

# Health, Safety & Security Review

VOLUME 9 | ISSUE 1 2023

## Middle East

## THE FUTURE OF PPE, CYBERSECURITY AND MORE

### INSIDE...

Intersec preview

Findings from the MENA HSE Forum

Gas detection

Safety eyewear

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Cover image credit: Adobe Stock

## editor's note

Intersec, the leading trade fair for safety, security and fire protection returns to Dubai at a time when the commercial security market alone is forecast to grow by 16% to 2025. With cyber attacks an ever-growing threat, the focus on cyber security will continue, and this year's event will also see the introduction of several new features such as the Fire Fighter Challenge, Attack Zone and Safety Walk (see p10). We hope to see you there! Also in this issue we look at the latest gas detection solutions (p18), factors impacting the future PPE market (p23), recent developments in safety eyewear (p20) and the need to address skills gaps in health and safety (p25).

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## Reducing maritime accidents

In the presence of Suhail Al Mazrouei, Minister of Energy and Infrastructure; Hessa Al Malek, Advisor to the Minister for Maritime Transport Affairs, Ministry of Energy and Infrastructure (MoEI); and Nick Shaw, CEO of the International Group of P&I Clubs (IGP&I) signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) to provide a prompt and efficient response to serious maritime incidents or accidents and for the possible removal of the wreckage caused by the mishap.

“The UAE is considered one of the key members of the International Maritime Organisation (IMO) and has played an integral role in the evolution of maritime safety and response to accidents,” Al Mazrouei said. “Our partnership with IGP&I is a commendable step that aligns with our goals and supports the IMO’s cause of protecting the ships, environment and crew. We are certain that this MoU will not only improve the situation in the region, but will also have an impact



Image Credit: UAE Ministry of Energy and Infrastructure

*The partnership can help the industry on not only the safety front, but also on financial, environmental and other avenues as well.*

internationally as UAE is a member of IMO Council in Category B, alongside countries like Australia, Canada, France, Germany and others,” he added.

The MoU will positively impact the shipping industry in more than one way. IGP&I provides liability coverage for about 90% of the world’s ocean-going tonnage. The partnership thus can help the industry on not only the safety front, but also on financial, environmental and

other avenues as well.

“This MoU will help us improve our safety measures and prepare for better and prompt responses in case of any emergency,” explained Al Malek. According to the MoU, training sessions and workshops will be offered to industry professionals. In case of serious accidents, MoEI and IGP&I member Clubs will jointly participate in response and Post-Incident Assessment Activities.

## Advancing oceanic research

G42, the leading UAE-based AI and cloud computing company and global nonprofit ocean exploration organisation OceanX, along with G-Tech Digital Asia (G-Tech), and the Government of the Republic of Indonesia, through its Coordinating Ministry for Maritime Affairs and Investment (CMMAI), have announced the signing of a letter of intent to establish a collaboration to develop ocean research to help protect the marine environment.

The project recognises the importance of detailed mapping of marine resources through advanced technologies to protect and preserve the ocean environment and the livelihoods of the communities that rely on it.

“OceanX’s collaboration with G42 and Indonesia will allow us to bring groundbreaking methods of data collection and analysis to our shared mission of exploring the ocean and bringing our discoveries to the world,” said Ray Dalio, co-founder and advisor to OceanX.

## EHS wins three awards at ZIMAM-Elsevier Awards 2022

Emirates Health Services (EHS) continues to consolidate its leadership and excellence in the field of providing digital health services in line with the highest standards, winning three new accolades at the ZIMAM-Elsevier Awards 2022 during the GCC eHealth Workforce Development Conference.

EHS’ Performance & Clinical Excellence (PaCE) Quality and Outcome Programme (PQOP) – specialised in diabetes – won the award in the Digital Healthcare category, with

the institution also winning the Best Digital Health Initiative Award for Workforce Development of the Year for the systems it adopts in implementing training and development best practices, namely its ‘Maharati’ programme. Last but not least, EHS won in the Best Practices in Supporting Institutional Innovation Strategy category with its ‘Afkari’ programme.

“We are committed to implementing international standards in managing

infrastructure across our health facilities, and building up our quality and safety systems in line with best practices,” said Kalthoum Al Balushi, chief innovation officer and director of the Training and Development Centre at EHS. “Our objective is to develop innovative, modern, and sustainable medical treatments for various diseases, in addition to enhancing the quality and efficiency of treatments across our various facilities for many diseases, such as diabetes, among others,” he added.

# EcoWASTE Exhibition and Forum set to take place in January 2023

## Circular economy

The Exhibition and Forum will be a part of the Abu Dhabi Sustainability Week, to be held from 16-18 January 2023. EcoWASTE, organised with the strategic partnership of the Abu Dhabi Waste Management Company (Tadweer), will be hosted at the Abu Dhabi National Exhibition Centre (ADNEC).

It will explore the GCC's efforts towards a circular economy, highlighting the role of the emirate of Abu Dhabi in achieving this. The participants will learn about the GCC's innovative approach to sustainable waste management, and game-changing solutions to address the waste dilemma in the MENA region.

EcoWASTE will shed light on circular economy-based revenue streams and investment opportunities for existing businesses and start-ups across multiple sectors.

Eng Ali Al Dhaheri, acting



Image Credit: EcoWASTE Exhibition and Forum

EcoWASTE will explore the GCC's efforts towards a circular economy.

director general of Tadweer said, "EcoWASTE Exhibition and Forum is a platform which unites local, regional and global experts in multiple sectors including, waste management, recycling, reusing, re-manufacturing and waste-to-energy. The exhibition aims to foster knowledge exchange between industry

experts on the best practices to manage and reuse waste to achieve sustainable improvements in this sector.

"We look forward to highlighting our role in this industry and showcasing the integrated waste management system of the Emirate," Al Dhaheri added.

## Environmental Defense Fund, LR, and Ricardo launch report

### Ammonia

The joint study released by Environmental Defense Fund (EDF), Lloyd's Register (LR) and Ricardo PLC, examines the potential marine environmental impacts of ammonia spills during its use as a shipping fuel.

Ammonia generated from renewable energy is considered a sustainable alternative to fossil fuels as the shipping industry decarbonises. The study, which used extensive modelling due to the scarcity of real-world data, focuses specifically on the impacts of large ammonia fuel spill scenarios on marine habitats.

"The shipping industry must make a rapid energy transition to address the climate emergency. But it is also clear that we must proceed with caution. We owe it to future generations to ensure we are championing true climate solutions that will not negatively impact our rivers, our oceans or our health," said Marie Hubatova, director of global shipping for EDF's global transport team.

# Jubail Island and LEAD Development achieve seven million worker hours without injury

## LTI

### Jubail Island and LEAD

Development have been recognised by Abu Dhabi City Municipality for completing seven million worker hours without lost time injury (LTI).

Lead Development was commended for the Construction of Villas project in its Jubail Island Development, for maintaining health

and safety standards by adhering to the authority's strict regulations and creating a safe environment for all workers.

LEAD Development works closely with Abu Dhabi Municipality to monitor the construction of Jubail Island, ensuring the adherence of health and safety best practices and compliance within authority requirements.

Commenting on this achievement, Mounir

Haidar, managing partner of LEAD Development, said, "I would like to thank Arabian Construction Company and our workforce for their hard work and dedication. Our workforce's wellbeing is of the utmost importance to us, so we invest a lot of resources in ensuring they are properly protected in the safest possible working environment. We pride ourselves on maintaining the very highest health and safety protocols and best practices, and we look forward to striving to achieve the same for the next seven million worker hours."

# Dubai Municipality awarded for sustainability initiatives

## Sustainability

Dubai Municipality has won first place in four categories at the Energy Globe Award 2022. Organised by the Energy Globe Foundation, the award aims to showcase the world's most innovative and sustainable projects that address environmental issues.

Dubai Municipality bagged first place for 'One Hour with the Cleaner,' a volunteer programme launched as part of the Municipality's efforts to promote social responsibility, develop opportunities for field volunteering to contribute to public cleanliness, maintain the city's aesthetic and cultural appearance, and protect the environment.

Dubai Municipality was also a national winner for introducing cutting-edge equipment to improve indoor air quality at its conservation labs that restore historical artefacts. It helps control the spread of toxic metal dust during restoration procedures. Additionally, the Municipality's conservation labs have worked with Etisalat Energy Efficiency Services (E3S) to build an energy management system to optimise energy consumption at the centres.

The Municipality's Dubai Central Laboratory won first place as a national winner for two of its initiatives: the use of surplus concrete in construction projects, aimed at reducing construction waste and limiting environmental

Image Credit: Dubai Municipality



The awards are a testament to Dubai Municipality's efforts in helping Dubai to reach its sustainable development goals related to energy and the environment.

contamination, and the effect of nanotechnology in paints in Dubai's climate conditions, which aims to conserve the environment and enhance public health while reducing environmental risks.

Dubai Municipality was the national winner in another category for the Multi Storey Parking Building at Al Garhoud, a Zero Energy Building – the first sustainable parking building constructed using environmentally friendly energy means.

## New recycling initiative

### Recycling

RECAPP, Veolia's digital recycling solution for individuals and businesses, has partnered with locally-owned supermarket Spinneys to offer shoppers incentives for returning recyclable items such as plastic bottles, metal cans and tins to its stores. Spinneys is the first retailer in the UAE to partner with RECAPP to provide in-store collection points. The waste will be made into new materials, including cushions and quilts. The initiative will generate data on the materials returned for recycling, for an understanding of the recycling solutions needed in the retail industry.

Jérôme Viricel, general manager of RECAPP at Veolia Near & Middle East, said, "We are pleased to join forces with Spinneys with a shared goal of raising awareness and trust in local recycling practices. While contributing to the UAE's efforts to reduce all forms of pollution, our aim is to benefit the environment as well as the customers."

# New membership requirement from the Oman Society of Engineers

## Occupational safety

The Ministry of Labour, Oman has announced all engineers living and working in the Sultanate of Oman are required to have membership of the Oman Society of Engineers (OSE) membership in order to practise their profession. A mandatory part of this membership for engineers is primary source verification (PSV). PSV is the most evolved methodology for determining the accuracy of professional documentation – in

this case, academic qualifications and experience certificates, specifically for those who hold either academic or experience certificates from countries outside of Oman.

By mandating this requirement, the OSE is helping to protect entire communities within Oman including its members, their colleagues and the general public. This level of safeguarding is achieved by ensuring qualified engineering professionals can secure employment within Oman, helping to

improve engineering excellence within the nation.

