



The Chartered Society for Worker Health Protection

WHAT ARE WE DOING 2025-2026?

*Adrian Parris, BOHS President 2025,26,
Occupational Hygiene & Chemical Safety Manager, Sellafield Ltd*

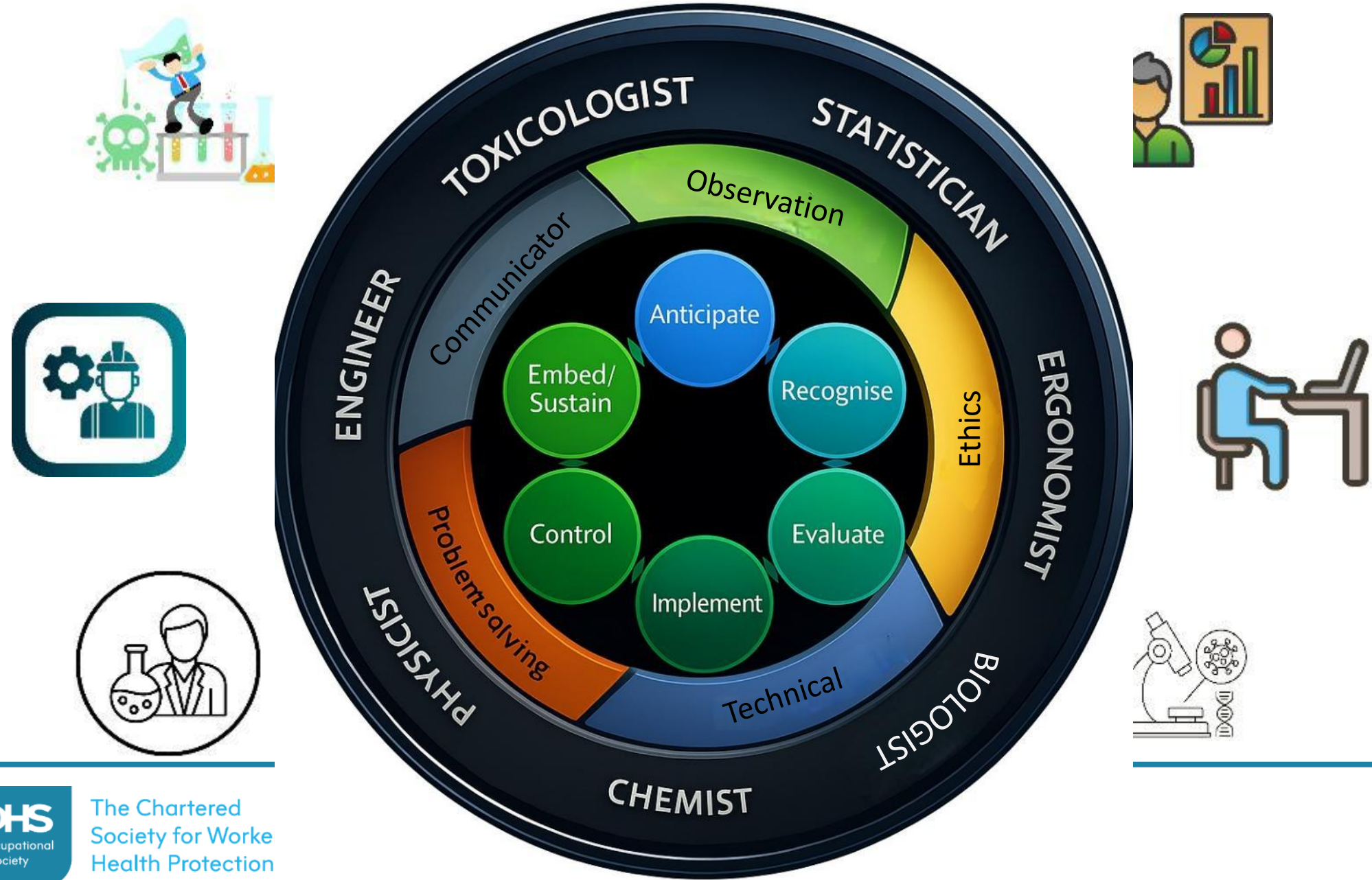
Adrian Parris CFFOH



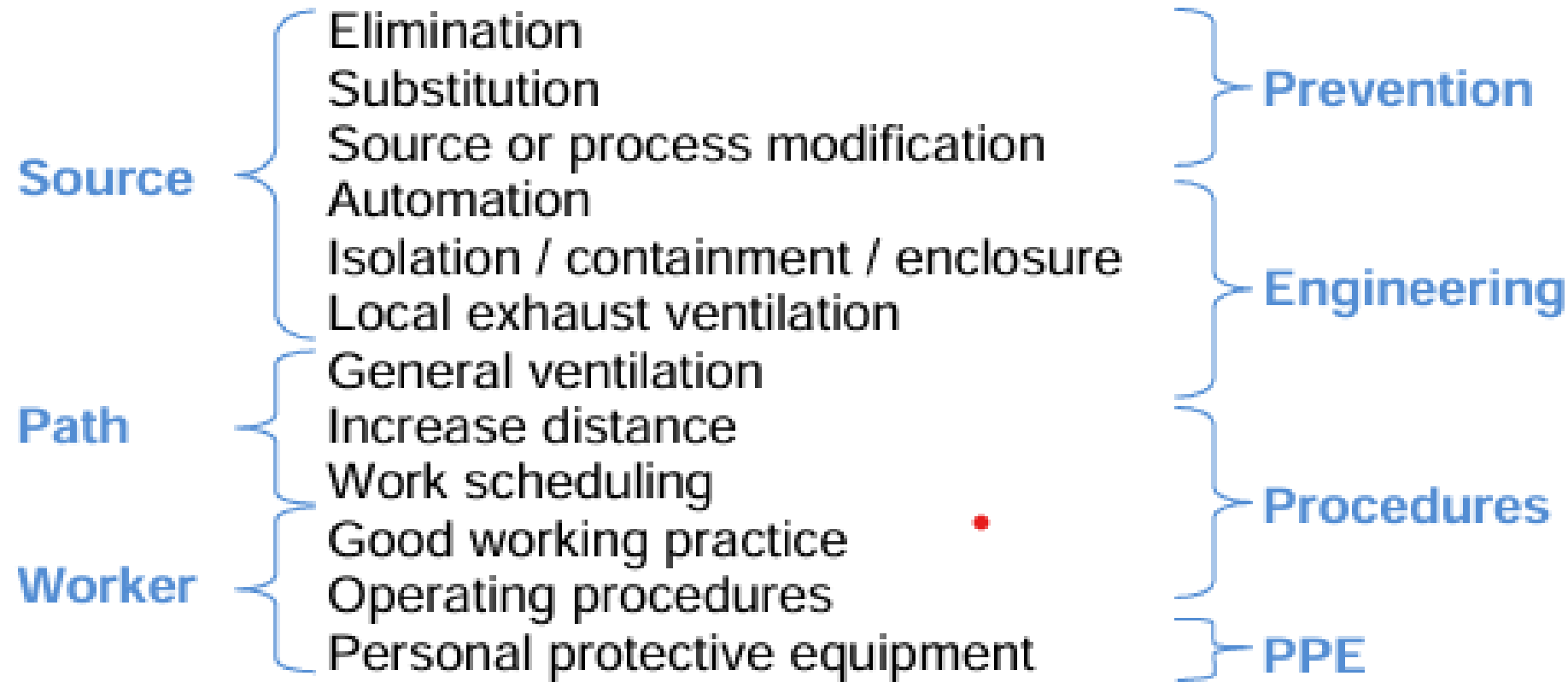
TATA STEEL



Through The Lens of A Hygienist/LEV Specialist



LEV As A Control Strategy



What is BOHS?

