

## **People Need Training to Work Safely and Effectively**

Whether its driving a forklift, mending a roof or operating an expensive CNC milling machine, its common sense that people need to know what they are doing if they are going to work effectively and safely. 'Safely includes avoiding accidents to themselves or others who may be affected, and it also includes avoiding harm from workplace health hazards such as dust, noise and fume. Whatever their role, people can only be considered safe if they have been warned about the hazards the work may create and, even more importantly, given the knowledge and skills to avoid those hazards. There are lots of ways of doing this but many of them will involve training.

## **Training Helps Us Meet Legal Requirements**

All UK employers have a legal obligation to ensure their employees' health, safety and welfare. In England, Scotland and Wales, it's under s.2 of the Health and Safety at Work Act 1974, while in Northern Ireland, its article 4 of the Health and Safety at Work (Northern Ireland) Order 1978. Either way though, the duty is clear: employers must provide whatever information, instruction, training and supervision are needed to ensure health and safety. Equally legally binding are the training requirements that appear in specific regulations. Just three are those dealing with personal protective equipment, hazardous materials and work at height.