

Strategy 2022 – 2025

Introduction

SIMPLC is an initiative to help to improve the health and safety performance of the plastics and composites manufacturing industries through a partnership of trade associations, employers, trade unions, equipment manufacturers, training organisations and HSE.

The partners involved are:

- British Plastics Federation
- City of Wolverhampton College - Polymer Training and Innovation Centre
- Composites UK (Committee Chair)
- Glass and Glazing Federation
- GMB
- Health and Safety Executive
- Polymer Machinery Manufacturers and Distributors Association
- Unite

The SIMPLC partners work together to:

- Identify, develop, provide and share ideas, decisions, initiatives, advice, information, guidance and support that will help prevent death, ill health and injury to those that work - and those that are affected by work activities - in the plastics and composites industries.
- Identify and raise concerns; and consult on and tackle issues as they arise, including new health and safety challenges.

More information about SIMPLC and health and safety in plastics and composites manufacture can be found at [Health and safety in the plastics industry](#).

SIMPLC Strategy 2022-2025

This strategy:

- Recognises and builds upon work started under previous SIMPL strategies and supports the commitment of the plastics and composites manufacturing industries to the principles set out in HSE's strategy [Helping Great Britain work well](#), also HSE's [Health priority plans](#), its [Work Right campaign](#) and its [sector plan for health and safety in manufacturing](#).
- Aims to help the plastics and composites manufacturing industries translate current and previous SIMPL strategic objectives into relevant, realistic and achievable health and safety action plans, i.e.:
 - reduction in ill health and accidents
 - health and safety basics
 - health and safety management and leadership
 - competence

Acting together Promoting broader ownership of health and safety in Great Britain **Tackling ill health** Highlighting and tackling the costs of work-related ill health **Sharing our success** Promoting the benefits of Great Britain's world-class health and safety system **Managing risk well** Simplifying risk management and helping business to grow **Keeping pace with change** Anticipating and tackling new health and safety challenges **Supporting small employers** Giving SMEs simple advice so that they know what they have to do

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Ill health

Each trade association will:

- Put together an action plan that they will work with their members to deliver. This will include signposting to available resources, online tools and information.

Participating companies, with the help of their trade association, will:

- Target and put in place control measures where relevant to minimise workers' exposure to the following:
 - musculoskeletal disorders (MSDs)
 - exposure to agents potentially causing occupational lung disease, e.g. plastic/resin fume and process dust, but equally all respiratory irritants and sensitisers
 - dermatitis
 - noise
 - hand-arm vibration

Injuries

Each trade association will:

- Put together an action plan that they will work with their members to deliver. This will include signposting to available resources, online tools and information.

Participating companies, with the help of their trade association, will

- Target and put in place control measures to minimise workers' exposure to, at least, the following:
 - hand knife injuries
 - slips and trips
 - risk of injury related to machinery interventions

Mental health

Each trade association will:

- Put together an action plan that they will work with their members to deliver. This will include signposting to available resources, online tools and information.

Participating companies, with the help of their trade association, will

- Put in place measures to recognise and support [work-related stress](#) and mental health issues in the work place

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