

## BEST PRACTICE

LOCATION:	Construction/delivery site	ARTICLE YEAR:	2011
ACTIVITY:	Occupational Health	COMPANY:	Hanson UK
SUB ACTIVITY:	Vibration	COMPANY LOCATION:	National Initiative
BEST PRACTICE No:	BP793	COMPANY TEL:	01628 774100
COUNTRY OF ORIGIN:	United Kingdom		

### TITLE

**Safety measures for use of vibrating hand tools**

### ARTICLE

#### Description

Hanson introduced a number of measures to ensure the safe use of vibrating hand tools in its contracting division and to eliminate hand arm vibration syndrome (HAVS). All vibrating tools and their outputs were surveyed. Older tools were replaced, as were tools with high magnitude exposure levels. New tools were purchased which minimised exposure to HAV. A chart was designed which shows accurate "real life" HAV exposure levels. Tools are now re-tested regularly and replaced if their damping characteristics are degraded. Further monitoring of HAV exposure is being carried out using a HAVIMETER.

#### Other measures include using

- Carriage carts for the petrol Stihl type saws
- JCB2CX Streetmasters fitted with hydraulic hammers and rear mounted backhoe hammers
- Compactor plates fitted with low vibration handles

#### Benefits

- Formulation of a long term action plan engaged the workforce
- Validated by the HSE as an approved methodology
- Significant reduction in exposure of operatives to high magnitude tooling
- Accurate measurement of HAV exposure using the HAVIMETER and the points calculator system

### ARTICLE IMAGES

