



SHEQ UPDATE

Quarter 3 Update • OCTOBER 2025

KEY SUPPLY CHAIN

Welcome to GEDA's 2025 Q3 SHEQ update.

Within the Q3 edition we would like to highlight a few key events that have taken place recently for GEDA.

Read our update to find out what Team GEDA have been up to, and other industry news! Please also circulate this 'SHEQ Update' amongst your teams to keep them informed.

WHAT WE'LL COVER

- RoSPA Award
- Lighthouse Event
- Training Days
- Silica Dust
- SHEQ Team Qualifications
- Health Checks
- GRASP
- CCS Resources
- Volunteering



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GEDA has received a prestigious Gold RoSPA Award, highlighting its commitment to health and safety excellence.

The award, presented in the Industry Sector category, recognises GEDA's dedication to protecting its staff, subcontractors, and the communities in which it operates.

Now in its 69th year, the RoSPA Health and Safety Awards attract nearly 2,000 entries annually from more than 50 countries, covering over seven million employees. As the world's largest occupational health and safety awards programme, RoSPA honours organisations and individuals who set the highest standards in accident prevention.

Chris Stinson, SHEQ Director said: *"Receiving the Gold RoSPA Award is a proud reflection of the strong health and safety culture we strive to embed throughout GEDA. This recognition from RoSPA highlights our unwavering commitment to maintaining the highest standards across all aspects of our operations. A heartfelt thank you goes to everyone across the organisation for their daily contributions, and especially to the teams directly involved in achieving this prestigious award."*

GEDA are proud sponsors of the Lighthouse Construction Industry Charity!

This week, we welcomed The Lighthouse Charity team to our Dungannon WwTW site, where they delivered an inspiring session on mental health and wellbeing with their Make It Visible tour bus.

We were joined for the event by subcontractors, project partners Water Solutions Ireland Ltd, McAdam Design Ltd, and client Northern Ireland Water.

Together we heard powerful stories, learned about the fantastic support services The Lighthouse Charity provide, and opened up important conversations around mental health within the construction industry.

For more information and available resources:

https://lnkd.in/gdSn_mi

■ Text HARDHAT to (UK) 85258 (ROI) 50808

☎ Call (UK) 0345 605 1956 (ROI) 1800 939 122

GEDA Autumn Training Days

We recently hosted our Autumn Training Days at Ulster Rugby Stadium and the Crowne Plaza (East Midlands Airport), bringing together colleagues from our Build Ireland, Build GB, and Civils teams.

The event featured engaging sessions on Quantity Surveying, Social Value, Silica Dust, Safe Digging, Trailer Towing Awareness, Spillage Management, Temporary Works, and Effective Communication.

A huge thank you to all teams for their enthusiasm and insights, and to our guest speakers: Anne Logan (Sundstrom), Adrian Eccles (Trollex), Terry Fields (egeplast), and Denver Henderson (CCO - The Collaboration Company) for their valuable contributions.

We hope everyone left inspired with practical takeaways to support continued growth, collaboration, and best practice across GEDA.



Respiratory Silica Crystalline (RSC) is a naturally occurring mineral found in varying amounts in most rock, sand and clay.

Material	Percentage of silica
Concrete	25-70% (or more)
Mortar	25% - 70%
Brick	15%-30%
Sandstone/ gritstone	Above 70%
Shale	40% - 60%
China stone	Up to 50%
Granite	20% - 45% (typically 30%)
Slate	20% - 40%
Ironstone	Up to 15%
Basalt	Up to 5%
Limestone, chalk	Up to 5% (typically less than 2%)
Marble	Up to 5%

Beard Length / Interference Level

Beard Length / Interference Level	Estimated Seal Compromise
Clean-shaven (daily)	0% Gbest/EP
Stubble (1-3 days)	10-30% leakage risk
Short beard (few mm)	30-60% leakage risk
Full beard	Up to 100% seal failure

Always remember: Don't let your beard block the seal!

Silica Dust
Spot the Dust Stop the Risk!
If you can't see it, it could be worse!

