JIB SURVEY OF ACCIDENTS AT WORK 2016

Published April 2017
Executive Summary

The results of the 2016 survey show that the electrical contracting industry continues to improve its accident rate, continuing a trend that began in 2001.

Significantly, there were no fatalities reported during 2016. In terms of the rate of reportable accidents, there was a further improvement in the Accident Incidence Rate (AIR) for companies employing ‘over 31 operatives’ (JIB’s main measure for reporting industry-wide accident rates since 2001). The 36 RIDDOR-reportable accidents in 2016 were a numerical improvement on the 41 accidents recorded in 2015.

This year’s statistics are good news for our industry and employers and employees should be congratulated on the remarkable improvement in the industry statistics since 2001, as shown in the chart on page 2 (the 2016 AIR was only 14% of that in 2001).

Finally, I would like to thank Rob Gibbs (JIB National Officer), Chris Rheinberg (JIB Marketing Consultant), Paul Reeve (ECA Director of Business and External Affairs) and Susan Murray (National Health and Safety Adviser for Unite the Union) for their input into the design and delivery of the 2016 survey.

Steve Brawley
Chief Executive

April 2017
1.0 Introduction
1.1 The statistics shown in this Report cover the calendar year 2016 (1 January to 31 December).
1.2 The Survey and Report is an important part in the reduction of accidents in our Industry. Both the ECA and Unite the Union continue to use the data to identify key areas where more action is required to help reduce the number of accidents and to make the industry safer and more productive.
1.3 Our website contains previous Reports and Employee Bulletins, which are available for download by visiting: www.jib.org.uk/jib-accident-survey

2.0 Report Coverage
2.1 Responses to the 2016 Survey were received from 209 companies employing 14,912 operatives and apprentices. In all, the Survey was sent to 596 companies, giving an overall response rate of 35%.
2.2 Of these respondents, 98 companies employed 31 or more operatives and apprentices, representing a response of 83% from JIB members in that category*. A further 111 companies employed 30 or less operatives and apprentices.

*The JIB values all responses to the annual Survey. We present responses from companies with 31 or more operatives as these provide more statistical significance and allow the assessment of trends in accident numbers and causation since 2001. The number of operatives and apprentices employed by the 98 larger companies above was 13,864.

3.0 Fatal Accidents
3.1 Significantly, no fatalities were recorded by respondents in the 2016 Survey.

4.0 Total Accident Statistics
4.1 The total number of RIDDOR-reportable accidents in all companies who responded to the 2016 Survey was 36 (41 in 2015), representing a total reportable accident incidence rate of 241** (263 in 2015). This represents an improvement on the previous year, continuing the downward trend in the accident rate.
4.2 **The Accident Incidence Rate (AIR) for a given category of accident is calculated by multiplying the number of reportable accidents in a given category by 100,000, and dividing the number of operatives covered in the Survey.

5.0 Companies employing 31 or more operatives
5.1 The 2016 AIR for all RIDDOR-reportable accidents covering JIB companies employing 31 or more operatives was: 216.38/100,000 (241.7 in 2015).

Once again, this shows an improvement on the previous year, as part of an ongoing downward trend in the accident rate, since 2001. However, the rate of improvement has slowed in the last four years.
5.2 The Chart below shows the significant longer-term decrease in AIR over the period 2001-2016 (companies with over 31 operatives).
5.3 The 2016 AIR for Non-Fatal Specified Injury accidents for companies employing 31 or more operatives was: 93.76/100,000 (92.4 in 2015).

This is a slight increase on the previous year. The AIR for Non-Fatal Specified Injury accidents spiked in 2014 after the AIR for 2013 (69.1). However, the comparison of yearly statistics is also affected by the relatively small number of Specified accidents returned in recent years.

5.4 The AIR for “Over 7 Day Accidents” covering companies employing 31 or more operatives was: 122.61/100,000 (149.2 in 2015).

This continues the trend for modest improvement year on year. However, figures in this category (over seven days) have only been collected in recent years (previously they would have been over three days).

