

January 2013

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## Upcoming Training Dates

### Emergency First Aid at Work

Monday 18<sup>th</sup> Feb

Monday 11<sup>th</sup> March

### Paediatric First Aid

17<sup>th</sup> / 18<sup>th</sup> April

### Food Safety in Catering L2

Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> Feb

Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> Feb

Friday 8<sup>th</sup> March

### Food Safety in Catering L3

13<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup>, 15<sup>th</sup> May

### IOSH Managing Safely

4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> March

This newsletter is provided for guidance and is not intended to provide a definitive analysis of health and safety legislation. We hope you find this newsletter useful. Do feel free to contact us should you wish to discuss any issues raised. You should take professional advice about any specific issue.



On the 15<sup>th</sup> January the Food Safety Authority of Ireland (FSAI) published findings of a study which examined the authenticity of a number of beef and salami products. They tested 27 'beef' burgers, 31 'beef' meal products (cottage pie, lasagna etc), and 19 salami products. Several of the products were found to contain horse & pig DNA. The tests were carried out two months earlier, but the FSAI did not release the findings because they wanted to carry out more tests.

The products containing horse meat came from 3 processing plants, Liffey Meats and Silvercrest Foods in Ireland and Dalepak and Hambleton in the UK. One of the first steps in the investigation was to identify their suppliers. Seven further samples taken from Dalepak have all tested negative for horse DNA, while one of seven samples taken from Silvercrest has tested positive. Silvercrest have suspended all production.

The contaminated products were on sale in Tesco and Iceland in the UK as well as Lidl, Aldi and Dunnes Stores in Ireland. All products have now been removed from sale, as well as products from Asda, Sainsbury's and the Co-op which they described as "a precautionary measure". Tesco has been further criticised after the withdrawn burgers were still found to be on sale in one of its Oxford stores.

The Food Standards Agency (FSA) has been criticized for not identifying the problem sooner, which it said was due to the fact that "horse meat did not pose a threat to health". They have since begun an investigation. Although the investigation is still in the early stages, it has established that there are two distinct cases here:

1. In all but 1 case the level of horse and pig DNA were extremely low
2. In one case, the level of horse meat was found to be 29%.

The causes of these two cases are likely to be different, and as such the FSA is treating them separately.

The FSA is keen to stress there is no food safety risk to eating horse meat, although in a separate issue five horses that were exported to France for food were tested positive for a drug thought to be harmful to humans (although even this is debated).

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## Contact Us

Tel:  
0151 420 5465  
Email:  
info@innovativesafety.co.uk  
Post:

Innovative Safety Solutions  
St Michael's House  
Hale Road  
Widnes  
Cheshire  
WA8 8XL

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## New website

Here at Innovative Safety we are delighted to announce that our long awaited new website is up and running. You can find it at the same address as the old one:

[www.innovativesafety.co.uk](http://www.innovativesafety.co.uk) but it now has loads of swanky new features.

### Swanky new feature 1: Book online

You can now book onto, and pay for, any of our open courses online. Our full training calendar is available, along with all the important details about the courses.

### Swanky new feature 2: Past newsletters

You can now download past newsletters from the "news" and "newsletters" area of the website. You'll never be without again!

### Swanky new feature 3: Blogs

None of us here at Innovative Safety are adverse to a bit of a rant. Now you can read along with us, as we bemoan the woes of the Health and Safety world. Might drop some handy hints in there as well!

### Swanky new feature 4: Client Logins

This is still a work in progress, but eventually all our lovely consultancy clients will have their very own login area of the website, to keep all their lovely health and safety documents.



## Changes to First Aid Training

Following on from the Lofstedt report, there have been a number of changes to First Aid Training. The biggest of these is that as of the 1<sup>st</sup> January 2013, the HSE will no longer be regulating & accrediting training.

The CIEH (the award body we currently use) will continue to accredit the current course until June 2013, after which we will change to courses with a slightly different format. Under the new format, candidates will only have to demonstrate 3 skills (CPR, Recover Position and dealing with a bleeding casualty who is in shock) which is condensed down from 5, and they will be told on the day if they have been successful. These changes also mean that BOTH first aid qualifications will become QCF registered.

## Myth Busters Challenge Panel

We mentioned this a few months back, when it was first launched on the HSE website, and I just wanted to remind you that it's still going strong. You can submit your silly H&S stories to the Panel at <http://www.hse.gov.uk/contact/contact-myth-busting.htm> and see what they have to say. Some of the highlights from this month have been: bubble machine banned from children's birthday parties; Street Pastors banned from sweeping up broken glass; bowling shoes must not be worn outside and shredded paper cannot be used for luckv dios – all of which were of course BUSTED.

## Facebook



You can now find us on Facebook as Innovative Safety Solutions LTD. Feel free to join us and stay up to date with all our training.

## Twitter



You can now find us on Twitter, on @INNOVESAFETY. Feel free to join us and stay up to date with all our news and training.