

## Safety Corner

### What is CMIOSH?

Occupational safety and health (OSH) is a cross-disciplinary area concerned with protecting the safety, health and welfare of people engaged in work or employment. It also protects employers, customers, suppliers, and members of the public who may experience impacts from the workplace environment.

Safety is everyone's business. In an organisation, engineers and safety personnel should work hand in hand to ensure a safe and healthy working environment. Offering expert advice from competent safety and health practitioners is an essential component in defining the safety and health policies at workplaces. A professional status, like chartered engineer, will help enhancing a standard of excellence in OSH.

In UK, Chartered status is recognized as shorthand for "best in class" and the highest professional standards. The only chartered OSH institution is the Institution of Occupational Safety and Health (IOSH), which is Europe's leading independent and not-for-profit NGO for health and safety professionals. Aiming to regulate and steer the profession, maintaining standards and providing impartial, authoritative guidance on health and safety issues, IOSH also actively explores ways in which it can more directly influence European directives and guidance, and works with committees of national and international standards-making bodies. In 1999, IOSH established a Hong Kong Branch, which has become the largest OSH institution in Hong Kong with more than 700 local members.

To become Chartered Members of IOSH (CMIOSH), persons have to obtain a qualification in OSH or a cognate discipline which meets the Institution's technical criteria. CMIOSH must continue to demonstrate that they are maintaining their competence through a mandatory programme of CPD.

To date, the titles, "CMIOSH" and "Chartered Safety and Health Practitioner," represent a tangible and readily understood standard of excellence in OSH and mark out safety and health practitioners at the top of their profession. For more information, you may visit <http://www.iosh.co.uk/> and <http://www.ioshhongkong.com/>.

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