- The Chartered Society for Worker Health Protection.
- BOHS is the home of two professional bodies, FOH and FAAM.
- These set the professional practice standards for Occupational Hygienists and Asbestos Analysts/Surveyors.
- BOHS is the Statutory Regulator for OH qualifications and the only OH profession with statutory register (includes LEV COC holders)



Campaigning

- BOHS actively advocates for prevention within health and work, releasing policy reports and responses to consultations
- Men's health strategy consultation.
- Menopause action plan standards.
- Mayfield review.

m+ EXCLUSIVE Asbestos kills more troops than the Taliban: National disgrace revealed by Mail as toxic MoD homes and equipment caused NINE TIMES more deaths than 20-year Afghan campaign



The British Occupational Hygiene Society response to the Call for Evidence on a Men's Health Strategy

Why listen to BOHS?

For over 70 years, BOHS has been the independent scientific voice of preventing ill health in the workplace. The decline in ill-health caused by the workplace in areas such as silicosis, pneumoconiosis and other industrial diseases has not been accidental or merely as the result of changing ways of working.

Research, control measures and professional insights from BOHS have been instrumental in the reduction of the burden of ill health through work in the UK. From legionella, through asbestosis, other cancers, silicosis and musculoskeletal disorders, the research and publications of the Society and the work of its members has saved literally thousands of men's lives in traditionally male-dominated industries.

Is making workplaces part of the solution going to be a cost to business?

In tandem with this, good occupational hygiene has been a driver of increased productivity, reduced costs and delays and longer and healthier working lives. This is strongly evidenced in some of our most economically successful sectors, such as pharmaceuticals, the chemicals and energy industries. High standards in the prevention of exposure to hazards is not a barrier to business effectiveness, but an enabler of business continuity.

This is because preventing men from being exposed to chemical, biological and physical hazards to health in the workplace is far more effective and cost-effective than trying to identify and treat the consequences of uncontrolled exposure, whether through occupational health interventions or the National Health Service.

Rolls Royce reports in the [Journal of Occupational and Environmental Medicine](#) that it costs them 50m pounds per annum to manage work related musculoskeletal disorders, which principally affect their male workforce. To provide a cost context, this amount of money could fund 25 NHS Integrated Care Board MSK packages in the NHS or over ten NHS WorkWell pilots. Interventions which prevent, rather than treat (or retire) male workers with MSKs, promise tremendous savings for employers, retention of skilled staff and lowered cost for healthcare and benefits.

EXCLUSIVE

New rules on kitchen revamps in bid to prevent deadly lung disease

In a move that experts say will save lives, the UK's health and safety watchdog is drawing up draft guidelines for cutting stone worktops



Policy Advice

- BOHS has made significant impact on areas of policy and is a major influencer driving HSE's strategic focus on health.
- All party parliamentary group on respiratory health.
- Council for work and health.
- HSE health summit service group.



Occupational Hygiene – A Registered Profession

- Occupational Hygiene is now a registered profession (like doctors and lawyers).
- In order to deliver OH services for more than 6 months in the UK, practitioners need to be registered and approved by BOHS.
- Approval is based on meeting the criteria set out in the Competency Framework, which deals not only with technical skills and knowledge, but professional practice competencies and experience.

Professional Standards Governance and Performance Framework

- CoC control and FOH members are found on the professional register.
- HSE expects occupational hygiene services to be delivered by competent people, Reg 7 Management etc Regs 1999.
- Guidance from HSE will explicitly drive people towards the register.
- Several large duty-holders insist on registered hygienists and CoC Control.
- BOHS investigates and disciplines members for breaches of professional ethics.

Register of Occupational Hygiene Professionals

The Register of Occupational Hygiene Professionals is the UK's regulated professional register of individuals competent to practise Occupational Hygiene and provide you with the necessary advice and expertise to help you protect the health of your workforce.

[Find an Occupational Hygienist](#)

Professional Standards Governance and Performance Framework

- Register of Occupational Hygiene Professionals

[Register of Occupational Hygiene Professionals - British Occupational Hygiene Society \(BOHS\)](#)

- The BOHS Statement of Occupational Hygiene Competencies

[BOHS-Statement-of-Occupational-Hygiene-Competencies-1.pdf](#)

- Directory of Occupational Hygiene Services

[Directory of OH Services](#)



European Platform
for Occupational Hygiene

Professional Standards Governance and Performance Framework

- 2025 Will see certified LEV testers directory (in association with CIBSE, EMADA, SAFED, UKAS) and certified asbestos surveyors register.