Sunil Kumar, CEO of the DataFlow Group, said, "As existing partners of the Oman Society of Engineers since 2016, we are delighted OSE membership has become mandatory within the region. As experts in PSV, we applaud this move within the engineering industry in Oman to promote and maintain safety within a typically high-risk sector."

## MoHAP scores three awards in digital transformation

### Digital transformation

The UAE's Ministry of Health and Prevention (MoHAP) has won three awards in two separate competitions, strengthening its leadership and competitive position in the field of digital transformation.

The Ministry won the Best Government Innovative Application award from CXO Insight Middle East magazine. At the same time, Samir Al Khoury, director of the Information Technology Department at the Ministry, received the Best Government CEO award for 2022.

Entitled 'Government Digital Transformation Summit and Awards,' the ceremony was held in Dubai to honour participants in developing technological projects from around the world.

MoHAP also received the IDC's Best for Future Operations award at an event hosted at Dubai's Museum of the Future under the theme 'Digital Leaders in the Digital Era.'

HE Ahmed Ali Al Dashti, assistant under-secretary for Support Services Sector, MoHAP, commented, "Winning the three awards is yet another testament to the ministry's digital excellence and will only motivate us to share our experience and expand the use of smart solutions to serve customers better."

He continued, "We are committed to employing the latest digital technologies, including artificial intelligence, to improve the performance of the health sector."

## Trelleborg launches advanced navigation system

### Technology

Trelleborg Marine and Infrastructure has launched its latest fixed-installed piloting unit, SafePilot P3, developed in response to the recent advisory issued by the Panama Canal Authority (ACP) requiring a new positioning system for Neopanamax vessels beginning in October 2023.

It enables the SafePilot application to operate on vessels, providing pilots with access to the most reliable data related to vessel positioning & movement. As a result, it minimises the time and complexity associated with lengthy pilotage procedures. Aside from improving situational awareness while transiting the canal and approaching the port, the SafePilot P3 enhances communication between the captain, pilot, tug operators, and canal personnel.

The new unit is the latest addition to their portfolio, which includes advanced portable navigation systems.

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## → events calendar 2023

January			
17-19	<b>Intersec</b>	DUBAI	<a href="https://intersec.ae.messefrankfurt.com/">https://intersec.ae.messefrankfurt.com/</a>
22-24	<b>Energy &amp; Sustainability Forum (ESF MENA)</b>	MANAMA	<a href="http://www.europetro.com/esfmena">www.europetro.com/esfmena</a>
February			
28-2 March	<b>OPEX MENA 2023</b>	MANAMA	<a href="http://www.europetro.com/opexmena">www.europetro.com/opexmena</a>
March			
7-9	<b>Middle East Energy</b>	DUBAI	<a href="http://www.middleeast-energy.com">www.middleeast-energy.com</a>
April			
25-27	<b>The Health &amp; Safety Event</b>	BIRMINGHAM	<a href="http://www.healthandsafetyevent.com">www.healthandsafetyevent.com</a>
May			
16-18	<b>Safety &amp; Health Expo</b>	LONDON	<a href="http://www.safety-health-expo.com">www.safety-health-expo.com</a>
September			
TBC	<b>MENA HSE Forum</b>	DUBAI	<a href="http://www.hse-forum/mena">www.hse-forum/mena</a>

Please verify dates and location with organisers as this information can be subject to change

# Driving forward excellence in safety and operations

### Operational excellence

Launched in 2013, OPEX MENA is a high-level and interactive annual forum that helps organisations in the MENA region to share current thought leadership approaches and advanced methodologies for improving performance through strategies related to operational excellence and safety.

OPEX MENA 2023, HSE & OE Conference & Awards will be held from 28 February to 2 March at the Diplomat Radisson Blu Hotel, Manama, with the theme of 'Excellence in Safety and Operations'. More than 80% of attendees are anticipated to be specialists and executives from downstream companies.

Topics covered include:

- ❖ Navigating challenging landscapes and building resilience and agility during



Image Credit: Euro Petroleum Consultants

The event will provide a forum to exchange ideas related to operational excellence and safety.

- ❖ transformation
- ❖ Profitable conversion routes
- ❖ HSE – maintaining a health and safety environment

- ❖ Asset management and performance optimisation
- ❖ Data-driven operational excellence and digital process

safety management

- ❖ Industry operational excellence success stories.

The OPEX MENA Awards recognise and reward outstanding achievements in operational excellence and safety. By sharing the examples, and showcasing the achievements of the OPEX MENA AWARDS winners, it is hoped to drive innovation and change, promote best practice, and help shape a better future for the region.

Award categories are:

- ❖ Safety
- ❖ Operational Excellence
- ❖ Innovation
- ❖ Woman of the Year
- ❖ Young Professional of the Year.

For further information, see the website at <https://europetro.com/opexmena>, or email: [svetlana@europetro-me.com](mailto:svetlana@europetro-me.com)



# Guiding the region through the energy transition

Middle East Energy takes place from 7-9 March at the Dubai World Trade Centre, Dubai, UAE.

For more than 45 years, Middle East Energy (previously Middle East Electricity) has been bringing together buyers and sellers from across the globe, in order to explore the latest advancements in energy products and solutions and contemplate the future of alternative energy solutions that will help in delivering more efficient and effective power systems.

With electricity demand already on the rise, improving the reliability of existing power supply while providing cleaner energy solutions is a gap that many face in the sector. Whether participants are looking to diversify their energy portfolio through digitalisation and groundbreaking renewable and energy efficiency solutions, or trying to identify the best possible energy mix and develop alternative energy sources, Middle East Energy has it all.

In its last edition, Middle East Energy is reported to have facilitated more than US\$705mn worth of business deals, making it the go-to event where global buyers and sellers connect to discover products and showcase solutions to deliver cleaner energy and supply sustainable power. Middle East Energy has had participation from high-profile exhibitors around the



Image Credit: :informa markets

**“Improving the reliability of existing power supply while providing cleaner energy solutions is a gap that many face in the sector.”**

world, such as NEOM, alfanar, MEMF Electrical Industries, Volvo Penta, Baudouin, Allam Marine, Jubaili Bros, DUCAB, Riyadh Cables, Bahra Cables, Brady Corporation, and Rolls Battery Engineering. More than 800 companies from 170 countries are expected to exhibit.

Middle East Energy 2023 will feature high-level strategic conferences and content arenas focusing on the latest technologies and products to provide a platform to provide knowledge sharing and support relationship building and solutions to some of the most pressing challenges posed by the energy transition.

Middle East Energy unites the global energy community through five dedicated product sectors, evolving for a diverse, digitised and sustainable future. These are: Backup generators and critical power; Transmission and distribution; Energy

consumption and management; Smart solutions; and Renewable and clean energy.

A central feature of Middle East Energy is the Global Energy & Utilities Forum, the dedicated forum addressing the future of energy. The three-day immersive experience takes place both online and in-person from 7 - 9 March 2023 at Dubai World Trade Centre, under the patronage of the Ministry of Energy & Infrastructure, UAE.

Engaging in strategic dialogue with the energy leaders of today and the future, the forum provides a platform for both public and private sectors to explore critical issues, key developments, investment opportunities, and rising trends shaping the new energy ecosystem. ■

For further information, see the website at [www.middleeast-energy.com](http://www.middleeast-energy.com)

Last year's event is reported to have facilitated more than US\$700mn of business deals.



Image Credit: Messe Frankfurt Middle East

# Intersec: *returning to the international stage*

The world's leading security event returns to the Dubai World Trade Centre for its 24th edition from January 17-19, 2023.

**“Industry experts, influencers, decision and policymakers, and distributors are uniting to explore the strategies and technologies that will govern the safety and wellbeing of future generations.”**

Alex Nicholl, show director,  
Messe Frankfurt Middle East

Security industry professionals from around the world are expected in Dubai in January to explore the strategies and advanced technologies that will future-proof global safety. More than 1,000 exhibitors from over 120 countries will unite at the 24th edition of Intersec, the world's leading trade fair for safety, security, and fire protection. The show will take place at the Dubai World Trade Centre from January 17-19, 2023, with exhibitors providing access to more than 10,000 products across the

complete security value chain. Security industry professionals will gather to explore the most modern strategies and advanced technologies to future-proof global safety in 2023 and beyond.

Pushing the boundaries of advanced technology will be at the forefront of the show's five key segments: Commercial & Perimeter Security, Homeland & Policing, Fire & Rescue, Safety & Health, and Cybersecurity.

“We anticipate up to 30,000 security, emergency response, safety and cybersecurity professionals attending Intersec

2023, where technological breakthroughs will take centre stage and attract an influential participant profile,” said Alex Nicholl, show director at Messe Frankfurt Middle East.

“Industry experts, influencers, decision and policymakers, and distributors are uniting to explore the strategies and technologies that will govern the safety and wellbeing of future generations.”

The latest edition of the well-established event could not come at a better time, hot on the heels of findings from 6W Research forecasting 16% growth in the

Middle East's commercial security market through 2025, reaching US\$8.4 bn, with the regional fire and safety sector advancing 7.5% annually, totalling US\$16.76bn by 2026. Uniting the industry to lay the groundwork for the years to come could not be more important to the industry's growth.

"This huge potential has attracted a line-up of leading industry heavyweights, including Honeywell, Bosh, Hochiki, Drager and AXIS Communications," added Nicholl.

Cybersecurity, as ever, is set to take the spotlight at Intersec, unlocking the secrets to digital protection and

"The Cybersecurity Seminars will provide a platform of expertise, best practices, and solutions that cater to those working in and managing cyber defence. With key themes including resilience, risk and future-tech among others, this presents a rare opportunity for industry players to network with global CTOs, CISOs, heads of cybersecurity, and system integrators with real purchasing power," explained Nicholl.

Dr Bushra Al Blooshi, head of Research & Innovation at Dubai Electronic Security Centre, is set to deliver a keynote speech on the advancement of the digital economy. Elaborating on her appearance, Al Blooshi explained, "To reap the immense rewards of the digital economy, we need to pioneer an integrated and innovative smart secured services ecosystem. If we collaborate on this aim, I believe communities and countries will always grow by making technologies in their own



Summits will establish and evaluate the state of play across a range of sectors.

countries and exporting to others."

### The conference think tank

The Intersec 2023 Conference will be a think tank for future industry strategies, with four focused segments. The conference streams will feature the Intersec Security Leaders' Summit, and dedicated seminar streams focusing on safety and health, fire and rescue, and tackling ever-growing sophisticated cyber security threats.

