

## Health & Safety Authority Programme of Work 2008

Martin O'Halloran has stated that, "With approximately four inspectors per 100,000 workers, the Authority must target most of its inspections at higher risk sectors and non-compliant employers".

HSA have vowed that in 2008 they will conduct 17,500 workplace inspections, on both a targeted and random basis. They will be broken down as follows:

- 7,000: Construction sites, to continue to roll out 2006 Construction Regulations and Safe System of Work Plan (SSWP), and promote Code of Practice for employers of three or less construction employees.
- 1,600: Retail and private petroleum stores and carriers of dangerous goods by road, (ADR) inspections.
- 1,500: Manufacturing, to cover risk assessments, safety statements, work equipment standards and CE marking, of which at least 500 will be targeted at those employers where two or more notices were served in 2006 and 2007 and at those with more than 50 employees and where no accidents were notified in the last two years.
- 1,500: Chemical inspections, covering 300 process industries and COMAH 2006 (SEVESO II) sites.
- 1,500: Agriculture, forestry and fishing.
- 1,000: Service-based inspections in hotels, restaurants and financial sectors, covering Manual Handling and Safety and Health protection for foreign workers in hotels, work organisations, stress and bullying in financial services.
- 1,000: Others, covering education, retail, commercial diving, and following up on accidents and complaints etc.
- 700: Other chemical agents REACH or GHS inspections.
- 500: Occupational hygiene visits.
- 500: Inspections will also cover noise.
- 500: Road Transport, to cover risk assessments for driving/periods for driving, load security etc.
- 500: Mines and quarries, of which at least 100 will be follow-up inspections for enforcement notices served in 2006 and 2007; enforce new Quarries Regulations; follow-up on silica survey.



- 300: Local authorities, to concentrate on large infrastructural projects, safety and health management issues.
- 300: Manual Handling, to continue the EU SLIC manual handling campaign in healthcare, transport and construction.
- 200: Health services, to concentrate on violence to workers, psychiatric hospitals, and nursing homes.
- 100: Waste recycling centres.

Finally, the goals of the Health and Safety Authority for 2008 are:

**Goal 1:** Raise the level of general awareness of occupational safety, health and welfare in the workplace among employers, employees and society in general.

**Goal 2:** Target the workers and managers of the future by fostering a culture of safety through early and continued interventions in the education and training systems.



**Goal 3:** Make relevant specific information and guidance easily available to those who manage and promote workplace safety in all sectors and assist them to achieve their targets.

**Goal 4:** Enforce occupational safety, health and welfare legislation through targeted and prioritised inspections and through legal action where necessary.

**Goal 5:** Develop a research programme on current, emerging and future high-risk areas in workplace safety, health and welfare which will inform all our actions.

**Goal 6:** Ensure that the Authority and its staff, resources and facilities deliver on these corporate goals in line with best practice and value for money.

Further information can be obtained from [www.HSA.ie](http://www.HSA.ie)