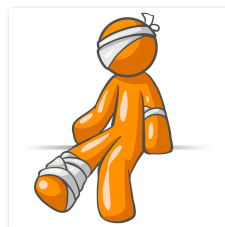## THE BIG 4 SUPPORT

Those that have the responsibility for managing workplaces have many pieces of H&S legislation to comply with. We have found that if you get the big four covered the rest fall into place.

- ☑ Asbestos;
- ☑ Legionella;
- ☑ FIre Risk;
- ☑ Energy (DEC).

On advice offer an audit service to customers to ensure that they have covered all aspects; assessment, recording and presenting information, monitoring remedial requirements, staff training, *etc.*.

Asbestos: Lessons Learned

Ignoring asbestos information during a £50,000 project regenerating a school, added cost in excess of £4,500,000.

The biggest lesson, which was reiterated by the Judge in his summing up, was that a proportioned response to an asbestos incident would have saved millions.

Therefore procuring pragmatic advice and instigating mitigating measures early, is essential.

More than 50% of the £4.5M claim arose from a lack of demarkation on the contaminated site. Zones which clearly could not have been affected by the original incident were either; contaminated by not controlling traffic through the site, or wrongly classified as contaminated by an analytical company whose integrity may have been swayed by potential increased profits.

Decontamination involved stripping back each room to concrete, which included disposal of carpets, books, computers, soft furnishings etc. The whole process lasted over 9 Months.

RIDDOR REPORTING

RIDDOR's trigger point for the reporting of over-three-day injury has increased to over seven days' incapacitation.

Incapacitation is defined as the worker being absent or unable to do work that they would reasonably be expected to do as part of their normal duties.

Reporting of all "Major" injuries still remains a stipulation. This list of Major injuries includes, *inter alia*, fractures (except fingers *etc.*), dislocations - shoulder, hip, knee or spine. Various losses of consciousness, requirements for resuscitation, illnesses or admittance to hospital arising from various exposures.

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