The 2023 Intersec Security Leaders' Summit is a high-level strategic summit for the leaders and stakeholders of the security industry to collaborate, innovate and actively seek new technologies to meet the rapidly changing needs of the industry.

### Tackling cybercrime

The Middle East and Africa's

cybersecurity market size was valued at US\$5.92bn in 2021 and is projected to reach US\$19.79bn by 2030, growing at a CAGR of 14.35% from 2022 to 2030. The Intersec Cybersecurity Seminars will feature the latest trends, drivers, challenges and successful case studies across industries that are playing a substantial role in shaping the cybersecurity industry growth.

**"Intersec presents a rare opportunity for industry players to network with global CTOs, CISOs, heads of cybersecurity, and system integrators with real purchasing power."**

Alex Nicholl, show director, Messe Frankfurt Middle East

Visitor engagement is set to rise at Intersec's 2023 edition, with the three-day show hosting five new activations as part of the event's interactive upgrades.

The activations comprise the Fire Fighters Challenge, Attack Zone, Safety Walk, Start Smart Zone, and Tech Stage.

The Fire Fighters Challenge has been introduced in collaboration with the 911 Fighter Challenger and is supported by Dubai Civil Defense. Contested by firefighters from governments, civil defence, oil and gas, aviation, marine, and educational institutions from across the GCC and Jordan, competitors will showcase their real-life approach through a number of stages, demonstrate equipment in action, and showcase the fitness levels required for firefighting.

Intersec's Attack Zone, hosted by the Loss Prevention Certification Board, will see

exhibitors put their products to the test against breaching times and breakthrough limits in live-action demonstrations. The board will assess competitors on their standards. Four exhibitors, Barkers Fencing, Eagle Automation, Frontier Pitts, and Sunray, have already confirmed their participation.

The Start Smart Zone hands the spotlight to start-up exhibitors to connect them with decision makers, buyers, and investors, garnering support to scale-up their startups.

Tech Stage will run across all three days and unveil breakthrough innovations, from VR solutions to anti-drone technology and newly-formulated safety materials.

Messe Frankfurt Middle East's show director explained, "The features are designed to improve the overall visitor experience and engagement levels as well as heighten awareness and appreciation for all working in the safety, security, and fire protection services.

"The aim of the challenge is to create a meeting hub for security, fire service, and safety best practice in the Middle East, as well as creating public awareness of fire safety and protection, provide a platform for these unsung heroes to demonstrate their skills, challenge themselves to be fitter, stronger, and faster, and garner public appreciation for these vital members of society,"

"When combined, these new features heighten the interactive aspect of Intersec, allowing exhibitors greater opportunities to demonstrate the USPs of their products and services, as well as take their business propositions direct to decision-makers," continued Nicholl.

Image Credit: Messe Frankfurt Middle East



The exhibition floor will welcome over 1,000 exhibitors from 120 international markets.

A highlight of the show's running schedule will feature the Security Leaders' Summit, an invite-only summit running on January 17 and 18. Gathering government and private sector security specialists, the speaker platform will enable attendees to identify the latest security trends and risks on the road to seek solutions.

"The Summit comes against a background of high industry demand with the Middle East's homeland security market forecast to achieve 14.5% compound annual growth to 2024, the commercial security market expected to witness 28% growth to be worth US\$2.3bn by 2026, and cybersecurity now rising up public and private sector agendas," elaborated Nicholl.

**"...these new features heighten the interactive aspect of Intersec, allowing exhibitors greater opportunities to demonstrate the USPs of their products and services..."**

**Alex Nicholl, show director, Messe Frankfurt Middle East**

As the region's first FIFA World Cup wrapped up, important lessons from the event will be shared from Helmut Spahn, FIFA's director for Safety, Security

& Access at the tournament. Spahn explained, "The risks related to terrorism, crime and social behaviour, the mentality of people, infrastructural conditions, governmental organisation, financial possibilities, political and geopolitical situations, etc. are completely different. Each country has new challenges and opportunities. Constant assessment of the situation and a close and faithful cooperation of all – especially with the security authorities – is necessary. Cooperation, communication, and collaboration are the keys to success."

Intersec 2023 has the support of Dubai Police, the Directorate General of Dubai Civil Defence, The Security Industry Regulatory Agency and Dubai Municipality. ■

# intersec product launch 2023

## SWEAT MANAGEMENT



## KOOLEX

KOOLEX yarn channels moisture, keeping hands dry & cool. Extreme dexterity, grip and protection from mechanical hazards. Increased abrasion levels, glove longevity & comfort

## CUT RESISTANT

- 25% Lighter
- 25% Thinner
- 15% Tougher



## HYPEx

Silk-Like Steel™ Cut Resistance



Fibre & Yarns Specifically Developed to offer a New Generation of Cut Resistant Hand Protection Solutions.



No Steel Fibre



No Glass Fibre

## IMPACT RESISTANT



## STEALTH NEXGEN

Ultra lightweight, Abrasion resistant with super low profile anti impact guards designed to protect hands from light impacts & scrapes.

## CUT RESISTANT



## PROTEK21

21g Ultra Thin



Skin fit, ultra-flyweight seamless precision handling glove with a durable palm dipped nitrile pitted textured coating that offers good abrasion and puncture resistance combined with performance.



## ECO-FRIENDLY



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# The Dubai Municipality approach to safety

Mohamed Abdula Almarzooqi gave a speech at the MENA HSE forum on how both workers and employers can ensure safety in the workplace.

“Dubai Municipality was formed in the 1990s to carry out investigations into work-related accidents and protect labour rights.”



Image Credit: Dubai Municipality

With more than 2.78 mn deaths per year from accidents or work-related illnesses, according to ILO, worker safety remains a primary concern in industries where they are most at risk. Dubai Municipality was formed in the 1990s to carry out investigations into work-related accidents and protect labour rights. The accident investigation team consists of experts in their fields, ranging from mechanical engineers, electrical engineers, chemical engineers and more, with the aim to have qualified professionals to aid in its response.

In his speech at the HSE MENA

Forum, Eng. Mohamed Abdula Almarzooqi, head of Accident Investigation Team, Health & Safety Department at Dubai Municipality, explained that his organisation’s primary responsibility is to conduct a comprehensive investigation, compile reports, and attend public prosecution and court hearings based on investigation reports. The organisation provides specialised and technical guidance to other stakeholders in Dubai. They have the “authority to investigate all accidents which take place in Dubai, Dubai Municipality areas, as well as the Free Zone areas as well,”

specifically targeting areas such as construction sites, where workplace accidents, industrial accidents, and public health and safety accidents are more common, according to Almarzooqi.

Construction site accidents can include demolition sites, interior design and decoration, maintenance sites, factories, workshops and warehouses. In terms of public health and safety accidents, it can include malls, parks, public swimming pools and even children’s play areas.

The Dubai Municipality methodology for investigations can be understood through two

Almarzooqi gave his speech at September’s HSE Forum.

stages: the first stage is to inform the Dubai police if there is an accident and in the case of injury, the ambulance service. The police personnel are sent to preserve the accident scene and determine whether or not the incident is a crime. If it is, Dubai Municipality do not get involved as this is not within their scope. If it is not a crime, then Dubai Municipality are immediately contacted by the police, wherein they have investigators as part of their team who are ready 24/7 to get involved with the case.

The second stage is to collect photographs, witness statements, review all existing evidence and physical information from what can be observed from the accident scene, then raise questions as to 'what', 'why' and 'how' the accident happened. This stage is all about the details, analysing all the collected information including the photos, the witness statements, the technical documents, the training of the employees and the certification of the equipment and all relevant documents. This makes up the bulk of the information within their report.

Information in the report consists of time, location, involved contractors, subcontractors, accident description, and causes of the of the accident. All accidents are transferred to Prosecution Dubai and Dubai Courts to protect workers' rights. Once all the

**“Some of the common causes of accidents can be attributed to insufficient safety training for workers.”**



Image Credit: Adobe Stock

*For optimal safety when climbing ladders, workers should use the three-point contact method.*

information is compiled, it is presented to general prosecution, with the investigator usually in attendance to answer any further questions raised during the trial.

The most common accidents internationally are falls from height, and this is no different for Dubai, where 35% of accidents are falls from height, which cause 38% of the total fatalities, according to Dubai Municipality. The highest percentage of falls were caused from ladders or falling through fragile roofs.

To address this, Dubai Municipality offers suggestions to how workers can ensure optimal safety. For starters, always account for weather conditions that could compromise worker safety; poor weather can have an adverse effect on working conditions or visibility, and strong winds can increase the risk of unstable equipment causing injury significantly.

Supervisors can carry out an inspection of sites where working from height is required to ensure the environment is safe to work in. They can also have an agreed procedure for evacuation and plan for emergencies, making sure the employees know the emergency procedure. Finally, storing materials and objects

safely so they will not fall and cause injury could also be a simple measure to take.

One method to improve safety when working on ladders is to adopt the three-point contact method. This is where a person always keeps at least three of their four limbs in contact with the ladder at all times. So, either both hands and one foot, or both feet and one hand to ensure optimal stability and thus safety, reducing the risk of falling. Dubai Municipality aims to make industries aware of their statistics in order to raise awareness of workplace safety for all industries in their attempt to reduce worker injuries.

Some of the common causes of accidents can be attributed to insufficient safety training for workers. As Almarzooqi stated, “Dubai is a multinational city, we have workers coming from all [around] the world, risk perception differs from person to person.” It is therefore important for all workers to receive the necessary training in safety before commencing work to make sure that all workers are on the same page in terms of safety precautions.

Another example, which is often overlooked, is overconfidence. This is

something most evident in experienced workers, who may disregard basic safety measures such as working without personal protective equipment (PPE), or not communicating with their respective teams, leading to unexpected injuries. Finally, machine deficiency is also one of the common causes of accidents in the workplace, where a machine can become dangerous to operate due to a lack of maintenance or other factors.

Of course, warning signs in a hazardous environment can be a helpful reminder for individuals to wear safety gear and take necessary precautions. Signs which are universally understood by workers regardless of nationality can be extremely useful in a multinational city to raise awareness of potential dangers in the workplace.

Overall, the key takeaway from Almarzooqi's speech at the MENA HSE Forum boils down to workers maintaining an awareness of the dangers they can expect in their occupation. Employers should certainly make similar efforts to make sure that all workers, both new and experienced, have sufficient and adequate training in health and safety in the workplace. ■

# Driving sustainable businesses

Hamid Dean Refai, general manager of WebOps Global, discusses how technology can drive sustainability, and what measures companies can adopt to make their businesses more sustainable.