5.5 The causes of injuries in companies directly employing 31+ operatives between 1 January to 31 December 2014 – 2016 were:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Causes of Injuries</th>
<th>Non-Fatal Specified Injury</th>
<th>&quot;Over 7 Day&quot;</th>
<th>Totals (from the two columns to left)*</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Falls of persons</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.1 From heights (inc low height)</td>
<td>6 2 1</td>
<td>2 5 4</td>
<td>8 7 5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.2 Slips, trips on the same level</td>
<td>1 6 5</td>
<td>5 5 5</td>
<td>6 11 10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Falls of objects</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.1 Head injury</td>
<td>- - -</td>
<td>- - -</td>
<td>- - -</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.2 Other parts of the body</td>
<td>- - -</td>
<td>1 1 2</td>
<td>1 1 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.3 Trapped by something collapsing or overturning</td>
<td>- - -</td>
<td>- - -</td>
<td>- - -</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Handling</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.1 Injured while handling, lifting or carrying</td>
<td>- 5 2</td>
<td>3 2 4</td>
<td>3 7 6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Stepping on or striking against</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.1 Stepping on nail or other objects</td>
<td>1 1 -</td>
<td>- - -</td>
<td>1 1 -</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.2 Injured by scaffolding</td>
<td>- 1 -</td>
<td>- - -</td>
<td>- 1 -</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.3 Injured by other stationary objects</td>
<td>2 - 2</td>
<td>- - 1</td>
<td>2 - 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Hand tools</td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.1 Non-power</td>
<td>- - -</td>
<td>- - -</td>
<td>- - -</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.2 Electrically operated</td>
<td>1 - 3</td>
<td>- 2 1</td>
<td>1 2 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.3 Other hand tools</td>
<td>- - -</td>
<td>1 - -</td>
<td>1 - -</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. Machinery</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.1 Contact with moving machinery or material being machined</td>
<td>- - -</td>
<td>3 - -</td>
<td>3 - -</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. Lifting equipment</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7.1 Lifts, hoists, cranes etc/incidents</td>
<td>- - -</td>
<td>- - -</td>
<td>- - -</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8. Eyes</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8.1 Foreign bodies, wounds, flash burns etc</td>
<td>- - -</td>
<td>- - -</td>
<td>- - -</td>
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<tr>
<td>9. Electricity</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9.1 Electric Shock</td>
<td>1 - 1</td>
<td>1 3 3</td>
<td>2 3 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10. Other Accidents</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11. Reportable dangerous occurrences</td>
<td>4 2 -</td>
<td>- - -</td>
<td>- - -</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12. Reportable diseases</td>
<td>- 2 -</td>
<td>- - -</td>
<td>- - -</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
There was a slight increase in falls from heights, with 8 accidents recorded in 2016 compared to 7 in 2015. Slips and trips on the same level decreased from 11 in 2015 to 6 in 2016.

According to HSE Statistics\(^1\), slips and trips were the most common cause of specified injuries to employees across construction, with falls from heights the next most common.

\(^1\) www.hse.gov.uk/statistics

### 6.0 Companies employing 30 or less operatives

**6.1** The AIR for all reportable accidents covering companies employing 30 or less operatives in 2016 was: **572.5** (434.2 in 2015)

**6.2** The AIR for Non-Fatal Specified Injury accidents covering companies employing 30 or less operatives in 2016 was: **95.41** (124.1 in 2015)

**6.3** The AIR for Over 7 Day Accidents covering companies employing 30 or less operatives was: **477.1** (310.1 in 2015).

### 6.4 The causes of injuries in companies directly employing 30 or less operatives from 1 January – 31 December 2014 – 2016 was:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Non-Fatal Specified Injury</th>
<th>Over 7 Day</th>
<th>Totals*</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Falls of persons</td>
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<td>-</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Note:** Low numbers of reported accidents and the relatively low sample size make conclusions for this category more difficult than for the over 30 employee category.
7.0 Acknowledgements

We are very grateful to the following companies who took part in this Survey.

