fatalities to ESA?

A requirement to adopt a recognised safety system?

How would ESA support and assist in a meaningful way the reductions in accident rates?

What about the SME's (<249 employees)?

Code and Charter

- **Accident reduction charter (2004)**
 - 10% year on year reduction in RIDDOR rates each year for five years.
 - Eliminate fatalities by 2007.
- **Code of conduct (2004)**
 - sign and publically display the Accident Reduction Charter
 - provide annual accident statistics (RIDDOR)
 - provide details of accident causation
 - provide contact details for company health and safety representative
 - identify Director responsible for safety
 - implement and keep under review a health and safety improvement plan

ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES ASSOCIATION

ESA ACCIDENT REDUCTION CHARTER

ESA and its Members are committed to achieving a more sustainable future for the waste and secondary resources management industry. Achieving high standards within the industry includes - as a central component of business activity - the management of health and safety.

This accident reduction charter is a commitment by ESA and its Members, supported by HSE, to work towards achieving challenging accident reduction targets. It is also a commitment to review progress against the targets on an annual basis and to assess the scope for adopting new targets for the period beyond 2005.

ESA's Members will aim to:

- reduce the incident rate of RIDDOR reportable accidents by 10% each year for the next five years; and
- eliminate fatalities by 2007.

Signed: _____

Company: _____

Date: _____

esa

ESA's role in culture change

- **The Health and Safety working group**
Forum where health and safety can be discussed as a non-competitive issue between members
It enables information and good practice to be shared freely.
- **ESA Board**
Demonstrates commitment both by supporting the Accident Reduction Charter and health and safety strategy, and by making health and safety the first substantive item on each board agenda.



ESA's role in culture change

- **Proactive engagement with the regulator (HSE)**

- Formed WISH with the HSE in 2001
- Collaborate on safety related research
- Cooperate on the publication of guidance, written by operators, recognised and supported by the Regulators

- **Health and Safety Strategy**

- From the accident causation data identify the key areas
- Identify best practice in the key areas, prepare and publish guidance
- Prepare and promote guidance for others – waste producers, those procuring waste services, etc.
- Prepare guidance to assist members in developing health and safety action plans
- Cross sectoral support on key issues Eg. Riding on RCV's, vehicle sheeting, tipping trailers
- Kept under review, published and promoted.



Not the best start.....

- **RR240 "Bomel I"**

- Based on RIDDOR data
- Significant press attention

- **Fatal injury Statistics**

- "highest rate of fatal injury"
- Yet more press attention



Mapping health and safety standards in the UK waste industry

"Damming research was published yesterday by the HSE which showed that around 4,000 accidents are reported by the waste industry each year, or approximately 2,500 per 100,000 workers. This is nearly five times the national average accident rate, and the fatal incident rate of 10 in 100,000 is ten times the national average."

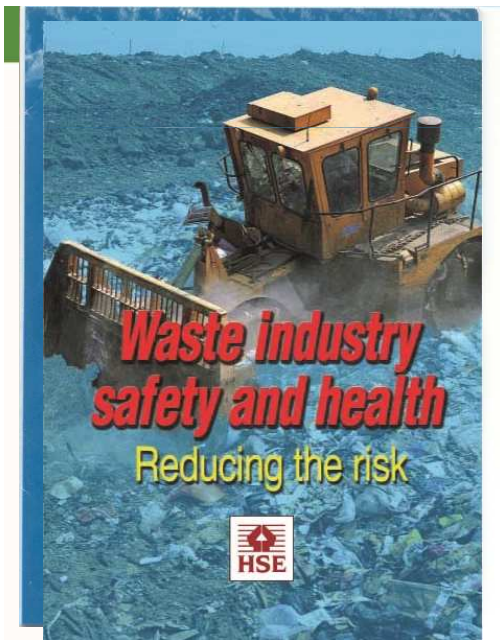
From letsrecycle.com 17 June 2004

<http://www.hse.gov.uk/research/rrhtm>

The Industry with the highest rate of fatal injury is the recycling of waste and scrap where the rate is nearly 40 times the national average.

Getting better.....

