

SAFETY, HEALTH & WELFARE ISSUES FOR CONTRACTORS

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Practical Safety Management will be the theme of the Safety, Health & Welfare Stand at the Teagasc Machinery Event at Kildalton College, Piltown, Co. Kilkenny on Thursday, 23rd November 2000.

An inspector from the Health & Safety Authority will be on hand to explain the legal requirements, under the Safety, Health & Welfare at Work Act, on contractors and persons operating machinery. The requirement to prepare a practical safety statement for a machinery outfit will be outlined and practical examples will be given.

The Teagasc exhibit will feature:

- Safety with Machinery including covering Power Shafts
- Requirements for Workshop Safety / Electrical Installations
- Slurry gas detection systems
- Pesticide storage requirement
- Personal protective equipment
- Handling of loads – how to prevent serious back injuries
- Requirements for first aid and welfare facilities
- Requirements for staff competence and training
- Requirements for public safety

Safety management is a crucial part of running a successful contracting business or mechanised farm. High standards can be achieved. Accidents cause a lot of pain and suffering and disability. They also have an extremely negative effect on the business due to increased insurance costs and the impact on staff morale.