



Spring 2006

Leading the way...

COMPULSORY TRAINING FROM 2009

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ARE YOU AWARE that there are major changes coming into force in the next few years relating to Driver LGV licensing and compulsory training? Although the format the so-called 'Driver Certificate of Professional Competence' has yet to be finalised, it looks very likely that, from September 2009, anyone wanting to obtain an LGV licence will have to take a more in-depth theory test, plus a longer practical test. At the same time the age for obtaining an LGV licence will drop from 21 to 18 years. This change is likely to lead to a significant increase in the number of people sitting tests prior to the 2009 deadline.

In addition, although all existing drivers who hold an LGV Class C or C&E licence on 10 September 2009 will obtain this CPC by 'grandfather rights' there will be a new requirement for them to complete ongoing compulsory training of five days' duration over a period of five years. The required content of this 'periodic training' is not laid down, and it will merely have to be relevant to the driver's work. However, all such training will have to be approved to count towards the five day total.

Again this is likely to result in a rush of demand for periodic training around 2013.

The changes are designed to make driving commercial vehicles more attractive to school leavers by increasing its perception as a professional career. However, in practice these changes are likely to have a knock-on effect on the number of drivers available to the industry and the rates of pay that they can command.



Don't wait for the accident to happen!

OBSTRUCTIVE SLEEP APNOEA (OSA) is believed to affect 3.5 per cent of all males aged 35 to 65 in the UK and 1.5 per cent of females – making it the country's most prevalent sleep disorder – but there are indications that rates could be higher still among truck drivers. The problem is that it can lead to loss of concentration and excessive sleepiness whilst driving – with potentially fatal consequences. There will be more information in our next newsletter, but if you would like to know more now about how to combat this disorder please contact Ruth Waring on **01926 430362**.

Introducing... Chris Metcalfe

COURTESY OF THE NORTHWICH GUARDIAN



CHRIS METCALFE JOINED LABYRINTH in 2005 and is our resident railfreight expert. Based near Northwich in Cheshire, he also has many years' experience in road freight and regularly undertakes consultancy work in both these areas. So if you would like to get some of your freight from road to rail, but don't know where to start, please get in touch and we'll get Chris and his contacts on the case!

TRAINING

Part-funded training for women in logistics

LABYRINTH HAS RECENTLY teamed up with Quetal, a high-quality provider of training for the logistics industry, based at Kineton in Warwickshire. They have secured funding from the European Social Fund and are currently working in conjunction with Skills for Logistics to get more women trained up in operational skills.

For the next few months, a grant is available from the Fund to subsidise logistics training for women. Worth up to £250 per woman and typically covering up to 50 per cent of the cost of a course, the grant covers employees based in England (with a few exceptions). The types of training it covers are Lift Truck, Large Goods Vehicle Licences, ADR (hazardous

goods), HIAB and the Certificate of Professional Competence in Road Haulage. Other types of training for managers or administrative staff may be available on request. The training must be carried out by a network of approved suppliers appointed by Quetal and payment is also dependent on the submission of European Social Fund-compliant paperwork.

Please contact Ruth Waring for more information on **01926 430362** or ruthwaring@labyrintholutions.co.uk.

CALLING ALL WOMEN IN LOGISTICS!

PLEASE COMPLETE THE **RESEARCHING THE GENDER DIVIDE 2006** QUESTIONNAIRE FOR OUR CLIENT NORTEC BY GOING TO [HTTP://GENDERSURVEY.NORTECTRaining.COM](http://gendersurvey.nortectraining.com).

Control of Noise at Work Regulations come into force

FROM 6 APRIL 2005 the new Noise at Work Regulations become law. Both current upper and lower action levels have been reduced by five decibels, which, due to the logarithmic scale used, represents a significant reduction in the actual level of noise. If you were just below the action levels in the past, it's almost certain that you will now need to put measures in place. Please contact Ruth Waring at Labyrinth if you would like more information.



WHATEVER YOU NEED...

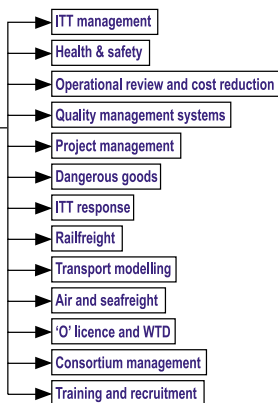
everything you ever wanted to know about

transport consultancy

without the strategic gobbledegook

01926 430362

consultancy@labyrintholutions.co.uk
www.labyrintholutions.co.uk



LET LABYRINTH LEAD YOU THROUGH THE MAZE

Need a challenge? Try our quiz!

I AM PLEASED TO REPORT that Labyrinth has recently revamped its website, and we now have a special area for registered users where you can get free downloads, including transport cost healthchecks and our health and safety gap analysis.

There's also a transport quiz for you to test your knowledge of logistics. Everyone who registers on the website will be sent a great Labyrinth puzzle ruler (pictured above) while stocks last.

www.labyrintholutions.co.uk ■ **01926 430362**