

Safety is a core value for Uisce Éireann in all our work

Am I SAFE? Website Launch



Introduction – Maria O'Dwyer

Director of Infrastructure Delivery

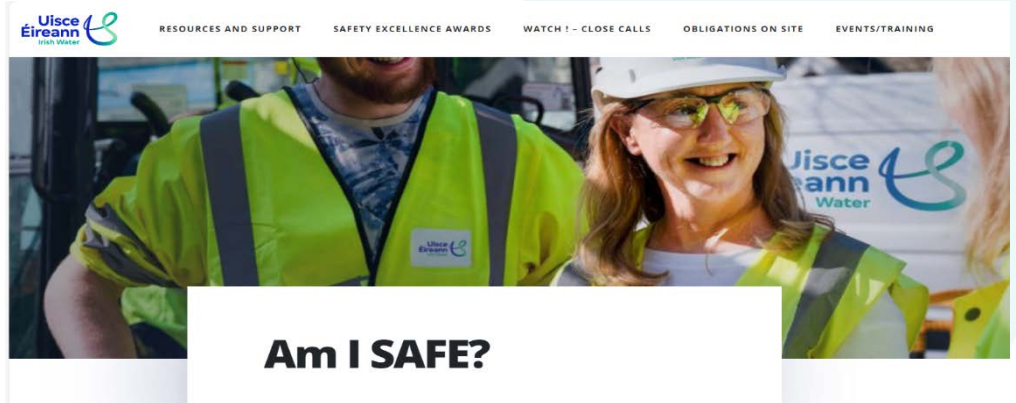
Welcome to the 18th edition of the Infrastructure Delivery Safety Newsletter.

I would like to thank everyone who supported us in the launch of our new Am I SAFE? website.

Across our industry regardless of where you work, we want everyone to get home safe from work each day - this message is at the heart of our Am I SAFE? Campaign. Nothing is so important that it cannot be done safely.

In this newsletter we are also recognising some of the events our Delivery Partners have organised recently.

Finally, nominations are opening soon for our H2 Safety Excellence Awards. We would love to see more frontline workers nominated for these awards, so please take the time to nominate a colleague through the Am I SAFE? website.



UÉ recently launched our new Am I Safe? website in August. The purpose of the website is to provide a collaborative platform where we can all share engaging health and safety information.

Check out the website through the QR code or link below to view conversation starters, good catch videos and much more.

Look for opportunities to use some of the information from the website in your own site safety conversations and team meetings.

Also, we would love to receive good catch videos from our sites! Simply email amisafe@water.ie if you have something to share.



www.water.ie/amisafe



Pipe Delivery Knowledge Share

UÉ held a pipe delivery knowledge share in September where our speakers Dave Murphy UÉ, Conor McHugh UÉ, and Kieran Neary Shareridge, discussed challenges faced on sites, good practices, areas of improvements and UÉ's new Pipe Delivery Golden Rule to ensure consistency on how this critical risk is managed on UÉ projects. It was a very informative discussion and would encourage all of our Delivery partners to attend and participate in these events where possible.





Engineering Service Providers Engagement

Engaging and collaborating to better deliver the Capital Investment Plan

Maria O'Dwyer, Infrastructure Delivery Director, welcomed Anne Marie Conibear, ACEI President, and over 80 attendees from 15 Engineering Services Providers, Uisce Éireann Infrastructure Delivery and Supply Chain to this very successful collaborative event. The focus of the day was to aim high as we work together to ensure continued excellence in design & delivery of safe assets and to balance increased performance in delivery while strengthening our culture of innovation, continuous improvement, and collaboration in pursuit of ever more efficient, sustainable and safe infrastructure delivery solutions. With information and focused feedback sessions on safety, which focused on hazard identification at design stage and the Hazop process, as well as other areas including planning, sustainability, design, programme delivery, commercial and contracts management. The feedback gathered at this event will inform future engagements on how we can work better together as we safely deliver quality, value-for-money, essential water services infrastructure, providing benefits for our customers and communities.



Frontline Supervision update

Following the introduction of the new supervision requirements in PR-029, the Frontline Supervision Working Group has continued to engage with the UÉ Supply Chain and our Delivery Partner Works on the potential impacts to ways of working from augmented supervision requirements.

The Frontline Supervision Working Group is developing a Works Supervisor Training Programme in collaboration with the National Construction Training Centre. Numerous collaborative sessions were held with our Delivery Partners to agree the learning objectives and course content for this bespoke, industry specific training programme. This programme aims to empower site supervisors to be safety leaders. Training materials and course content have been developed and it is planned to launch the training programme by year-end.