- Best practice guidance notes
- Leaflets and other publications

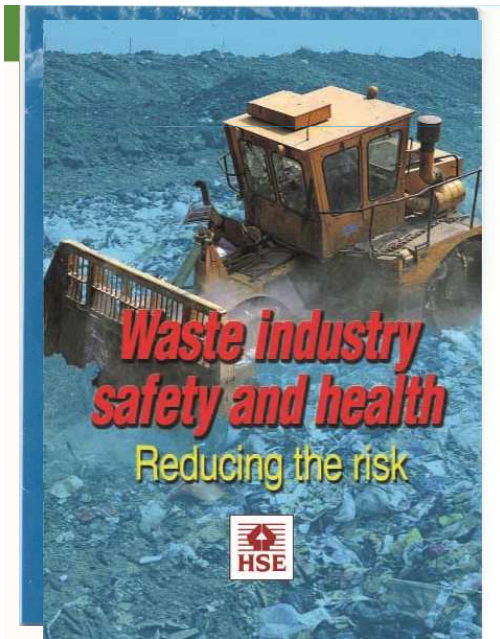


Ref	Title
Waste01	Operating civic amenity sites safely
Waste02	Green waste collection: health issues
Waste03	Orphaned compressed gas cylinders in the waste and recycling industries
Waste04	Waste and recycling vehicles in street collection
Waste05	The safe use of refuse collection vehicle hoists and bins
Waste06	Skip and container safety in waste management and recycling
Waste07	Safe handling of asbestos cement waste at civic amenity (CA) sites
Waste08	Compaction equipment: User and public safety
Waste09	Safe transport in waste management and recycling facilities

<http://www.hse.gov.uk/waste/wish.htm>

Getting better.....

- Best practice guidance notes
- Leaflets and other publications



Ref	Title
Waste10	The safe recovery of petrol from end-of-life vehicles
Waste11	Safety at 'bring sites' in the waste management and recycling industries
Waste15	Health hazards in the waste and recycling industry
Waste16	Kerbside glass collection: Noise reduction techniques
Waste17	Managing 'task and finish' to reduce safety risks
Waste18	Hand sorting of recyclables ('totting') with vehicle assistance
Waste19	Handling needles in the waste and recycling industry
Waste20	Landfill fires controlling the risk
Waste21	Health and safety training: Guidelines for the waste management and recycling sector
Waste22	Handling offensive hygiene waste
Waste23	Safe waste and recycling collection services

<http://www.hse.gov.uk/waste/wish.htm>

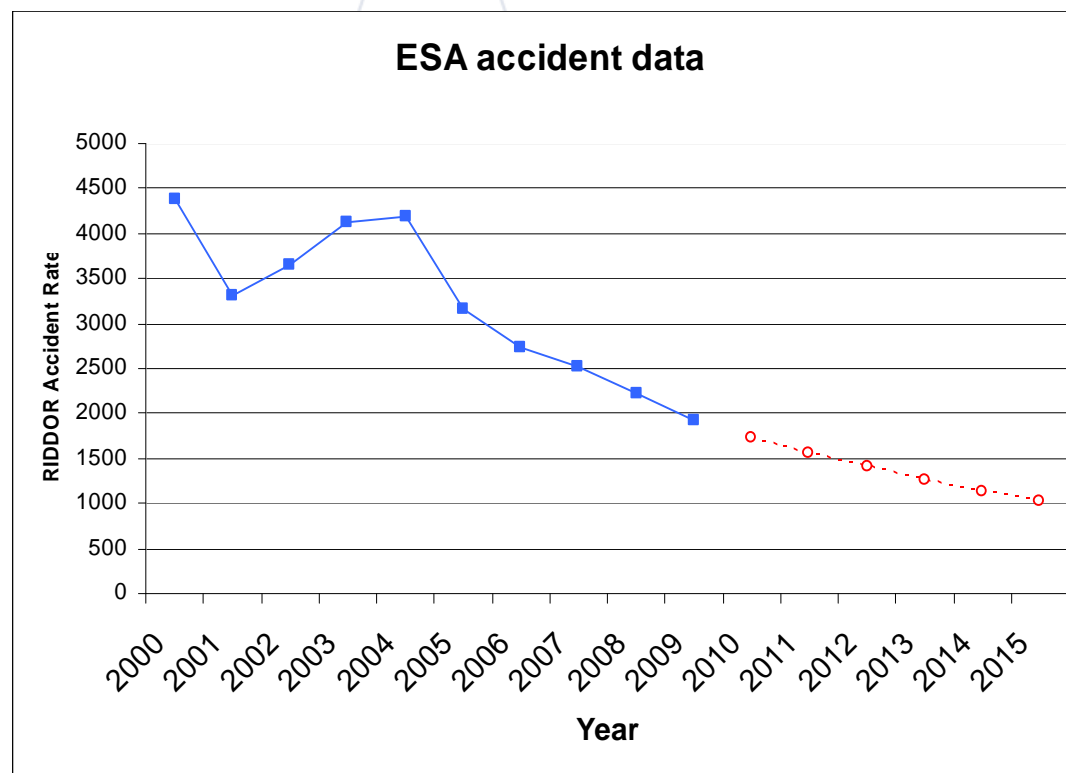
- Accident charter a glorious failure?...