What do the different Expertise Levels mean?

The following Levels of Expertise are used within the Register:

Qualified
Occupational
Hygienist

Qualified
Occupational
Hygienist
(Provisional)

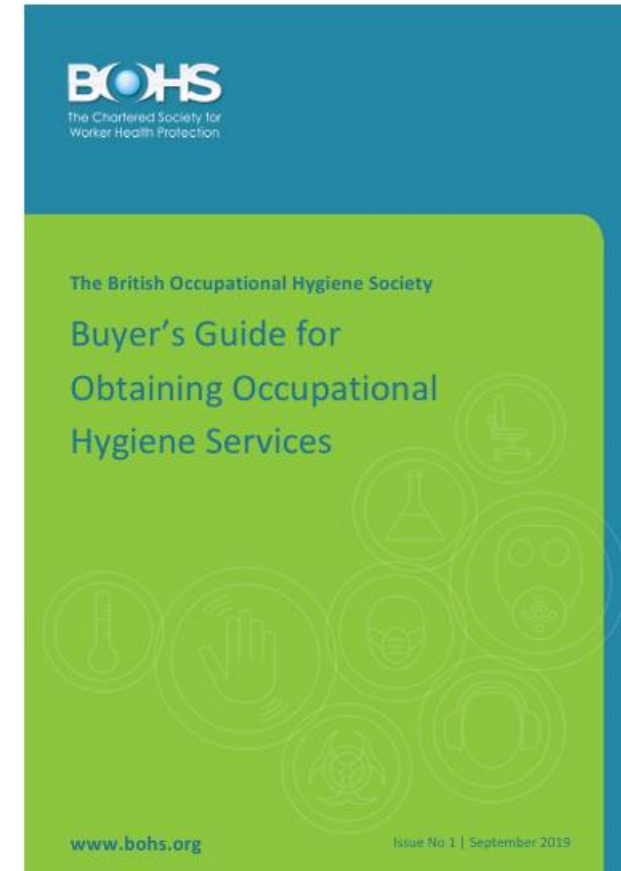
Occupational
Hygiene
Technician

Associated
Professionals

LEV Specialist

A Qualified Occupational Hygienist will be able to work unsupervised and provide advice, within their level of experience and competence on the identification, evaluation, measurement, control and impact of a wide range of workplace exposures. This category includes Licentiates and Chartered Members and Fellows of the Faculty of Occupational Hygiene or those of verified equivalent qualifications and status. ***These registrants are entitled to display the PSA Accredited Registers Quality Mark.***

Professional Standards Governance and Performance Framework



Enhancement of Technical Capabilities

- BOHS is also a producer of technical guidance, invariably developed in partnership with HSE.
- Technical guidance directory.
 - [Technical Guidance - British Occupational Hygiene Society \(BOHS\)](#)
 - Contains previous and historic guidance
 - Webinar recordings.
 - Links to useful guidance produced by other organisations e.g UKHCA, HSE, NIOSH
- Metal working fluids recently released.

M - Metalworking Fluid (MWF)