“In recent years, sustainability has been a key driver of technological advancement.”

## How does technology contribute to sustainability?

Technology is fundamentally changing the way we live and work and in recent years, sustainability has been a key driver of technological advancement. Today, as the world faces a series of unprecedented challenges, technology can play a crucial role in building a more sustainable future.

Technological advances in health, business and the environment provide organisations and communities with a wealth of opportunities through the introduction of new jobs and by making operational processes more streamlined, for instance. Environmental sustainability then helps to maintain our way of life, as well as social and economic requirements. For example, green technology such as solar panels and wind turbines can help to replace practices and methods that damage or deplete natural resources with more sustainable and efficient ones.

## What sustainability efforts does your company practice?

Being environment-friendly, reducing energy consumption, using new renewable energies,



Image Credit: WebOps Global.

using LED lights, reducing waste through new and more efficient designing, manufacturing, computers, servers, and associated subsystems that promote substantial environmental benefits cannot be ignored in a climate change global era.

At WebOps we put technology at the service of our clients' sustainability ambition. We harness the full potential of cloud, data, sustainability coding, green IT to help them understand their impact, implement responsible strategies throughout their company, and discover

untapped potential through sustainable practices. As sustainability is becoming imperative, business leaders must understand the value of integrating best practices and reshape the business for a better world.

## Do we need to look at sustainability beyond the use of "green energy"?

Many business leaders have realised that their organisations have for too long prioritised profit over people, social and environmental responsibility. Now it is the time to think

ABOVE: Hamid Dean Refai, general manager, WebOps.



beyond ‘we should do something’ and put all our energies into ‘how are we going to make it happen’. Transforming your organisation into a sustainable model isn’t easy, of course. It requires a sustainability strategy that unites not only the organisation at all levels, but also supply chain partners, and the entire ecosystem. Sustainability needs to be woven into your purpose and the fabric of your business strategy, not treated as a side-venture. To do this effectively, leaders need to align on the purpose, material issues and publicly voice the intent.

Once this has been done, I think it is important to measure their impact and set targets for change. This can be done by thoroughly assessing operations internally and across their ecosystem, and by actively engaging with stakeholders and listening to their opinions.

Ultimately, it is only by harnessing the collective ingenuity, energy and commitment of your people that you will be able to execute your sustainability strategy. That means fostering the right mindset and culture within your organisation.

### **How can companies reduce their carbon footprint? Are there local or regional initiatives that encourage companies to adopt best practices?**

An increasing number of organisations are looking at ways to reduce their carbon footprint as both customers and employees demand a more sustainable way of doing business. Those companies that fail to adapt to this will probably face challenges in the future. No matter whether

you’re a big, medium, or small business, reducing greenhouse gas emissions should be a priority for everyone. However, implementing the necessary changes requires a company-wide assessment and joint efforts. In many cases, it may mean radically transforming certain processes, choosing new providers, creating new policies, and investing a lot in education. Businesses can start by measuring their company’s carbon footprint derived from their business activities, in order to know where they stand and which areas to prioritise. Additionally, the principle of the three R’s – reduce, reuse and recycle – is a must whenever businesses talk about being environmentally friendly. They should consider how they can apply this to every aspect of their business, from office supplies to packaging and operations. Lastly, with more and more green energy providers on the market, making the switch to renewable energy usage is much easier today than it used to be.

The world’s biggest and most successful companies are carrying out initiatives that support environmental causes, and any company can do this, no matter how big or small it may be. Whether it’s through a financial contribution or a company-wide effort to personally participate and help with tasks, there’s always something that can be done for the environment. Think of what you can do within your company as well as outside, from implementing eco-friendly initiatives and rewards within your office to taking part in community projects to preserve the local environment.

### **What challenges do companies face today in their journey towards net zero, and how can technology help solve those issues?**

Sustainability requires transformation and most organisations are discovering how to consolidate new technologies and new measures to proceed with their social-ecological development and framework. Technology is shaping sustainability and enabling advanced levels of productivity and efficiency. Not only is technological innovation booming, but it is also rapidly shifting towards sustainable solutions, with many of the most promising technologies from companies all around the world having a clear environmental, economic and social focus. There’s a rise of new green tech products and effective pathways that do not compromise the health of the ecosystems.

First and foremost, one of the main challenges in corporate sustainability is making the business case. Another big challenge for many managers is creating sustainability metrics that will measure the success of their programmes. Finally, many sustainability initiatives are full of good ideas but wind up

**“Businesses can start by measuring their company’s carbon footprint derived from their business activities, in order to know where they stand and which areas to prioritise.”**

struggling. This is often for the same reason – they can’t figure out how to get management and employees on board. If we have to change, there is going to be a bit of protest. The best way to re-establish new habits is to incentivise change and reward positive behaviour.

### **What factors can help companies advance towards their sustainability goals?**

There are numerous reasons so many organisations across the globe are working to reduce their environmental impacts. These motives include, but aren’t limited to, meeting consumer demands, increasing efficiency, meeting regulatory requirements, adding brand value, attracting talent and creating new business opportunities. All of these point to the fact that practicing sustainability is a fundamental undertaking for corporations, not some short-term fad.

Businesses need a solid understanding of where they stand before determining where they can go and how fast. Secondly, it’s important to set measurable long-term goals supported by an informed roadmap. Lastly, it’s important to keep abreast of evolving technologies, regulations, and sustainability reporting practices. Tracking progression and anticipating timing of commercially viable solutions can help define and refine action plans through the energy transition journey. ■

*WebOps Global is a subsidiary of WebOps LLC, USA, a leading healthcare supply chain solutions provider, which has launched its first international headquarters in the UAE.*

# Detecting the latest gas solutions

ADIPEC brought a year of impressive growth in the gas detection market into the limelight, with new solutions spanning a range of industries and applications.

Dräger's X-am 2800 expands its extensive safety and gas portfolio.

Image Credit: Dräger

Oil and gas has long faced maintenance issues regarding invisible gas leaks and failing electrical or mechanical systems. As such, gas detection solutions could not be more imperative. With burgeoning 4IR technologies taking the industry by storm, solutions are rising to the challenge of meeting the basic requirements of detection while integrating the next generation of operator and user accessibility features.

This logistical and technological revolution has spurred a choice of solutions for operators. While organisations will undoubtedly benefit from

the development of modern solutions, the sheer volume of choices on the market can cloud the decisionmaking process. Considering tailored solutions and applying due process to their purchasing power is as important as ever.

ADIPEC 2022 saw a showcase of the latest solutions making

that process easier than ever, as suppliers streamlined their approach and clarified the needs their products meet.

### Teledyne Gas & Flame Detection

Teledyne took to Hall 9 to showcase how it intends to meet the gas detection demands of the

**“...gas detection solutions could not be more imperative. With burgeoning 4IR technologies taking the industry by storm, solutions are rising to the challenge of meeting the basic requirements... while integrating the next generation of operator and user accessibility features.”**

Hail and Ghasha sour gas project, currently in development off the UAE coastline.

The spotlight was firmly on the GD1 hydrogen sulphide laser detector, which integrates a unique laser diode that, rather than emitting a straight beam of light, travels as a cone from one point to the next. As a result of the beam's wider reach, it can penetrate harsh environments currently not offered by other solutions. The detector also integrates real-time auto-calibration and auto-proof testing, and guarantees a high sampling or detection rate (i.e. 8,000 times per second). 800 units have been deployed in the

field since 2011, but will continue to play a key role in the gas detection needs of more modern projects.

The company's GD10P infrared gas detector saw a full firmware upgrade, enhancing the product's performance in high demand mode. The new firmware expands the model's differentiating factors, including a solid-state infrared source and a 15-year warranty.

Elsewhere on the booth, Teledyne presented the GD10PE infrared point detector, ideal for fast and reliable detection of low gas concentrations with a measuring range of 0-20% LEL – five times more sensitive than standard point detectors.

## Blackline Safety

Connected solutions were on the ADIPEC agenda for Blackline Safety, which previewed its new G6 single-gas detector.

G6 saw its launch in North America in September, with November's ADIPEC serving as the Middle Eastern debut for the connected safety innovation.

The wearable solution utilises Internet of Things (IoT) connectivity, along with longer battery life, lower cost of ownership and fewer false alarms.

A choice of sensor options can quickly alert workers to exposure of hydrogen sulfide, carbon monoxide, oxygen, and sulfur dioxide among other toxic gases, along with a long-life rechargeable battery that can last up to a year and device life of up to four years.

Cody Slater, the CEO and chair at Blackline Safety, explained of the wearable solution, "With this new technology, we're bringing unprecedented levels of connectivity to industrial



Image Credit: Adobe Stock

*Operators are faced with a wider detection market than ever before.*

workplaces, helping to reduce the risk of injury, boost productivity and bring proactive safety management to a new level.

"We're responding to a direct need in the market, giving safety managers higher performing technology to access reliable, actionable data at their fingertips."

## Dräger Marine & Offshore

Elsewhere, the Marine & Offshore subsidiary of Dräger recently launched a new mobile gas detector, the X-am 2800, expanding its extensive safety and gas portfolio.

Tested in line with International Protection Rating Class 68, the X-am 2800 is designed to withstand even the harshest conditions in the North Sea.

Euan McIntosh, Dräger Marine & Offshore marketing manager, said, "The North Sea is home to some of the most difficult working conditions in the offshore industry, and personnel need peace of mind when working in such situations.

"We have listened to the

**"We're responding to a direct need in the market, giving safety managers higher performing technology to access reliable, actionable data at their fingertips."**

**Cody Slater, CEO and chair at Blackline Safety**

industry and understand the problems faced. The X-am 2800 is one of the few pieces of kit on the market that will be able to withstand the wet and windy challenges faced in the North Sea and is suitable for a range of uses across the maritime and offshore industry."

The X-am 2800 has been independently drop-tested to withstand a fall of more than two metres on concrete: an essential metric for a wearable solution.

The unit comes as standard with integrated Bluetooth

connectivity, meaning live gas readings and alerts can be transferred in real-time to Dräger's Gas Detection Connect cloud solution, providing users with access to critical data remotely.

## MSA Safety

Adding to the range of wearable options on the market, MSA Safety earlier this year unveiled the ALTAIR io 4 wearable.

Equipped with instant cellular connectivity, the connected wearable enables operators to access cross-worksites visibility from day one.

