

Irish South and West Fish Producers Organisation hold workshop to test new guide for Health and Safety on board inshore vessels.

On Thursday the 3rd of March 2011 The Irish South and West Fish Producers Organisation in conjunction with BIM, the Health & Safety Authority and Consultants Labour Asociados held an industry workshop at the BIM Regional Fisheries Centre in Castletownbere to test a draft EU guide, promoting best practice in the health and safety of workers on vessels under 15 metres in length. The guide, produced by Labour Asociados on behalf of the European Commission, has had considerable input from BIM and Irish industry and aims to improve the standard of health and safety for workers in the inshore sector at a European level. The purpose of the workshop was to invite Irish inshore fishermen to assess its content, relevance and application and provide opinion and feedback to the authors on improvements to the guide where necessary.

The workshop was opened by Cptn. Shane Behley, RFC Principal and was attended by sixteen fishermen from the inshore sector. The guide was presented in modular format and smaller working groups examined different sections of the guide to assess it's applicability to the demands of everyday life in the inshore sector. Overall the results of the workshop were very positive with valuable feedback from industry on the exercise.



Front row from left to right: Ray Murray (BIM), Patrick Griffin (HSA), Alan Deane (Fisheries Consultant, UK), Frank Fleming (ISW&FPO), Marlene Calderon (Labour Asociados), Gavin Power (IS&WFPO) and Donnagh O' Connor (Inshore Fisherman).