A E Horder (Contracting) Limited
Actemium UK Ltd
AF Switchgear Ltd
Alan Benfield Ltd
Albert Innes Ltd
Alfa Electric Ltd
Allenby & Stokell Ltd
Amdon Electrical Ltd
Astra Electrical Contractors Limited
B E R Electrical Ltd
B Ward Electrical Contractors Limited
Bardo Electrical Ltd
Bennett & Dean
BHM Electrical Services Ltd
Bif Ling Industrial Automation Services Limited
BL Electrical Contractors Ltd
Booker and Best Ltd
Boultier Group
Bower Fuller
Bowling Garrard Electrical Limited
Braid Electrical Services Ltd
Bridge Electrical Contractors Limited
Buchanan & Curwen (Leatherhead) Ltd
C & S Electrical
C T Jackson Ltd
Cannon Electrical Contractors Limited
Carmel Group Limited
Cass Electric
CBL Cable Contractors Ltd
CGI’s Limited
Chris Bowker Limited
City Electrical Installations (Cobridge) Ltd
Creatside Ltd
Crosby Electrical Services Ltd
CS Electrical (Sheffield) Limited
CSTS Limited
Daletech
Derry Building Services
DES Electrical Contractors UK Ltd
Desmond Robinson & Co (Electrical)
DNA Technical Services
Dougal & Raliton Ltd
E Taylor & Son
E7 Building Services
Eagle Electrics Ltd
Eclectional Electrical Services Ltd
Electrac Ltd
Electrical and Mechanical Services (UK) Ltd
Emico Ltd
Eric Charlesworth Ltd
Eric Johnson of Northwich Ltd
Essex Services Group plc
ETA Control Systems
ETTS
Fairburns Group Ltd
Fred’s Lamb Limited
Freeman and Company
G Collier & Sons Ltd
GCL Ltd
Geoffrey Robinson
Giffen Group Limited
Gilbert & Stamper Ltd
Gilks (Nantwich) Ltd
Goodwin & Price Ltd
Greenhills Electrical Ltd
Groestar Limited
GROS Electrical Services Ltd
GW & E Wright Ltd
H S Harbon & Sons Ltd
Hamilton Cole
Hannington Gilbert & Co Ltd
Hanover
Henry Jubb
Hilton Cannon Electrical Ltd
HVAC Electrical Services Ltd
I J Cannings & Son Ltd
ICS Integrated Cable Services Ltd
IES Instrumentation Electrical Services Ltd
Imtech Inviron Limited
Imtech North
Interface Contracts Ltd
Interserve Engineering Services Ltd
J A Richardson (Electrical) Ltd
J Brand
J P Carty (Electrical Contractors) Ltd
Jascom Electrical Contractors Limited
JEB Contractors Ltd
Jim Redfern Associates Ltd
JM Walden Ltd
John Unwin EC Ltd
Knight Robie Ltd
Lawmax Electrical Contractors Ltd
Lockwoods Electrical Services Ltd
Lorne Stewart Group
Lorne Stewart plc
Lowe and Olver Ltd
M A Broughton Electrical Ltd
Maval Electrical and Mechanical Engineering Co Ltd
MCW Electrical Services Ltd
Meridian Electrical (Eastern) Ltd
Metropolitan Electrical Services Ltd
MGR Contracting Ltd
M J Quinn Integrated Services Ltd
Multi Building Services Power Installations Ltd
Murphy Design Ltd
MW Cripwell CBS Ltd
N Trimm Electrical Services Ltd
NG Bailey
NNC Electrical Ltd
Norstead
Novacray Ltd
Oakray Ltd
Optech Electrical
Owen and Palmer Ltd
P A Collacott and Company
P A Collacott and Company
Panks Engineers
Park Gate
Park Gate & Co Ltd
Paul Earl Limited
Peter Newson Ltd
Phae Electrical.co.uk
Phoenix ME
Pitts Wilson Limited
PJG Electrical Ltd
Playfords
Playfords Limited
PPS Electrical
PR Electrical Installations Ltd
PR Power Installations Ltd
QC Electrical Ltd
Quarztect Ltd
Quentrall Services Ltd
R B Emerson Ltd
R Forrest Ltd
R K Electrical (Bradford) Ltd
Richard Irvin Energy Solutions
Robinson and Lawlor
Roc Electrical Ltd
Roger Davey Electrical Ltd
Rowelec
Sci昂 Technical
SES (Engineering Services)
SGD Security Ltd
Sovereign Electrical Services Ltd
Spie
SPL Installations Ltd
Steve Rooke Ltd
Stromtechs
T Clarke
T A Ronan
Thameside Electrical Ltd
The Rosebery Group
Tyrell and Brown Norfolk Ltd
Uniway Installations Ltd
V J Howe Electrical Ltd
Vallistic Limited
Vaughan Engineering Services Ltd
Vic Coupland Ltd
W Wright Electrical & Mechanical
W Portsmouth & Co Ltd
Walker Bros Electrical Engineers Ltd
Walker Electrical Services (UK) Ltd
Walter J Parsons (Electrical Engineers) Ltd
Wannells Electrotechnical Systems Ltd
Waunchope and Wright Ltd
West and West Limited
Wetherby Electrical Contractors Ltd
Wheatley M&E Services Limited
Whitehead Building Services Ltd
Whitaker Bros Limited
Wingate Electrical
WR Cole Electrical Ltd
WT Jenkins
WT Parker Ltd