MWF - Assessment & Control of Health Risks 

Audit Tool Assessment Control MWF Exposure 

AuditTool Assessment Control MWF Exposure pdf 

Audit Tool MWF Quality Management 

Audit Tool MWF Quality Management pdf 

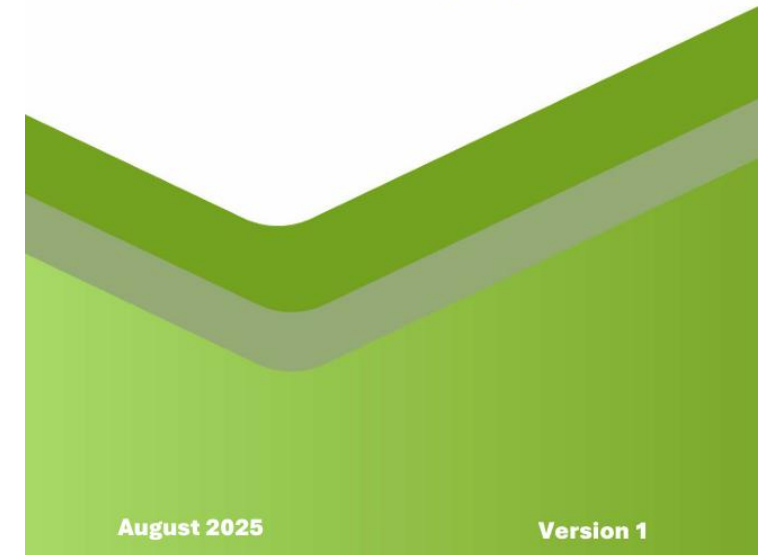
MWF Webinar - Introduction to BOHS Guidance

Enhancement of Technical Capabilities

- Introductory Guide to Mathematics 1: Local Exhaust Ventilation (LEV) Mathematics.
- First in a series of mathematical guides, to follow
 - Exposure monitoring
 - Noise assessment
 - Vibration assessment
- Noise report template
- Member science initiative focus silica and isocyanates
- Formaldehyde and passive sampling guidance latest version uploaded.



**Introductory Guide to Mathematics
for Occupational Hygiene 1:
Local Exhaust Ventilation (LEV) Mathematics**



Enhancement of Technical Capabilities

- Under development
 - Diesel Fume.
 - Minimum Sample Time Calculator spreadsheet, donated by Mary Cameron.
 - Revision of Information for BOHS members on monitoring for isocyanates in air
 - TG15 (Technical Guide on Direct-reading Devices for Airborne and Surface Chemical Contaminants)
 - Control effectiveness spreadsheets that can be used for different topics – COSHH, Noise, HAVS and EMF.

Enhancement of Technical Capabilities

Guidance on how healthcare employers make decisions about appropriate PPE to protect against airborne risks

- Based on following hierarchical approach
- Still poor understanding between Fluid Resistant Surgical Masks (FRSMs) and RPE.
- Infection Prevention Control (IPC) V COSHH.
- FRSMs still referenced as PPE in manuals and NHS literature.



Guidance for Healthcare Employers and Workers on the use of Fluid Resistant Surgical Masks (Type IIR) and respirators (FFP3 etc) to comply with the requirements of the Control of Substances Hazardous to Health Regulations (COSHH) 2002 (England)

British Occupational Hygiene Society



British Occupational
Hygiene Society

The Chartered
Society for Worker
Health Protection

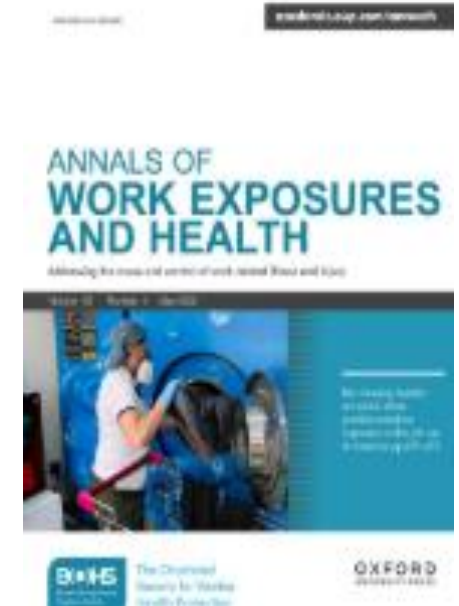
Education

4,000+

LEARNERS WITH BOHS EACH YEAR.

