

Celebration as NISG Excel at Safety Groups UK Awards

Northern Ireland Safety Group (NISG) are delighted to share news of our success at the recent Safety Groups UK (SGUK), where we secured several major honours.

The first of these was a **Gold Level Award** in the Excellence Awards Category, presented for programme content in 2023. The entry covered NISG Group Meetings and Webinars plus the prestigious NISG 70th Anniversary Conference held last November.



Nicola McCracken, Jimmy Fenton and John Thompson (NISG Executive Committee members) with Kelly Nicoll (IOSH Incoming President) receiving the SGUK Gold Level Award in the Excellence Awards Category.

Next came the **Alan Butler Plaque** for being the overall winner in the Excellence Awards Category, marking NISG out as having the best programme of events in 2023 from all safety groups across the UK. This achievement cements our goal of ensuring that the programme we offer is relevant, provides signposting and allows the crucial networking opportunities to benefit NISG membership, which ultimately improves occupational health and safety across all sectors of the local workforce.



John Thompson, Nicola McCracken and Jimmy Fenton (NISG Executive Committee members) with Kelly Nicoll (IOSH Incoming President) receiving the Alan Butler Plaque in the Excellence Awards Category.

The next achievement came for winning the **Albert Porter Rose Bowl**. This was awarded as NISG are the safety group associated with the Building Mental Health Alliance (BMHA), who won the Innovation Award for their "Mental Health in Construction Signposting Service" initiative. This offers the construction workforce an easy route to access help/advice from a range of mental health service providers using a QR code and the slogan 'You're only 2 clicks from help!' NISG are one of the founding organisations of BMHA and provides administrative support to the organisation.



Jimmy Fenton, Nicola McCracken and John Thompson (NISG Executive Committee members) with Norman Stevenson (SGUK Immediate Past Chair) receiving the Albert Porter Rosebowl and Certificate for being the safety group associated with Innovation Award winners BMHA.

The fourth win for NISG came as our President, Wilson Lambe MBE, was awarded a **Highly Commended Certificate in the Hero Category** for his extensive work over the past sixty plus years in promoting occupational health and safety locally and also for mentoring many health and safety professionals along the way.



Nicola McCracken (NISG) receiving the Highly Commended Certificate on behalf of NISG President, Wilson Lambe MBE, in the Hero Category. This award was presented by Alan Murray, SGUK President.

John Thompson, Jimmy Fenton and Nicola McCracken attended the awards ceremony, held at IOSH Headquarters in Leicester to pick up the awards, which were presented by Kelly Nicoll, President Elect from IOSH. SGUK President, Alan Murray, and Ian Coombes, SGUK Board Member and Awards Committee Member, were also involved on the day.

The NISG representatives were part of a large Northern Ireland contingent who also won awards on the day. Their achievements are as follows:

- BMHA – Innovation Award (as previously mentioned);
- David Donnelly - Health and Safety Hero –Commended;
- Matthew McMahon, Adman Civils - Health and Safety Hero – Vice President’s Trophy (2nd Place) – award accepted on the day by Neill McNabb;
- Colm O’Neill, Adman Civils - Health and Safety Hero – President’s Trophy.

Well done to everyone for helping to keep Northern Ireland Health and Safety awareness at the forefront of our business world.



The Northern Ireland Winners at the SGUK 2024 Awards:

Back Row: Neill McNabb, Adman Civils; David Johnston, Adman Civils; John Thompson, NISG and Translink; Nicola McCracken, NISG; Colm O’Neill, Adman Civils; Andrew Cooke, John Graham Construction Ltd. & BMHA; Ernie Spence, NISG and BMHA.

Front Row: Rachel Dorovatas, CITBNI and BMHA; Jimmy Fenton, NISG and Ulster University; David Donnelly, Practical Waste Solutions Ltd.