Frontline Supervision Working Group

Members: Hugh Kennedy, Brian Frehill, Lisa Garrett, Joe Carroll, Mark O'Duffy, Conor Reynolds, Paul Harney

Safety Excellence Awards H2 2024

Our Infrastructure Delivery Safety Excellence Awards - H2 2024 nominations will open in October.

This biannual recognition programme aims to recognise and reward individuals that go above and beyond to make sure safety is a priority, encouraging a positive and proactive culture-based safety approach to the safe delivery of infrastructure delivery projects. We seen a great response to these Awards for H1 2024, demonstrating all of the good work that is being done around the country. We received in excess of 70 nominations and would like to congratulate all of the nominees and thank the nominators who took the time to make these submissions. The standard of nominations continues to impress us and is a real testament to the work being done in promoting a strong Safety Culture. We encourage people to nominate again for H2.

You will be able to nominate through our Am I SAFE? website [here](#) once these open.

An email will be issued in the coming days to confirm this opening date.

Pressure Testing HiPo

During hydrostatic pressure testing of pipework, forks of a teleporter were laid onto the flange to act as a thrust block. This was not specified as per the approved method to test, nor is a teleporter designed to be used in such manner.

Please review your own procedures/RAMS for pressure testing and always ensure that works undertaken at your site are adequately supervised at all times and additional measures put in place for high risks tasks.

Please refer to section 6.5.32 within UÉ minimum Health and Safety requirements document PR029 which will have further detail on pressure testing activities.



Tipper Truck strikes Overhead Line

During a night operation a tipper truck, after leaving a yard, drove in the raised position and struck a number of cables causing damage. All works were ceased, and the area was made safe until ESB and Eir could attend. Although there were no Overhead cables at the temporary site, the PSCS has since implemented hard barriers at exits of yards to ensure tippers are being lowered before leaving.

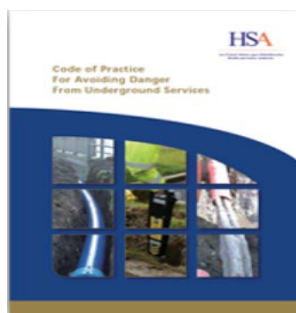


Strike of 38kv Cable

A contractor was excavating using an insulated hand shovel when the shovel struck an 38kv cable. Nobody was injured but there was localised outage of ESB service. Works were ceased and ESB attended the scene and carried out a repair at the location.

Ensure Code of practice and safe digging practices are always followed during excavation works.

Ensure all hand tools i.e.. spades/ crowbars are insulated for electrical services.



For more information on Safe digging Practices please refer to the Code of Practice for Avoiding Danger from Underground Services.

The Aim of this COP is to improve the level of safety with which excavation work, and other work involving underground service, is carried out.

[Code of Practice Link](#)

Disinfection Programme

Glanua held a Safety Demonstration on their Disinfection Programme to provide practical training and hands-on experience to team members, emphasising the importance of proper safety measures when working at elevated heights & confined spaces.



Emergency Preparedness

David Walsh Civil Engineering Ltd has carried out a series of emergency Rescue Drills from Cofferdams and installed Defibs on several of their sites with onsite training demonstrations on the use of the defib to heighten awareness. They have also instructed all employees to download the AED Locator app on their Smartphones where possible.



Networks Contractor Stand Down Events

Shareridge hosted a 2-day safety stand down of the theme 'Culture of Care and Openness' emphasising the importance of speaking up when employees feel something may not be right. David Mitchell and Lisa Garrett from UÉ were invited by Shareridge to be speakers at these events.



Farrans held a Soft Start return to work, to highlight Mental Health & Wellbeing, Driving for work and general site safety. Farrans brought together all their site teams and Engineers together to highlight and reinforce the Farrans CARES safety message. Their guest speakers were Louise McGeever from the RSA, Aine Kelly from the HSA, Brian Shanks from the Lighthouse Charity and Lisa Garrett from UÉ.

Ward and Burke's safety workforce day focused on some of their Critical Risks and their message was clear - Think Safety, Act Safely. Ward and Burke had 4 guest speakers on the day including Alan Morrissey UÉ. The day was not only about raising awareness on these critical risks but it's also about encouraging action. Ward and Burke management highlighted the importance of getting involved, stay informed and follow company procedures.



GMC's Safety Stand down day focused on construction safety. Guest speaker Matt Hazleton bravely shared his personal experience of a workplace accident. His story served as a powerful reminder of why safety protocols are critical.