



Welcome to the Wiser Group winter newsletter. In this issue, we look at the new ISO standards introduced and the EA's latest consultation on fire prevention plans. We hope you find our newsletter of interest.

We would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a Merry Christmas and a prosperous New Year and we look forward to working with you in 2016.

Russell and the Wiser team

EA proposes changes to the Fire Prevention Plan Guidance

Last month, the Environment Agency (EA) issued a consultation document containing proposed changes to Fire Prevention Plan (FPP) Guidance issued earlier this year.

In March 2015, the EA issued guidance on the storage of combustible waste at permitted sites. The Fire Prevention Plan (FPP) Guidance, which has faced ongoing criticism from the industry, requires applicable sites to undertake an assessment of fire risk at their sites and put in place measures to prevent, detect, suppress, mitigate and contain fires.

On 26th November, the EA issued its consultation document proposing amendment of pile sizes, a decrease in the separation distance required for WEEE and the addition of a secondary site plan identifying sensitive receptors. The proposal also seeks to clarify acceptable deviations from the minimum standards after only 4 of the 80 FPPs reviewed by the EA received approval. The consultation runs until 4th March 2016 with a full response to be published by April 2016.

Whether the guidance changes or not, it is important that those businesses which are permitted for waste management activities fully understand the impact (which could be very significant) on the layout and throughput of your sites.



Wiser Recycling expands facilities

2015 has seen **Wiser Recycling** expand our three approved authorised treatment facilities for waste electrical and electronic equipment following a sustained period of growth.



Smash Boom Bang machine being installed at St Ives

This year, we increased our lamp recycling capabilities with a new lamp recycling plant at our facility in Huddersfield, West Yorkshire and increased our TV processing operations at our facility in Hockwold, Norfolk, with the installation of a CRT (cathode ray tube) line. Most recently, we have installed a new Smash Boom Bang for smaller WEEE to help us separate the component parts for recycling.

Russell says: "Our business is growing fast and this recent investment gives us greater capacity to deal with TVs, lamps and small appliances at both a local and national level."

Featured case study: DFDS Seaways PLC

Wiser Environment helped DFDS Seaways PLC obtain their environmental permit for their docks at Immingham following the Environment Agency's (EA) change in requirements in relation to storage of refuse derived fuel (RDF) at a dockside.

The EA withdrew their Regulatory Position Statement on 30th April 2015 requiring all operators who wished to continue storing RDF at a dockside to submit an environmental permit application by this date to maintain storage operations. Wiser Environment successfully supported DFDS Seaways PLC through the application process with the EA and received the issued environmental permit last month.

Read the full case study and others at www.wiserenvironment.co.uk/case-studies.



WAMITAB training soars



The Milton Assessment Centre has seen year on year growth since Wiser Environment took control of the centre in 2013, with 2015 seeing an increase in registered learners and additions to the assessment team.

Looking to 2016 we hope to continue the growth trend and owe our success to an assessment process tailored to meet our clients' individual needs and a hard working assessment team.

Along with accepting new learners, we also provide refresher training to those already holding competence certificates that are undertaking continuing competence tests.

If your continuing competence certificate is up for review, please contact our centre coordinator Georgina Leach on 01480 462 232 for assistance.

New 2015 ISO standards focus on performance and outcomes

In September 2015, new versions of the most popular international standards for quality and environmental management systems were published. ISO 9001:2015 and ISO14001:2015 replace previous editions and registered companies will have up to three years to migrate certificates to the new version.

Less prescriptive than their predecessors, ISO say the new versions focus instead on performance and outcomes "by combining the process approach with risk-based thinking, and employing the Plan-Do-Check-Act cycle at all levels in the organisation". The 2015 versions have been designed to be easily integrated with other management systems.

For assistance in migrating your existing certificates, please contact Joana on 01480 462 232.

For more information about the new systems, visit our website.

Early submission of deployment applications



Wiser is advising clients to get their deployment applications in early in the New Year to enable them to start spreading at the earliest opportunity following the end of the closed period.

If you require assistance with your deployment application, contact us on 01480 462 232 and quote this article to receive your early bird discount.