

► Safety in Licensed Premises No. 2

More than
4,000
accidents
EVERY YEAR!

(CSO Hospitality Stats)

Cellar Safety – Keg Handling

Taking the SMART steps to reduce the risk of joint or back injury from the manual handling of kegs.

What and Where: Full kegs of beer weigh about 62kgs, which is far too heavy for one person to lift. If kegs have to be stacked two high, then they are too heavy even for a two person lift

When: Each time a keg is handled, from delivery location to storage area, tapping-up and finally removal of empty kegs

Who's at risk: Bar owners, bar staff and brewery personnel

How: An example of best practice in managing keg movement and storage arrangements within a premise would be that of Michael Marshall of Ryan's Bar in Horseleap, Co. Westmeath. First, Michael identified the manual handling risk to his staff and delivery drivers. To reduce the need to manually handle kegs, Michael sourced both a keg trolley for movement of 50L & 30L kegs and a keg lifter for stacking. He also uses a plastic disc that allows kegs to be stacked two high, with no risk of movement. He then provided training for all his staff in their correct use

Result: Use of the keg trolley avoids the need to manually carry or lift kegs and so reduces the risk of injuries. Use of the keg lifter means one member of staff can safely stack and unstack full and empty kegs. Michael also recognised the need to make sure they are both maintained in good condition and that the keg lifter is examined by a competent person every 12 months. He keeps a log book of all servicing and the results of all examinations



Michael Marshall - Ryan's Bar

Note:

- Never stack kegs more than two high
- Make sure there is enough space and clear routes for using any lifting / handling device
- Make sure kegs are untapped before moving them
- Always wear safety shoes or boots to protect against injury
- Staff may still need to carry out some manual handling so they need to be trained by a manual handling instructor in how to assess and move loads safely

For further information LoCall 1890 289389 or go to www.hsa.ie