



REAA Health and Safety Training Course for composting and AD sites

This course has been developed to assist those involved in the management and operation of H&S at anaerobic digestion (AD) and composting sites.

Qualification gained: NVQ Level 2 Equivalent.

Waste and recycling has a high rate of workplace injury and work-related ill health. In the five years to March 2016 the fatal injury rate was around 10 times the average across all industries. The main causes of fatal injury include being struck by moving vehicles, contact with moving machinery and being trapped by something collapsing or overturning. There were 14 fatalities to workers in the sector in 2016/17 and a further 5,000 non-fatal injuries to workers. Generally, around 5% of workers are injured annually in non-fatal incidents, around double the all-industry rate.

Course instructor

Matthew Lee the course instructor had 36 years' experience working for the HSE dealing with several waste companies experiencing a rapid development of the sector. Since leaving HSE 5 years ago, he continued to work with a range of waste companies and regularly undertakes training for those in the sector. He has developed this course in conjunction with the Organics Recycling Group of the REAA based on his extensive experience, making it bespoke to the AD and composting sector.

The course is not designed to make you a health and safety expert, but to improve your knowledge and skills in this area. This is the second year that the course has been run and has been revised following feedback from those attending the first two courses.

During the course, Matthew will be very happy to try and answer any questions that attendees have. It can be helpful if you also contribute to any questions in order that the overall knowledge of the group is increased. You may have identified and resolved similar issues in your own companies. Health and safety is not competitive and we all benefit from improved standards. The program below has been designed to cover the main health and safety issues that many of you face.

Programme

	Element	Topics covered	Approximate Time Hours
Day 1 - start time 9.30 am			
1	Foundations	Scope of H&S, Reasons for practicing good H&S – Humanitarian, Economic – Legal (Civil, Criminal), Public image Framework of criminal Law – Act, Regulations, ACOP, Guidance. Enforcement - Work of and powers of Inspectors. Fee for intervention, where to get help	1.5
2	How to manage H&S effectively	Responsibilities, auditing and monitoring, accident investigation, Riddor, risk assessment and control – with examples. Training of staff. Control of Feedstocks	2
3	General workplace health and safety	Slips and trips, Working at height, first aid, welfare, drink and drugs, Emergency planning, process control	1
4	Machinery and other work equipment	Key general legal requirements to control risks including PUWER, LOLER, Pressure Systems, Work at height. How to assess standards, Specific issues in the industry – problems and solutions	1.5
5	Transport	Identify hazards and control risks – safe site, safe driver, safe vehicles and safe operation	1.5
DAY 2 – start time 9am			
6	Electricity	Identify hazards and control risks including selection of equipment to be used in potentially explosive atmospheres (DSEAR/ ATEX)	1.5
7	Fire	What causes fires in the industry, consequences and how to minimise risks	1
8	Health risks	Manual handling, hazardous substances including bio aerosols, Common substances that plant operatives are likely to be exposed to, effects and limits. Noise and vibration. Health surveillance, PPE (selection, training and use), DSE assessment	1.5
9	Operational issues	Work in confined spaces, selection and monitoring of contractors including permit to work, CDM – client’s responsibilities, lone working,	2
10	Assignment briefing	Detail how the assignment should be completed including the marking scheme which will be used	0.2
	Exam	25 multiple choice questions	.5
	Assignment	Returned within two weeks	1.5 - 3