Managing Silica Dust

- Assess the Risks**
 - High Risk Tasks:** The more energy involved the bigger the risk. High energy tools such as cut-off saws, grinders and grit blasters produce a lot of dust in a short period of time.
 - Factors:** Task energy, work area, duration and frequency.
- Control the Risks**
 - Eliminate or Reduce Dust:** Use the right size of materials, use less powerful tools & consider alternative methods.
 - Control Dust in the Air:** Through water suppression, use of Local Exhaust Ventilation (LEV) Systems.
 - Respiratory Protective Equipment (RPE):** Ensure all RPE (FFP3) is face fitted to the individual, masks worn correctly and users are clean shaven. Air masks must be maintained well.
- Training and Review**
 - Train workers:** On dust risks, control measures & equipment maintenance & emergency procedures.
 - Review Controls:** Regular checks & maintain controls, involve workers and conduct health surveillance.

Need additional information or help?
Contact a member of the SHEQ department

GB: <https://www.hse.gov.uk/pubns/c636.pdf>
NI: <https://www.hse.gov.uk/topics/workplace-health/>
ROI: https://www.hsa.ie/en/your_industry/chemicals/registration/enforcement/the_chemicals_act/

New Silica Dust Leaflet

At GEDA, we continue to emphasise the serious risks associated with silica dust. Building on our company-wide communications and training initiatives, the SHEQ team has now created a new leaflet to further promote awareness, which is being distributed across all sites.

SHEQ Team Recent Qualifications

Two of our H&S Officers recently completed Portable Appliance Testing (PAT) training, meaning all future testing will now be carried out on GEDA sites.

The SHEQ team also achieved the NEBOSH Accident Investigation qualification—well done to everyone for your continued commitment to professional development!

Several team members also took the opportunity to get together recently to celebrate and catch up.



World Heart Day / Health Checks

To mark World Heart Day, our head office team have been taking part in health checks with Northern Ireland Chest Heart and Stroke, with over 80% of available appointments being availed of!

Throughout the course of the year we run voluntary health checks across our offices and sites, providing the opportunity for staff to monitor their personal health and wellbeing.

Screenings covered:

- ♥ Cholesterol
- ♥ HbA1c (blood sugar)
- ♥ BMI & blood pressure
- ♥ Body composition
- ♥ Personalised reports + tips

A great reminder to look after our hearts.

Huge thank you to Northern Ireland Chest Heart and Stroke for undertaking these vital health surveillance sessions.



GEDA Win CEF's Social Housing Project of the Year Award!

GEDA's Passiv Haus scheme at Ballysillan, Belfast for client NIHE won Social Housing Project of the Year. Congratulations to the entire team!



Green Accelerator Skills (GRASP) Programme

There are fully funded courses specifically designed to support the construction industry in meeting the growing demand for green expertise and aligning with Net Zero targets. Training is offered online and onsite depending on the course:

<https://www.src.ac.uk/courses/grasp-project>

Training areas include (but are not limited to):

- Sustainable construction practices
- Renewable energy integration
- Retrofitting and energy efficiency
- Low-carbon building materials
- Environmental management systems

Why?

- Future-Proof Your Skills – Stay relevant in a green economy.
- Enhance Competitiveness – Ensure your company meets regulatory and client expectations.
- Access Industry-Standard Training – Learn from leading educational institutions.
- Contribute to Climate Goals – Be part of the solution to environmental challenge.



Considerate Constructors Scheme Training Resources

The Best Practice hub is a great resource for informative courses such as carbon reduction and care for the environment. To access the course material please register with your email by clicking these links



» [E-learning Best Practice Hub](#)



» [Carbon Reduction Best Practice Hub](#)

Volunteering

As part of GEDA's commitment to delivering social value on its schemes, our teams have been taking part in meaningful volunteering opportunities to give back to the communities in which we work.

Most recently, the High Tor team supported Mount St Bernard Abbey Monastery, located beside our High Tor site, by restoring an overgrown pond that could no longer be used by the monks. The work involved strimming back dense vegetation and re-digging the pond to bring it back to life. In total, the team dedicated 66 hours on-site, equating to an impressive eight full volunteering days.

