

PRESS RELEASE
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NSCC Specialist Contractors Demonstrate Commitment to Health and Safety

The results of the 2010/11 accident survey carried out by the National Specialist Contractors' Council (NSCC) highlight the importance placed by its members on health and safety in the workplace after NSCC recorded lower fatal and major injury rates than the industry as a whole.

In the latest annual survey covering almost 100,000 operatives, the NSCC fatal injury rate was 1.0 per 100,000 workers compared with the industry rate of 2.3 per 100,000 workers as reported by the Health and Safety Executive (HSE). The NSCC major injury rate was 168.8 per 100,000 workers, which is lower than the rate of 173.2 per 100,000 workers recorded by the industry.

Almost half of all accidents occurring to NSCC Specialist Contractors resulted from either handling, lifting and carrying or slip and trips, which is consistent with all industries in the UK, including construction.

All NSCC member organisations provided information as part of the survey and a record 11 obtained a 100% response from their members. By collecting accident statistics each year, NSCC demonstrates to clients and other interested parties that its members have a better safety record than non-members and, over the last eight years, the NSCC fatal injury rate has fallen by 72%, the major injury rate by 52%, and the over 3-day injury rate by 47%.

NSCC Chief Executive Suzannah Nichol MBE said:

"During a recession, the focus on health and safety can become a victim of cost cutting; however, these results from over 2,500 NSCC members demonstrate the continued priority of the specialist sector towards protecting the workforce. The collation of accident information is a requirement of NSCC membership and we will continue to work with all of our member organisations in 2011/12 to improve on the success of this survey."

From 6 April 2012 the HSE is extending the period before an injury needs to be reported under RIDDOR from over three to over seven days and the NSCC accident survey for 2012/13 will be updated accordingly.

~ Ends ~

For further information, contact NSCC:

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Notes to Editors

1. The National Specialist Contractors' Council (NSCC) brings together the common aims of 32 specialist trade organisations within the construction industry and is the authoritative voice of 7,000 Specialist Contractors in the UK – www.nsc.org.uk.
2. The 2010/11 survey is the eighth annual accident survey that NSCC has carried out.
3. NSCC accident incidence rates for this period were as follows:

	Fatal	Major	Over 3-day
Incidence rate per 100,000 workers	1.0	168.8	639.8

4. To download the 2010/11 NSCC Accident Report, please visit www.nsc.org.uk/news.
5. From 1 April 2012, NSCC Specialist Contractors will be able to submit their accident statistics for the period 1 April 2011 to 31 March 2012 via the NSCC website at www.nsc.org.uk.