



Occupational Health & Safety Authority

Media Release

Lm 2,500 in fines for contravention of Occupational Health and Safety legislation

02.06.05

In separate cases, 11 companies were fined a total of Lm 2,000 amongst them by the Criminal Court of Malta for failing to send in the required lifts certification to OHSA every six months, as stipulated by law, and thus contravened the 1964 regulations (Legal Notice 47 of 1964 – Factories Hoists and Lifts Regulations).

The OHSA would like to remind all employers who have lifts permanently installed intended to carry workers and / or loads are obliged by law to ensure that such lifts are inspected by a competent person who is generally defined as one having a warrant to practice as an engineer in line with the criteria laid down by the Board of Engineers. Employers must also ensure that they take action upon the recommendations of the inspection and to send in the inspection certificate to OHSA within 28 days from the date of the test. This procedure has to be undertaken every six months.

In a separate case, a person was fined Lm500 for not ensuring the occupational health and safety of all persons that could be affected during works being carried out for him. This person was also found guilty of not obeying orders issued by officers from the OHSA. These orders required the individual to carry out a risk assessment of all work activities, to appoint a first aider and to provide a copy of an emergency plan applicable in case of an accident, amongst others.

The OHSA has another 23 cases *sub judice* and another 35 where criminal proceedings will commence shortly. These vary from construction cases to accidents and lack of personal protective equipment (PPE).

The Court was presided over by Magistrate Dr A.J. Vella while the prosecution was led by Mr David Saliba from OHSA.