

## **IOSH North Wales Meeting – 16.03.17**

### **Legionella Control – Is your Business compliant with L8?**

Ian Anderson – M&S Water Services Ltd gave an in depth talk on the legionella control and how a business can comply with the HSE L8 ACOP.

He explained the history of how legionella was named after the Belle View Hotel, Philadelphia outbreak at a Legionnaires Veterans Convention in July 1997 and how the incident occurred.

He explained the sources of legionella within the local environment, how it is created into a deadly disease, how it is transferred in water and what conditions create its growth.

The requirement for a risk assessment was explained and what should be considered regarding the equipment being used ie hot & cold water systems, cooling towers, air conditioning equipment , spa baths etc , which when the risk assessment is completed by a competent person it should result in an action plan that confirms control measures as well as a monitoring regime including temperature measures and water testing.

He showed how cooling towers operate, the types in operation, the biocide systems required to prevent legionella being created and potential issues that can cause the failure of control measures

He explained in detail the HSE Document Legionnaires Diseases – the control of legionnaires in water systems ACOP L8 regarding the responsibilities of the statutory duty holder , the nominated responsible person and the relevant associated technical guidance.

Finally he showed the attendees the relevant criminal cases , which show the cost of failure to comply and the recent G4S case that confirmed with the change in sentencing guidelines that a £1.8million fine for not complying with the requirement for a legionella risk assessment .

Comments from Attendees:

“ I didn't know that there was so much involved in L8 compliance”

“ An excellent talk , but so much to take in on the subject “