Accident rate fell from 4186 to 2518 between 2004 and 2008.

A 40% reduction.

Following renewal of the charter in 2008 the accident rate has fallen further and 2009 was 1928.

54% lower than 2004 and equivalent to 750 fewer fatalities and major injuries per year in ESA member companies alone.

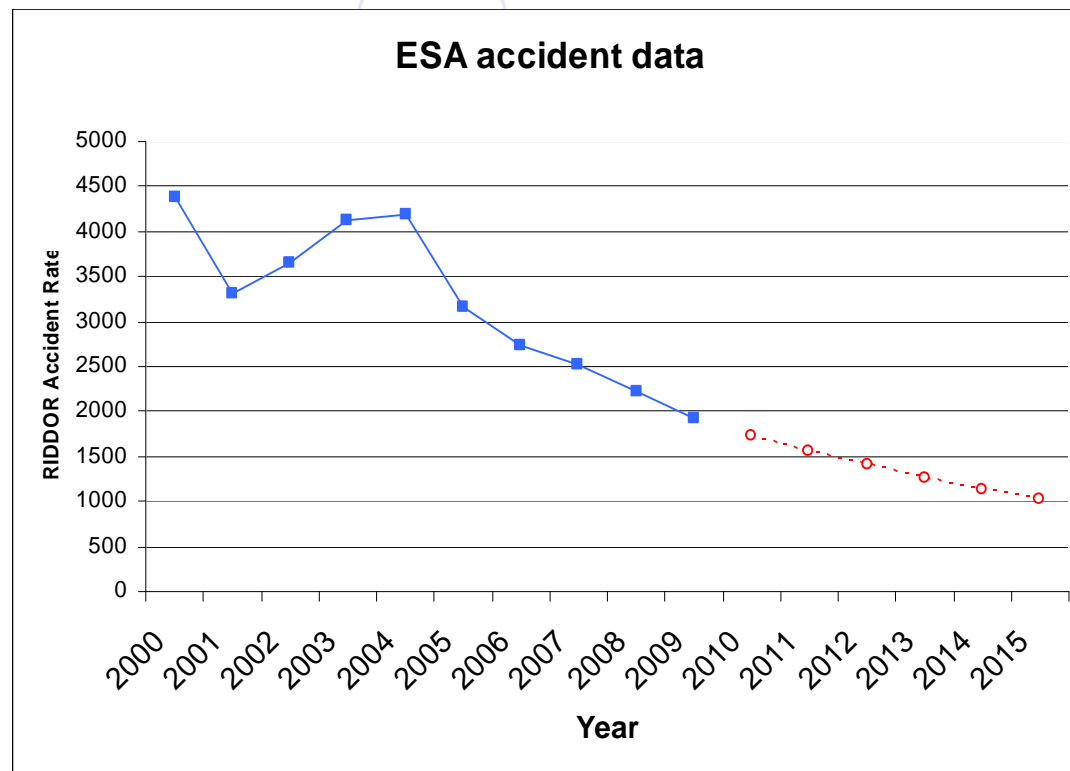


- **Still more to be done...**

The number of fatalities across the industry has fallen in recent years:

2006/7	19
2007/8	16
2008/9	16
2009/10	7
[2010/11	3]

But it isn't zero yet...



The next phase

- **New charter, new code of conduct 2008 - 2013**

- Renewed accident rate charter, another 10% accident rate reduction, each year for five years
- Have in place a safety management system compliant with HSG65 (equivalent to OHSAS 18001 but not externally verified)
- Report details of fatalities to ESA within two weeks of the incident

- **Health and safety strategy 2009 - 2013**

- Continue with existing work program, WISH, HSE etc.
- Give priority to occupational health issues
- Develop with HSE and WISH a common data collection process for sickness absence
- Gather data from which performance can be benchmarked and a strategy for improvement devised and implemented.



Was it worth it?

In 2003/4 there were 35 fatal accidents attributed to the UK waste industry

In 2009/10 there were 7.

Compared to 2004 in 2009 at least 750 fewer people were injured or killed due to the industry's activities, and suffering for them and their families was avoided.



FEAD declaration on H&S at work

- The FEAD declaration on health and safety at work was signed by the FEAD member associations at the GA on 9 March 2009

The FEAD declaration foresees:

- the adoption of an accident reduction programme
- the adoption of accident reduction targets
- the adoption of a pro-active, co-operative attitude towards H&S
- to report progress to FEAD on an annual basis