Simplifying maintenance, the portable detector can sense when bump test or calibration is required, and will immediately run the tests as appropriate, when docked.

MSA Safety also published its ninth edition Gas Detection Handbook, which is available for free to help users and operators understand essential terms, real-world reference data, sensor placement and more. ■

# Trends in safety eyewear

The safety eyewear market is set to grow significantly, and is becoming increasingly sophisticated. Louise Waters reports.

“Another factor influencing market expansion is the availability of various types of eye equipment such as goggles, visors and glasses, as necessary for job safety.”



Image Credit: Adobe Stock

ABOVE: Appropriate and correctly-fitting safety eyewear is essential to protect workers from hazards which may damage their eyes.

According to a new report from Future Market Insights (FMI), the global safety eyewear market is estimated at a market value of US\$4bn, and is forecast to grow at a CAGR of 5.8% to 2033, to reach US\$7bn, driven by the rise of the construction and manufacturing industries. The industrial manufacturing category is expected to hold the greatest share of the safety eyewear market from 2023-2033.

### Market trends

Government regulations to ensure worker safety, along with an increase in the incidence of workplace accidents, are expected to propel the market ahead, says FMI.

“Another factor influencing market expansion is the availability of various types of eye equipment such as goggles, visors and glasses, as necessary for job safety. Key players in this market are focusing on providing

bespoke safety eyewear to increase product acceptance among employees,” says the report.

“Additionally, manufacturers are developing safety eyewear that integrates ordinary spectacles within the goggles for customers who want corrected vision lenses. Aside from such customisation, safety eyewear should be easy to use.

“As a consequence, features like cushioned brows, gel nosepieces,

and padded nose bridges are built into the goggles to guarantee that workers are comfortable enough to wear them all day. Henceforth, product acceptability and market demand are likely to grow.”

<https://www.futuremarketinsights.com/reports/safety-eyewear-market>

According to a report by Grand View Research on the safety eyewear market, the USA’s National Safety Council statistics show that on a daily basis, around 2,000 workers in the USA sustain workplace-related eye injuries that require medical treatment. However, more than 85% of eye injuries can be avoided by wearing safety eyewear. The association also found that

workplace-related eye injuries cost more than US\$300mn a year in lost productivity, treatment, and compensation.

These injuries range from simple chemical eye burns to blunt trauma injuries, which may lead to temporary or permanent vision loss and blindness. Workers in the construction, manufacturing, and mining sectors are more prone to such injuries; around 40% of eye injuries in the workplace are in these three sectors. According to the report, non-prescription safety eyewear held the largest share in terms of revenue.

The industrial manufacturing segment accounted for the largest revenue share in 2021, the report

explains. The growth is attributed to the high product demand in a range of operations, such as processing, assembling, and finishing, which expose workers to dust particles, harmful chemicals, and dangerous light radiations.

<https://www.grandviewresearch.com/press-release/global-safety-eyewear-market>

According to the FMI report, drilling, chiselling, hammering, chipping, sanding, spraying, grinding, smelting, cutting, and welding are examples of industrial production operations that provide a significant risk of eye injury. Individuals working in the oil and gas business encounter numerous hazards on

a daily basis, ranging from welding sparks to very hot liquids and dropping debris to heavy machinery.

**Selecting safety eyewear**

Selecting the appropriate safety eyewear for the task and industry, and ensuring a correct and comfortable fit, is therefore essential.

uvex advises in a blog on its website: “Selecting the right eyewear and appropriate lens coatings is not difficult, and gives the best chance of user compliance, leading to a safer workplace, fewer eye injuries and increased productivity.

“Wrap-around safety glasses are very effective for protecting

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eyes from mechanical risks such as flying wood or metal particles in a workshop, for example. Safety prescription eyewear which is made to the wearers' individual prescription eliminates the need for overspecs, thus enhancing comfort.

"Safety goggles also provide impact protection, but fit more tightly around the eyes so they provide a greater degree of protection from all angles. They are ideal for protection from chemical splash, for example, and are most effective if they have anti-fog coatings, to compensate for the lack of air flow within them. Many designs also fit over prescription eyewear giving the required protection level or special prescription inserts further enhance comfort for frequent users."

uvex also highlights the range and increasing sophistication of lens coatings. "Using improved technology and manufacturing methods, safety eyewear lens coatings are now produced for almost any application. Hi-tech, permanent, lens coatings bring a host of benefits to the wearer.

They not only improve vision indoors or outdoors, but they also protect against fogging, UVB/UVA and infrared radiation, scratching, chemicals, glare, dust, sparks and static electricity."

Various combinations of coatings are also available. For example, coated lenses that are permanently anti-fog on both sides, scratch resistant and antistatic are particularly suitable for work in high humidity or polluted environments, while extreme coatings which separate anti-fog and scratch-resistant lens coatings, allowing them to perform at a much higher level and on the side of the lens where the coating is needed most, are ideal for work in tough and dirty environments.

<https://www.uvex-safety.co.uk/en/media/press-releases/choosing-the-right-lens-coatings-for-protective-eyewear-in-different-circumstances/>

### Innovations

Recent developments highlighted by the FMI report are as follows:

- ❖ In August 2022, uvex debuted the uvex-i line of safety eyewear, which protects

employees against a wide range of occupational risks. The eyewear has broad, flat lenses for an unobstructed field of view, as well as an expanded side shield for further protection against threats.

- ❖ In July 2022, Bollé Safety introduced a new high-clarity lens dubbed Comfort Sense Perception to safeguard employees under all situations. The new technology is available in seventeen lens tints and a wide range of SKUs that are adaptable to indoor, indoor/outdoor, and outdoor work situations. It improves sight, visual comfort, and definition. The technology protects the eyes while improving vision in all light-

sensitive situations, such as UV, glares, LED, welding gas, and low contrast.

Bollé Safety has also recently launched the Ness+ indoor safety glasses range, providing protection for different risk levels. It features the exclusive PLATINUM scratch- and fog-resistant coating, foam and adjustable strap, ultra wrap-around frame for perfect protection, non-slip bridge and bi-material temples for added comfort.

While Ergodyne has released new ranges of Skullerz safety glasses and goggles featuring its new Fog-Off+ enhanced anti-fog and anti-scratch technology as well as new comfort features.

"If you're not accounting for those real-world situations resulting in non-compliance, such as fogging, fit, durability or compatibility with prescription lenses, you're going to see a lot of eye protection resting on foreheads," said Tim Gallant, product director.

"Our new eye and face protection is keenly attuned to pain points communicated directly to us by the workforce. ■

**"Using improved technology and manufacturing methods, safety eyewear lens coatings are now produced for almost any application."**



Bollé Safety has recently launched the Ness+ indoor safety glasses range.

Image Credit: Bollé Safety

# The future of PPE

Roman Poludnev, general manager of Safety and Productivity Solutions Middle East, Turkey and Africa, Honeywell, discusses factors impacting the future PPE market.

“PPE in the industrial workspace isn’t going anywhere, and the next generation will offer protection, functionality, comfort and even fashion.”



Image Credit: Adobe Stock

**B**efore the Covid-19 pandemic, the term personal protective equipment (PPE) was primarily used by professionals who wore it daily to keep them safe on the job. Then, seemingly all at once, national and global attention turned to PPE.

Industrial workers quickly found themselves discussing the effectiveness of various masks and respirators with their friends and families in casual conversations. What is different now is that employers have a new

perspective on workers’ PPE needs. PPE in the industrial workspace isn’t going anywhere, and the next generation will offer protection, functionality, comfort and even fashion.

For PPE to truly protect workers from on-site hazards, they need to be confident they can wear PPE properly – without worry of irritation or improper fit. For example, a key component of respirators is the breathability of the material, or the ability of the fabric to let air pass through so that the wearer

can safely inhale and exhale. The breathability of a mask can be altered by numerous variables, including the type of fabric, the number of layers within the mask and how tightly the mask is affixed.

In addition to breathability, it is crucial that the mask filters air properly to prevent airborne transmission of harmful bacteria, viruses, dust or other unwanted contaminants. There are now masks with lightweight fabric that promote a high level of breathability and filtration so that

ABOVE: Amid the pandemic, demand for PPE was exponential, causing huge supply chain issues.

the wearer is not overwhelmed with the build-up of heat, moisture and CO2 within the mask. Although these new developments are a result of Covid-19, improved breathability will likely be a key feature in respirators long after the pandemic is declared over.

Another crucial step toward promoting PPE adoption is for PPE to be properly fitted and comfortable for extended wear. Incorporating flexible materials into mask production, such as thermoplastic elastomers, creates a final product that is soft to the touch and can stretch to fit different people. With these key features, employees who must don masks for hours at a time – and at varying levels of physical exertion – are less likely to experience discomfort from chaffing, indentations, perspiration, or lens fogging when worn with eye protection or prescription glasses.

## Investing in the future

As global demand for PPE surged in 2020, the supply chain struggled to deliver against unprecedented volumes, setting off a global scramble to combat shortages. While governments collaborated with manufacturers to increase production of PPE, industrial workers were unable to gain access to respirators, which were being diverted for health care use.

Reusability of a face mask will be a key measurement of success in developing long-term solutions for respiratory protection. Should the supply chain struggle to meet the demand for disposable masks again in the future, jobsite managers may consider more reliable and sustainable

alternatives, such as Air Purifying Respirators (APRs) and Powered Air Purifying Respirators (PAPRs).

These portable alternatives offer increased levels of protection in areas with a higher concentration of contaminants through a comprehensive system containing an air purifying filter, canister for contaminants, motor, headpiece and breathing tube. Not only do PAPRs provide added comfort through a loose-fitting hood and face pieces, but workers can reuse and clean them, ultimately reducing the environmental impact and total cost of single-use disposable masks.

## Elevating aesthetics

Throughout the Covid-19 pandemic, we have seen the rise of fashion-forward face masks from apparel companies that offered different patterns, colours, and imagery. As we shepherd in a new, younger wave of workers, manufacturers should be prepared for them to have this same sense of wanting to choose and express their personal style while at work, too.

Industrial safety PPE extends far beyond respirators for a full portfolio of head-to-toe protection. There are harnesses for those who work at height, gloves for those who work with sharp machinery and rubber boots for those who work in electrical safety, among others. When employers are considering new PPE products across the board, they should look for ways to incorporate workers' personal choice and style. Functionality to protect a worker is of utmost importance, but choices in style and design may lead to better adoption rates.



Image Credit: Honeywell

Ronan Poludnev, general manager of Safety and Productivity Solutions, Honeywell.