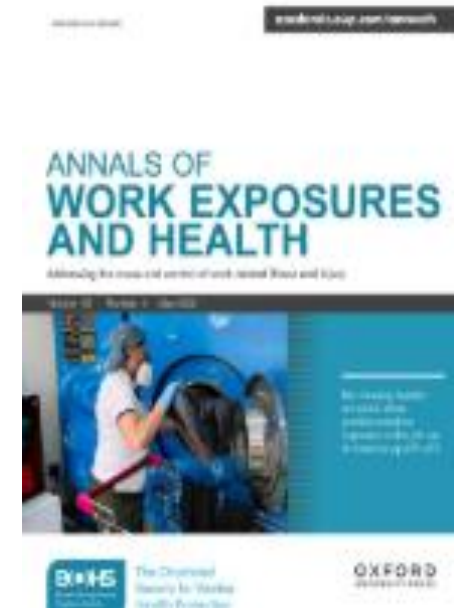
Research & Publications

- Member science initiative focus silica and isocyanates.
- HPC health survey.
- LEV database.
- BOHS continues to publish international research through its [Annals of Work Exposures and Health](https://academic.oup.com/annals) to
- Advance understanding of the risks of RCS exposure in the engineered stone industry.



International Research

- You can receive [e-alerts](#) from Annals of Work Exposures and Health as soon as new papers are published.
- Annals contains a wealth of papers on control.
- If you are a BOHS member, online access to all Annals content is included in your membership.
- You can find the latest Annals issues [here](#).
- Women's Workplace Health Update 2025.



BOHS Conferences



UKHCA Conference 2025

6 November 2025, Manchester

Those with responsibility for managing noise risks, academics involved in developing the evidence and science base, health professionals, acousticians, regulators and aligned professional bodies.

Legionella Conference

21 November 2025, Birmingham

This conference will explore some of the complexities of managing water systems and consider how Legionella control can be designed into the life cycle of water systems.

You can find more information and book your place [here](#).



BOHS Regional Meetings

North-East Regional meeting 16 October 2025, East Boldon

The North East region is hosting an in-person meeting on 16th October 2025.

Duncan Smith, Head of Health Unit, HSE, Specialist Division will deliver two presentations:

- Metalworking Fluid - HSE's Expectations for Assessment and Reporting
- 'General Update on HSE's Findings from Current Interventions with Occupational Hygiene Consultancies

Our regional meetings are free to attend by anyone with an interest in Occupational Hygiene Networking.

You can find more information and book your place [here](#),

Worker and Manager Health Tools

- Breathe freely constantly being added to

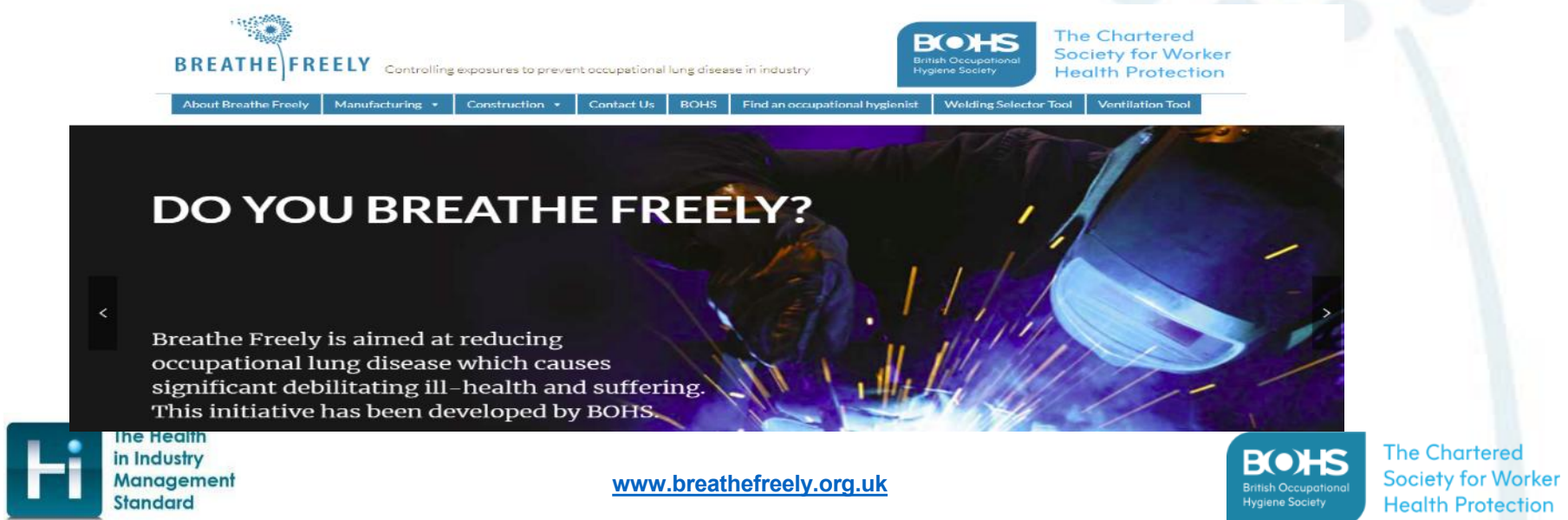
Controlling exposures to prevent
occupational lung disease

