

PRESS RELEASE**-OPENS-****BURGESS MARINE COMMITTED TO IMPROVING HEALTH AND SAFETY PERFORMANCE AND WORKING WITH BVT**

Burgess Marine has demonstrated its commitment to improving health and safety performance in a number of differing ways. Financially, the company has invested in staff training, including Confined Space Working, MEWP Operators, Forklift Truck Operators, Telescopic Handler Operators, Fire Watchmen, Fire Risk Assessment, and PAT Testing, ensuring that the core workforce has all the necessary certification required for the roles they undertake, particularly during the Fast Ferry refits undertaken each year. Historically, Burgess Marine has employed a part time H.S.Q.E Manager, but since September of this year the role has become full time, providing the Technical Management with full time support and advice.

Burgess Marine has employed the services of an occupational health care provider to provide health surveillance for HAVS and noise induced hearing damage for all Burgess Marine employees. Investment has also been made in higher specification standard PPE for employees, for example, management has responded to employee requests for improved safety harnesses with adjustable length lanyards; higher specification hard hats and overalls have been provided that now have integrated high visibility bands.

During and following the conversion of Incat Hull 050 earlier in the year, Burgess Marine sought guidance and advice from BVT SHE Department on a number of matters relating to improvement of safety performance and in the process developed a good working rapport, Burgess Marine has since adopted and implemented a number of BVT SESOPS on the recommendation from BVT SHE Department.

Burgess Marine is now providing employees with significantly more comprehensive health and safety information (than given historically) in the form of updated and improved staff handbooks, BOC gas safety handbooks, BVT safety code of practice. Employees are provided with a monthly 'Safety Matters' bulletin, highlighting a particular subject/area each month that is relevant to engineering work in the marine environment. Management have also sought employee opinions on health and safety matters through one to one meetings and the implementation of health and safety 'suggestion boxes' in staff mess rooms.

Burgess Marine has implemented stricter documented safety rules for 2009/10 winter refits that Technical Management shall be rigorously enforcing, an example being the complete prohibition of personal mobile phone use inside 'blue line' areas. These stricter safety rules have also, for the first time, and with the full support of the Management Team been exported to Burgess Marine refits taking place outside of Portsmouth Naval Base in order to maintain consistency throughout the company's operations.

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