For employers struggling with PPE adoption, consider getting employee feedback. This could include showing them the catalog or ordering swatches and samples to try on the different styles and ensure the products fit, feel and look good. Soliciting employee feedback also shows them that their employer values their opinions about what they need and want to get the job done safely.

## Using smarter PPE

Today, workers are more accustomed than ever to wearable

**“Functionality to protect a worker is of upmost importance, but choices in style and design may lead to better adoption rates”**

technology in their personal lives, such as fitness trackers and smart watches. In the future, PPE will become increasingly connected. Smart PPE technology will enable wearers to ensure the proper fitment, collect data from their environment to better understand the risks and, of course, be protected from workplace hazards. For example, in industries that are impacted by excessive noise levels, employers can integrate technology that allows for remotely monitoring noise, performing annual audiometric screenings and hazard training on the irreversible impact of noise-induced hearing loss.

Product innovations that utilise technology can allow workers to be more responsive in the event of a safety issue and empowers workers to proactively mitigate or prevent future safety hazards. In doing so, workers are given more control over their safety in the workplace, both for immediate and long-term health.

In the wake of Covid-19, employers are in pursuit of a safer workplace. Industries are developing comprehensive and versatile worker protection systems that understand the importance of preventative planning and workplace risk assessments.

While solutions for workplace health and safety have changed – and advanced – greatly since 2019, worker protection and safety measures remain a high priority. Industry leaders should continue to look for adaptable, efficient products that can support their employees through a workforce evolution brought on by crisis. That includes protecting workers from physical hazards by having access to safe and reliable PPE. ■



# Is workplace safety at risk from a 'brain drain'?



Image Credit: Adobe Stock

**“Younger people feel the least safe of any age group, being the most likely group to be concerned of a major safety incident happening at work.”**

*A construction worker wearing a safety harness to prevent falls.*

**T**he last 12 months has seen considerable uncertainty in the employment market, accompanied by some of the highest levels of employee turnover on record.

New ways of working post-Covid and a general reluctance to return to travelling into workplaces led to many re-assessing their working lives, and whether quiet quitting or simply quitting, leaving for pastures new. The result was the much-publicised ‘Great Resignation’.

However, what is perhaps an

even greater cause for concern when it comes to health and safety considerations, is the high proportion of older workers that are leaving the workforce. Indeed, the trend was so marked that some suggested The Great Resignation was in fact more of a Great Retirement, with the significant numbers of over 55s leaving the workplace representing one of the largest mass-exoduses on record.

This departure of older workers, sometimes with decades of experience in a particular

sector or business, and a deeply-rooted knowledge of safety processes and protocols, is a significant issue for workplace safety.

In the latest Dräger Safety at Work report, the leading reason cited for people feeling less safe at work was the loss of older, more experienced workers from the workforce, with a third (32%) of respondents expressing this sentiment.

Younger people (those aged between 25 and 34 years) feel the least safe of any age group, being

the most likely group to be concerned of a major safety incident happening at work in the next five years, and almost one in five (18%) saying they feel increasingly less safe at work. This is in direct contrast to the relatively positive picture overall, which showed that, across all age groups, the majority (52%) of people feel safer at work than they did a year ago.

32% of all respondents of the 2022 study said they were concerned that older workers leaving the workforce took decades of safety experience with them: It is clear that workplaces are facing a potential safety 'brain drain'.

## Bridging the gap

Clearly, addressing this issue needs to be a key part of any strategic planning for health and safety managers and teams.

Despite the challenges, there are solutions. Some examples include:

- Knowledge exchanges – It may take the form of a 'lunch and learn', or perhaps an intergenerational buddying programme, but creating an environment which proactively encourages the sharing of knowledge and experience is a simple, not to mention low cost, way of ensuring that those with valuable expertise in particular area of safety – both external to, but particularly within – can share this with members of staff.

**“One of the leading reasons for people feeling less safe at work according to research, is inadequate or insufficient training.”**



*A young worker wearing ear and eye protection while being supervised.*

- Modern safety technology – One of the key outcomes of a company using modern technology and connected systems was a greater feeling of safety amongst employees in the 2022 Safety at Work report. Yet, just a quarter (27%) of people felt that their workplace was making the best use of such technologies. Despite significant advances in digital and connected safety technology over the last 18 months as remote monitoring and management during Covid drove forward progress, many people still remain unaware of the full potential of modern safety systems.

- Safety training – One of the leading reasons for people feeling less safe at work according to research, is inadequate or insufficient training, with over two thirds (68%) of people reporting that they felt there was room for improvement in their organisation when it came to safety training. The importance of training in safety-critical environments cannot be overstated, particularly if the types of safety technology described above are to be

employed by a business.

## The future

There is a significant opportunity over the next few years for safety

to be improved in workforces around the globe, not least because of the potential to maintain the higher levels of investment in staff safety and well-being seen during Covid, and the raised profile of health and safety in businesses in recent years.

The problems presented by the exodus of experienced people, and particularly older people, from the workforce do have the potential to threaten this progress. However, with newfound respect amongst senior leadership teams towards those spearheading safety strategies, combined with the opportunity for such issues to be addressed at the highest levels within business, and across functions, may hold the much-needed solution. ■

Image Credit: Adobe Stock

## Health & Safety now in Arabic

NEBOSH, ONE OF the world's leading health and safety awarding bodies, has announced that its Health and Safety at Work Award will now be available in Arabic.

Already available to study in English, the Health and Safety at Work Award provides an introduction to workplace health, safety and risk, and the qualification is applicable to all industries. By making it available in Arabic, it means that even more people can take the first steps to health and safety competence, helping to keep themselves and their colleagues safe at work.

The qualification is assessed by a workplace review so that learners apply their new knowledge by reviewing how health and safety is managed, identifying any issues present and how they are controlled, making recommendations for improvements. This makes it a great option for employers too because they can give their workforce practical skills that improve organisational health and safety performance.

Emirates Global Aluminium has delivered the qualification to over 600 operational employees, making their organisation a safer place to work; its Total Recordable Injury Frequency (TRIF) rate in 2021 was 1.06 per million hours worked. In comparison the global average TRIF rate for members of the International Aluminium Institute in 2021 was 2.8 per million hours worked.

Zubair Majeed, safety manager at Emirates Global Aluminium, noted, "Having qualified personnel, including supervisors and shop-floor workers who are not full-time safety practitioners, is a vitally important part of successfully managing risks."

# Surveying the cyber landscape

DNV's business development director, Christian Nerland, showcased his company's new 'Cyber Priority' report, which offered valuable insights into the region's approach to cybersecurity.

**A**t ADIPEC in November last year, DNV Business Development Director Christian Nerland spoke to Health, Safety and Security Review Middle East about his company's expansion into the region.

DNV showcased a number of insights and reports at the event, including 'Hydrogen Forecast to 2050', which highlighted the potential challenges arising from the slow uptake of hydrogen across a number of industries.

'The Cyber Priority' was particularly noteworthy, shining a spotlight on the state of play of cybersecurity in the energy industry.

"The industry professionals are becoming more aware of cybersecurity threats. And they see that this is now really becoming a risk for their operation and personnel. With all the unrest in the world now, the invasion of Ukraine, and so on, we see an upswing in people starting to see that this [cyber security threat] is serious now."

In fact, Nerland said that the company conducted a survey with regard to cybersecurity



Image Credit: DNV

**"... industry professionals are becoming more aware of cybersecurity threats. And they see that this is now really becoming a risk for their operation and personnel."**

DNV's business development director  
at ADIPEC 2022.

awareness in Europe, the Middle East, Africa, and Asia Pacific. The respondents included publicly listed companies and privately held firms, spanning energy industry services, power transmission and supply, renewables, and oil and gas.

Explaining the survey results, Nerland said that "We did roughly half of the interviews before the invasion of Ukraine and roughly half afterward. And we see actually between those time points, there is a 5% increase in the concern about

cyber security.

Moreover, the respondents in the Middle East and Africa were more concerned by cyber-attacks than their counterparts in Europe.

Some key numbers from the Cyber Priority Report:

- ❖ The concern among Middle Eastern and African (MENA) energy professionals over cyber security threats in the sector is stronger with 69% believing that an attack is likely to cause loss of life, compared with a global average of 57%
- ❖ (63%) in the Middle East and Africa prioritise investment in ensuring the cyber security of their equipment vendors and supply chain compared with Europe (64%), the Americas (57%)
- ❖ 56% of Middle East and Africa (56%) experts said that they would know exactly what to do if they suspected an attempted attack on their organisation's IT or OT environments compared to Europe (69%), the Americas (60%)
- ❖ 61% of Middle East and Africa energy executives think their organization's training is effective compared to Europe (56%), the Americas (51%)
- ❖ Energy executives in the Middle East and Africa (82%) are most likely to think that a serious cyber-attack would harm the environment compared to Europe (71%), the Americas (72%)
- ❖ The Middle East and African respondents express a greater sentiment (44%) that their organisation would need to be impacted by a major incident before it would spend any more time or money on its defences compared with



Image Credit: DNV

The DNV team took to ADIPEC (Christian Nerland fourth from left) for special presentations on decarbonisation, digitalisation and cybersecurity.

Europe (29%) and the Americas (39%), despite respondents in the Middle East being more likely to expect a major cyber incident in the industry in the next few years.

Meanwhile, Nerland also explained how on the OT (operations technology) side of things, you can have blow-ups, and the platform can explode.

“If you take control of the control system, you can blow it up. Some people can get killed as well. And many responders say that they expect that this would really cause harm within the next couple of years. And the second one is the environmental side, where you can have oil spills, for example. These are the top two issues.”

The third main issue surrounds business continuity. “For example, last year there was an attack in the US on the Colonial Pipeline that took it out of operation for about five days. So we see that what initially seems like a technicality, with hacker attacks, can all be the root cause of a safety situation.”

## What should companies do to protect themselves from cyber-attacks?

“Number one, they need to make sure they have the full picture. What is your exposure? You need to know the risks, basically. Number two is that they need to act upon these known risks and do the right things. Is that training? Is it new technology? Is it standardisation? And really build a defense based on your current situation.”

“Now, you can do some quick fixes, but generally, you need to

**“... it (the Middle East) seems like a region that is very open to new technology and it wants to do the right things. We see big opportunities... cybersecurity is certainly climbing up the ladder.”**

DNV business development director, Christian Nerland.

have a long-term plan. You need to take a position, say, where you want to be in five years. You need to have a little more of a strategy on cyber security, just like you have a business strategy.”