Do you
breathe freely?



The Breathe Freely Campaign - Overview

- **A BOHS initiative launched 10 years ago**
- Aims to protect workers' respiratory health, reduce occupational lung disease in the UK, raise awareness and educate on prevention in the workplace.
- Web-based hub www.breathefreely.org.uk offering free guidance and tools to help protect employees by making sure hazards are recognised, risks are evaluated, and exposures are effectively controlled.
- Rich resource of material ranging from the Hi management standard, cases studies, check lists, toolbox talks through to a training apps and control selector tools.



The screenshot shows the Breathe Freely website homepage. At the top, there is a navigation bar with the Breathe Freely logo on the left and the BOHS logo on the right. The BOHS logo is labeled 'The Chartered Society for Worker Health Protection'. Below the navigation bar is a horizontal menu with links: 'About Breathe Freely', 'Manufacturing', 'Construction', 'Contact Us', 'BOHS', 'Find an occupational hygienist', 'Welding Selector Tool', and 'Ventilation Tool'. The main content area features a large image of a welder working, with the text 'DO YOU BREATHE FREELY?' in large white letters. Below this, a text box states: 'Breathe Freely is aimed at reducing occupational lung disease which causes significant debilitating ill-health and suffering. This initiative has been developed by BOHS.' At the bottom of the page, there is a footer with the 'Hi' logo (The Health in Industry Management Standard) on the left, the website URL www.breathefreely.org.uk in the center, and the BOHS logo on the right.

Silica & Engineering Stone

- BOHS identified these issues in 2021 and started to press the UK Parliament and the Health and Safety Executive to act, anticipating that the same issues seen in Australia and the US would arise in the UK
- In late 2023, BOHS became aware of cases being treated at the Royal Brompton Hospital and increased its campaigning to ensure that appropriate guidance was distributed
- BOHS released [guidance](#) in early 2024, as well as targeting hard to reach groups.



- BOHS produced a free training tool to raise awareness of the risks of working with engineered stone and how best to control it. In the first week, it was used by over 4,000 workers, with an average awareness improvement of 25%.
- You can access the free training [here](https://www.breathefreely.org.uk).
- We plan to develop other similar mobile phone enabled training for workers in high-risk industries.
- BOHS has also created a training course for workers in the food and drinks industry on occupational hygiene and labour exploitation, which is being delivered alongside mandatory food hygiene training.

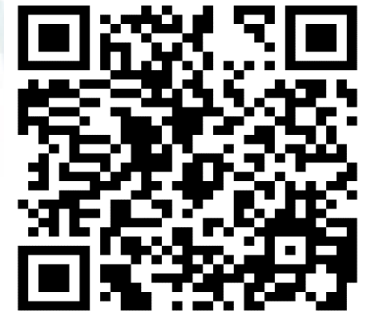
Silica Dust Awareness



Protect yourself and others

Learn everything you need to know in 10 minutes...

Let's Get Started



Strategy Review



WWW.BOHS.ORG/ABOUT-US/STRATEGY-REVIEW/

My Presidential Theme

**How Can We Be More Impactful In Their Role To
Gain The Business Outcomes Required.**

Takeaway!

**What Can I Do Differently That Will Be
More Impactful ?**

For more news and information



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