With regards to the Middle East, Nerland says that the region is open to accepting new technology, and issues surrounding cybersecurity are also ramping up.

“I know that the issue is also high on the agenda here. So to me, it seems like a region that is very open to new technology and they want to do the right things. We see big opportunities in this area [of cyber security]. We've been in the UAE for many years. We see that in the Middle East countries that provide risk assessment, and safety for classic oil and gas services, cybersecurity is certainly climbing up the ladder.”

Finally, speaking about challenges faced in this sector, Nerland says that these issues are worldwide and not region-specific. For example, he says, most companies have a ‘wait-and-see attitude’, which means they are likely to develop a cybersecurity strategy only after they have fallen victim to an attack.

“Unfortunately, [the industry only responds] to bad accidents, and we need an incident to happen before something really changes [in the cybersecurity strategy].”

“I really hope that the industry is waking up now as our survey indicated that about 80% of respondents said that we are very aware now but we do too little,” concluded Nerland. ■

Copies of ‘The Cyber Priority’ can be downloaded at [www.dnv.com/cyberpriority](http://www.dnv.com/cyberpriority)

# *You're in safe hands with* Hughes Safety Showers

Hughes design and manufacture emergency safety showers, eye/face wash units and decontamination equipment to provide you with a safer working environment, greater protection against serious injury and peace of mind that you are compliant with crucial safety standards.

**“An ordinary shower or sink is not enough to achieve complete decontamination, especially in the event of an accidental spill or splash.”**

*A specifically-designed safety shower or eye/face wash is essential for effective decontamination in the event of an accident or to clean PPE prior to removal.*



Image Credit: Hughes Safety Showers

**P**urchasing safety products can be a daunting and challenging task, particularly if your site or project requirements are unique. Luckily, when you partner with Hughes you have access to technical problem solvers and trusted advisors.

Guidelines often recommend the provision of ‘hygiene procedures’ or ‘washing facilities’ to ensure potentially harmful substances are removed before a worker moves on to another task or finishes work for the day. An ordinary shower or sink is not enough to achieve complete decontamination, especially in

the event of an accidental spill or splash. Where a substance can cause harm or severe irritation to skin or eyes, the first 10 seconds following exposure is critical to minimise serious injury. It is imperative that a specifically designed safety shower or eye/face wash, that meets the recommended requirements of the European EN15454 or International ANSI Z358.1-2014 standards, is provided to effectively decontaminate in the event of an accident or to clean PPE prior to removal.

Whether you require a simple drench shower for indoor use, a

freeze protected model for environments experiencing cold winters or a tank fed safety shower where a lack of a constant water supply or low water pressure is a consideration, we can deliver the most suitable model for your location. Perhaps you need a customised solution? Hughes have a dedicated team of mechanical, electrical and instrumentation engineers to deliver the most effective bespoke project solution. ■

*Hughes Safety Showers  
E: [sales@hughes-safety.com](mailto:sales@hughes-safety.com)  
[www.hughes-safety.com](http://www.hughes-safety.com)  
Follow us: @HughesSafety*

## RugGear unveils RG750 smartphone

RugGear, one of the leading developers and manufacturers of rugged mobile devices for professional use, introduces the RG750, a new smartphone specifically designed for worldwide MCPTT (mission critical push-to-talk) use.

The new product runs on the latest Android 12 operating system, is equipped with a powerful processor, a large PTT button and the tried-and-tested tuning knob for channel selection. Compatibility with the 3GPP Release 12+

communication standard and global LTE network coverage guarantees secure communication across regions and countries. With dual APN, optimised WiFi roaming capability and coverage of common protocols, the RG750 automatically switches to the appropriate Wi-Fi network with the lowest latency.

The RG750 was specifically designed for mission-critical communications by the RugGear team. In particular, professional users from areas such as



Image Credit: RugGear

*The rugged smartphone is compatible with worldwide LTE networks and designed for emergency communication.*

authorities and organisations with security tasks, transport and logistics, and utility companies are among the target group for this new smartphone.

The RG750 meets the highest requirements for security and network coverage. Thanks to the powerful chipset and the latest

Android 12 operating system, data can be transferred and processed quickly. The use in the WLAN network is optimised by the DUAL APN capability (2.4 GHz / 5 GHz) and Wi-Fi roaming (coverage of all common protocols). The RG750's proven topside tuning knob for channel selection and large PTT button facilitates professional PTT communication. By supporting a large number of worldwide LTE networks, the smartphone can be used internationally.

The 13-pin interface connects PTT accessories to the unit. A programmable SOS button on the top of the device can be used for lone worker protection via supported apps. The loudspeaker on the front is specifically designed for noisy deployment scenarios and guarantees interference-free PTT communication at 105 dB.

A powerful, replaceable 5000 mAh lithium battery (5V 2A fast-charge technology) ensures long operating times (12 days standby, 22 hours PTT continuous operation).

## Honeywell partners with Microsoft to support mobile workers through software

Honeywell has announced a new integration with Microsoft to help highly mobile workers by providing a set of digital tools enabling enhanced communication and collaboration, all on one platform.

Users of select Honeywell mobile computers in the warehousing, logistics, healthcare and retail fields can download the popular and optimised Microsoft Teams for frontline workers application. Through Teams, workers can turn Honeywell devices into a walkie talkie with a dedicated button. This push-to-talk solution enables clear, instant and secure voice communication over the cloud.

“A customer- or patient-centric approach can be improved through technology-led productivity and mobility solutions,” said Karen Bomber, senior director of Marketing at Honeywell Productivity Solutions.

## Magos Systems improves site safety and reduces nuisance alarms

### Security

Magos Systems, the leader in advanced radar detection technology, is introducing new features to reduce false alarms at the perimeter and help to streamline security operations at a variety of different types of sites.

The introduction of Blue Force GPS and speed and direction-based filtering to the Magos perimeter detection solution provides facilities with increased situational awareness

of their site while reducing nuisance alarms that add to the operator's information overload and distract them from responding to actual events.

Blue Force tracking leverages GPS technology to recognise authorized personnel as ‘friendly forces’ when their presence is detected by the Magos radar.

This feature is particularly useful for facilities that require security staff to regularly patrol the premises.

Using a dedicated application installed on the mobile device carried by security personnel or contractors, the Magos MASS+AI management software correlates GPS data from the device with radar detection data and signals to security system operators that the person is not a threat.

‘Friendly’ status can be easily added or revoked in the MASS+AI software or in an organisation's integrated video management software platform.

## STRONGex G2 luminaire can withstand any harsh setting

### Lighting solutions

Zalux, An Industrial lighting solutions provider, launched a new addition to its innovative STRONGex range of luminaires at this year's ADIPEC exhibition.

Ryan Julaton at ZALUX said, "We had a very successful show at ADIPEC, launching our brand new STRONGex luminaires. As with our previous products, this range continues our focus on sustainability in hazardous area lighting applications. Our luminaires are used in the harshest environments and are therefore designed to require very little maintenance. For the past 40 years, we have been setting the benchmark for sustainability in our products and this new range continues this trend."

The STRONGex G2 offers exceptional resistance to harsh environmental conditions, is available with options for Ex Zone 1 or Zone 2 installation and is an ideal solution for applications across the oil & gas, chemical, petrochemical, and energy sectors.

In line with other products within the range, the STRONGex G2 is designed to promote sustainability with low energy consumption, extended lifecycle, low maintenance overheads, and a recyclable PMMA profile. The G2 model is openable to enable easy access for maintenance and change of the emergency battery, for an increased flexibility for installation.

Even though the luminaire offers an exceptional



Image Credit: Alain Charles Publishing

The latest model of ZALUX's range was launched at ADIPEC 2022.

100,000-hour lifetime, the ability to replace internal components contributes to promote a circular economy. The unit's superb energy efficiency and lifetime can be further enhanced thanks to the availability of DALI dimmable versions and optional emergency kit. A wireless control version is also available for the Ex Zone 2 model.

A high-quality plastic housing protects the luminaire from extreme weather conditions, including corrosive salty environments, and provides high resistance to chemicals. The unit has no external aluminium parts, further promoting its resistance to corrosion, and can work in temperatures from -36°C to +55°C. A variety of mounting options, are available.

## AR collaboration on safe handling of vessel provisions

### Vessel safety

Safetytech Accelerator has announced a collaboration with research and innovation centre CYENS and marine services provider Oceanic to explore augmented reality (AR) and computer vision in assisting crew in the safe handling and storage of vessel provisions.

The collaboration will explore the use of augmented reality and computer vision to address on-board management of stock. This will lead to better management and utilisation of stock, reduction of food waste and improved hygiene and safety practices.

Dr Olga Shvarova, chief innovation officer of CYENS said, "We are very happy to be able to contribute to the digitalisation and adoption of new technologies in the shipping industry... We support the effort to streamline processes, transform supply chains and create new business opportunities in this strategically important economic sector."

## SENSOTOP's UV optical sensor detects hydrocarbon leaks

### Leak detection

SENSOTOP, a French company specialised in the supply of innovative detection systems for assets integrity in tankfarms and pipelines, presented its new high accuracy, best available technology sensor at ADIPEC 2022.

SENSOTOP exhibited SPILLANGEL, an ATEX ultraviolet optical sensor for the detection of liquid hydrocarbon leaks on the ground and on the surface of the water, with very high accuracy.

Previously inaccessible, this cutting-edge

technology has been miniaturised to reduce its cost and finally make it competitive in the detection and safety market. Thanks to its UV technology, the SPILLANGEL remotely captures the specific fluorescence of the oil. It does not come into direct contact with the contaminated environment and is therefore not contaminated. It also only triggers an alarm when hydrocarbons are present – no other liquids or materials may appear in the observation area – thus avoiding false alarms. Detection, treatment and alarm sequence are

hence triggered automatically and in real time, following an analogue output that can be used on a safety PLC.

SpillAngel is particularly suitable for the detection of oil leaks with the analog output and can monitor oil spill and oil in water in continuous mode for illegal oil release tracking.

It is also the perfect fit for permanent survey in tank farms or pipelines areas, dynamic detection in water discharge and oil spill monitoring.

## مراقبة التعرض للضوضاء

تقدم «كاسيلا»، وهي شركة عالمية رائدة في تصنيع وتوريد معدات الصحة المهنية والمراقبة البيئية، بعض الإرشادات في مدونة على موقعها على الإنترنت، حول مراقبة التعرض للضوضاء لدى القوى العاملة لديك. ولضمان التزام أصحاب العمل باللوائح المصممة لحماية حاسة السمع لدى العمال، توفر المراقبة رؤى دقيقة لمستويات الضوضاء وتحديد أماكن المشكلات. تقول شركة «كاسيلا» إن هناك العديد من الأجهزة في السوق، ولكن قد يكون من الصعب تحديد نوع المنتج الأكثر ملاءمة لبيئة العمل الخاصة بك والمكان الذي يتطلب فيه التدريب.

يمكن لمديري الصحة والسلامة المديرين تنفيذ برنامج ناجح لمراقبة الضوضاء في الموقع، وذلك باستخدام إما مقياس مستوى الصوت أو مقياس الجرعات، كما تمضي «كاسيلا» في شرح كيفية استخدام كل منهما وتحت أي ظروف، وتقول «كاسيلا»: «إن إجراء مسح ضوئي كامل ينطوي على أكثر بكثير من مجرد إجراء قياسات إما بمقياس مستوى الصوت أو مقياس جرعات الضوضاء». وأثناء النظر إلى مستويات الضوضاء، يجب أيضاً مراعاة المدة التي يتعرض فيها الموظف بالفعل لمستوى الضوضاء. يعتبر توجيه القائمين على إجراء استطلاعات الضوضاء لطرح الأسئلة على الموظفين والمديرين خلال العملية، أمراً أساسياً في اكتساب فهم كامل لما يقوم به الموظفون والمدة التي يقضونها في ذلك، مما يؤدي إلى مفاهيم دقيقة لمستوى وأوقات التعرض. كما تمثل أهمية استخدام غرائهم وأعينهم وأذنانهم لفهم أنماط العمل والمسؤوليات دون الاعتماد فقط على الأدوات، أمراً حيوياً.

للإطلاع على المدونة، يُرجى زيارة الموقع الإلكتروني على الرابط:

<https://www.casellasolutions.com/uk/en/about/news/nhl-monitoring-yourworkforce.html>

إذا لم يدركوا مخاطر فقدان السمع الناجم عن الضوضاء، لهذا السبب، اجعل من أولوياتك توعية الفرق بمخاطر الضوضاء الخاصة بالموقع. وهناك طرق متعددة لتوعية فريقك، من بينها ما يلي:

- توعية العمال بالعواقب الوخيمة لفقدان حاسة السمع الناجم عن الضوضاء، وذلك من خلال الحكايات والملفات الصوتية ومقاطع الفيديو.
- دعوة متخصصي السلامة للتحدث عن حماية حاسة السمع.
- تشجيع الامتثال من خلال الحوافز الإيجابية.
- استخدام ملصقات مرئية توضح بالتفصيل أهمية حماية حاسة السمع.

### إعطاء الأولوية لحماية حاسة

#### السمع لدى العاملين لديك

فقدان السمع الناجم عن الضوضاء غير مؤلم ولا يسبب أي علامات مرئية للضرر. وعلى الرغم من أن الضوضاء التي قد تكون ضارة قد لا تسبب مشاكل فورية، إلا أن الضرر المتطور ببطء يمكن أن يتراكم بمرور الوقت ويمكن أن يكون دائماً بنسبة 100 في المائة.

والحل لمنع فقدان السمع الناجم عن الضوضاء المهنية، يتمثل في التركيز المستمر على الوقاية من فقدان السمع، وتوفير التدريب المناسب، واختبار الملاءمة، وتقديم أمهات وأحجام أجهزة حماية السمع المناسبة. فعند استخدام أدوات حماية السمع بشكل صحيح، فإنها تلعب دوراً رائعاً في الحفاظ على سلامة العمال.

لتأثير الضوضاء الناتجة كافية ليكون ضاراً أيضاً، إذ تسبب موجات الضوضاء القصيرة المتكررة، مثل الطرق على مسمار (120 ديسيبيل)، في تلف حاسة السمع.

### ضمان الملاءمة والراحة المناسبين

لا يوجد حل واحد يناسب الجميع عندما يتعلق الأمر بحماية حاسة السمع. فإذا كانت حماية حاسة السمع لدى العمال لا تتلاءم بشكل صحيح، فلا يمكنها توفير الحماية المناسبة من الضوضاء الضارة. ويمكن أن يكون مُن البوصة هو الفرق بين تلقي مستوى الحماية المحدد بناءً على تصنيف تقليل الضوضاء على جهاز حماية السمع وعدم الحصول على أي حماية على الإطلاق. فاختر الملاءمة يوفر صورة دقيقة وواقعية لحماية حاسة السمع لدى موظفيك ويساعد مديري السلامة على تحديد الحلول المريحة والملائمة والمتوافقة. وهناك جانب آخر يلزم مراعاته؛ وهو توافق جهاز حماية حاسة السمع مع معدات الحماية الشخصية الأخرى؛ مثل نظارات السلامة وواقي الرأس والوجه.

على سبيل المثال، يمكن أن تسبب نظارات السلامة ذات الإطارات السميكة (6 مم) في حدوث فجوة بين الرأس وغطاء الأذن، مما يوفر طريقة سهلة لاختراق الصوت لغطاء الأذن. وفي هذه الحالة، ستكون سدادات الأذن هي الحل الأنسب لحماية الأذن، بناءً على معدات الحماية الشخصية الشاملة المطلوبة للوظيفة.

### توعية الفرق العاملة

لن يعطي العمال الأولوية لحماية حاسة السمع

## مفكرة الفعاليات 2023

### يناير/كانون الثاني

16 - 18 معرض إترسك دبي <https://intersec.ae.messefrankfurt.com>

### فبراير/شباط:

28 - 3/2 المنتدى السنوي للنفط والغاز بمنطقة الشرق الأوسط وشمال أفريقيا - المنامة OPEX MENA [www.europetro/opexmena](http://www.europetro/opexmena)

### مارس/آذار

7 - 9 معرض طاقة الشرق الأوسط دبي [www.middleeast-energy.com](http://www.middleeast-energy.com)

### مايو/أيار

16 - 18 معرض السلامة والصحة لندن [www.safety-health-expo.co.uk](http://www.safety-health-expo.co.uk)





أهمية نوعية العاملين بمخاطر الضوضاء

## الحماية من الضوضاء الصناعية الضارة

في هذا المقال، يناقش رومان بولودنيف، المدير العام لحلول السلامة والإنتاجية في الشرق الأوسط وتركيا وإفريقيا في شركة «هانوبيل»، كيفية التخفيف من التعرض لمخاطر الضوضاء واختيار الحماية المناسبة للسمع. فوفقاً لمنظمة الصحة العالمية، يعاني أكثر من 1,5 مليار شخص على مستوى العالم من ضعف السمع. ووفقاً لأحدث التقديرات، قد يرتفع هذا الرقم إلى أكثر من 2,5 مليار شخص بحلول عام 2030. ومع ذلك، تقدر منظمة الصحة العالمية أنه يمكن الوقاية من حوالي 50 في المائة من حالات فقدان السمع من خلال اتخاذ تدابير الصحة العامة.

عمل ذات طبيعة خطيرة، يجب على مديري السلامة أولاً تحديد المعدات التي تسبب التعرض للضوضاء لفهم مستويات المخاطر المرتبطة بكل أداة وقطعة من المعدات بشكل كامل. وكذلك الحد من مستويات الضوضاء الشديدة على الفور، أو تقليلها أو توفير حماية سمعية مناسبة للعاملين، كلما كان ذلك ممكناً.

ففي دبي، خلال أيام الأسبوع، تم تعيين حد الضوضاء لأعمال البناء عند 55 ديسيبل، وهو أقل قليلاً من صوت المحادثة العادية في المطعم والمكتب أو الصوت الصادر من مكيف الهواء، وفقاً لمراكز السيطرة على الأمراض والوقاية منها. وكنقطة مرجعية، فإن أي ضوضاء أعلى من معدل 85 ديسيبل لديها القدرة على التسبب في فقدان السمع على المدى الطويل. وتعد بعض الأمثلة على مخاطر الضوضاء الشائعة في الموقع هي عند استخدام جرافة (100 ديسيبل) ومشار آلي (110 ديسيبل) ويمكن أن تكون حالات التعرض

وبالنسبة للكثيرين، يستمر فقدان السمع دون أن يلاحظه أحد حتى وقت لاحق في العمر، بمجرد حدوث الضرر بالفعل. ومخاطر الضوضاء تتواجد في كل مكان عند العمل في الموقع، ولكن اتخاذ الاحتياطات المناسبة يمكن أن يخفف من المخاطر ويمنع من حدوث الإصابات.

فهناك العديد من الطرق لحماية حاسة السمع لدى العمال: من بينها مجموعة متنوعة من واقيات الأذن وسدادات الأذن التي يمكن استخدامها من أبسط المهام إلى أكثرها تعقيداً.

والإك ما يجب أن تعرفه عند اختيار أفضل وسائل حماية لحاسة السمع عند أداء وظيفتك في المجال الصناعي في منطقة الشرق الأوسط.

### إدراك طبيعة المخاطر وتقييمها

عند البحث عن أفضل حماية للسمع مناسبة في بيئة

يمكن أن تنشأ مستويات ضارة محتملة من الضوضاء الصناعية لأسباب عديدة مختلفة في بيئات العمل المختلفة، بداية من داخل المصنع إلى العمل بالخارج، وذلك من خلال استخدام الآلات والأدوات.

وحالات فقدان السمع الناجم عن الضوضاء، تمثل أكثر الإصابات المهنية الدائمة شيوعاً والتي يمكن الوقاية منها، لا سيما في منطقة الشرق الأوسط ذات حركة الإنشاءات الثقيلة والتحول الصناعي الهائل. وفي الواقع، يمكن للضوضاء الصناعية أن تزعج الأحياء والسكان بأكملها. فقد حظرت أمانة منطقة الرياض - مؤخرًا - أنشطة البناء أو الهدم من وقت آذان المغرب (5 - 6 مساءً) حتى الساعة 7 صباحاً.

وفي البيئات الصناعية، يقوم العمال بتشغيل الآلات الثقيلة والأدوات الكهربائية ويتعرضون لمخاطر أخرى يمكن أن تلحق ضرراً جسدياً فورياً في أي لحظة، بينما يحدث تلف السمع بمرور الوقت.

# في هذا العدد ...



4

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الحماية من الضوضاء الصناعية الضارة

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المجلد 8 العدد الأول 2023

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كيفية التخفيف من التعرض لمخاطر الضوضاء  
واختيار الحماية المناسبة للسمع