

# Vincent Theobald-Vega

FIIRSM, FRSPH, CMIOSH, MISTR, Eur OSHM, BSc, MSc, PgDip, Cert Ed  
Partner / Director of Safety 4 HEd LLP



## Contact Details

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Newcastle-upon-Tyne NE17 7AN

## Summary

A proven track record of appearing as a witness for both prosecution and defence in criminal cases, and supporting solicitors in civil actions. Holder of significant awards for Expert Witness and Consultancy work over the past five years.

A track record of 30 years in health and safety (as an HSE Inspector, University Safety Manager, and as a consultant), investigating incidents and improving safety management.

## Core Competencies

Supporting materials, including information about selected cases, are provided online at [safety4hed.co.uk/cases/](http://safety4hed.co.uk/cases/).

### Court and Legal Work

**Court cases** as **prosecutor** and **defence** advisor (both civil and criminal).

#### Prosecution

100% win for HSE Prosecution cases (including Crown Court).

Covered agriculture, construction, asbestos and management issues. All prosecutions (including defended) presented personally.

#### Defence

Criminal and civil matters on a wide range of health & safety issues. Excellent success rates. Includes Crown Court cross examination.

All cases settled favourably for my clients.

### Consultancy

Based on experience **since 1989**.

Work includes high-profile investigations, audits, inspections, advisory work and training in University and industrial settings.

**Authoring documents** for clients. e.g. new Asbestos Awareness book for *Health and Safety Publications Ltd*.

**Successfully implementing** and managing change at Newcastle University, and other organisations.

Delivering **integrated training** programmes including training of over 500 staff for Durham University in 2014.

### Investigations

Solo and team investigations, involved in the collection of evidence in complex cases.

#### For HSE

First case to lead to imprisonment in the UK for a H&S offence, and first joint HSE / Avon Police Manslaughter investigation.

#### For Clients

As part of the management of risk and for **defence in civil claims and criminal cases**. Covering: explosions, fires, laboratory incidents, accommodation, slips trips and falls, biological & chemical incidents.

**Asbestos incidents**, working for both clients and removal / management companies.

Investigations to HSE's standard HSG245.

Experience with **PACE interviews** and evidence collection.

**Re-investigations** where the previous investigator failed to collect sufficient evidence, so came to erroneous conclusions.

### Other Skill Areas

**Management of** complex environments.

**Negotiation experience** as an enforcer, entrepreneur, manager and Union negotiator. Skills used to find effective, compliant, low-cost, practicable solutions for clients.

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## Key Memberships and Accreditations

Vincent holds the following institute qualifications and memberships:

Since Link

FIIRSM	Fellow	International Institute of Risk and Safety Management.	[2013]	<a href="http://www.iirmsm.org/">www.iirmsm.org/</a>
FRSPH	Fellow	Royal Society of Public Health.	[2002]	<a href="http://www.rsph.org.uk/">www.rsph.org.uk/</a>
CMIOSH	Chartered Member	Institution of Occupational Safety & Health.	[1993]	<a href="http://www.iosh.com/">www.iosh.com/</a>
MISTR	Member	Institute for Safety in Technology and Research.	[2000]	<a href="http://www.istr.org.uk/">www.istr.org.uk/</a>
-	Member	Health and Safety Lawyers' Association.	[2013]	<a href="https://hsla.org.uk/">https://hsla.org.uk/</a>
-	Member	Federation of Forensic and Expert Witnesses.	[2018]	<a href="http://forensicandexpertwitness.co.uk">forensicandexpertwitness.co.uk</a>
-	Associate Member	Institute of Ergonomics & Human Factors.	[2013]	<a href="http://www.ergonomics.org.uk/">www.ergonomics.org.uk/</a>
EurOSHM	Registered	European Occupational Safety and Health Manager <a href="http://www.euroshm.org/registerdetail.php?item=v62ju5479kw14317lc8179ml613f42rlv269ju7270kw">www.euroshm.org/registerdetail.php?item=v62ju5479kw14317lc8179ml613f42rlv269ju7270kw</a>	[2014]	No. 11408344523
OSHCR	Registered	Occupational Safety and Health Consultants Register <a href="http://www.oshcr.org/Search/Details/c285ca71-76ac-406c-a45c-6e0a8729c685/VincentTheobald-Vega">www.oshcr.org/Search/Details/c285ca71-76ac-406c-a45c-6e0a8729c685/VincentTheobald-Vega</a>	[2011]	<a href="http://www.oshcr.org/">www.oshcr.org/</a>
	Registered	UK Register of Expert Witnesses <a href="http://www.jspubs.com/staticelink.cfm?ID=224A5A534B503A0E351B2C122B">www.jspubs.com/staticelink.cfm?ID=224A5A534B503A0E351B2C122B</a>	[2015]	No. 1736

## Main Awards

<b>2019</b>	Lawyer Monthly Magazine <b>Lawyer Monthly Expert Witness Award – Winner</b> Global Law Experts – <b>Recommended firm for Health and Safety Expert Witness</b> in England Lawyer International (Legal 100) – <b>Health and Safety Expert of the Year (UK)</b> Acquisition International Global Excellence Awards – <b>Most Outstanding Health &amp; Safety Consultancy – UK</b> Global Venture – <b>Health and Safety Expert of the Year – UK</b> Federation of Forensic & Expert Witnesses – <b>Health &amp; Safety Expert Witness Report Provider of the year.</b> Global Business Insight Awards – <b>Best Health and Safety Consultancy Services – UK</b>
<b>2018</b>	Lawyer Monthly Magazine <b>Lawyer Monthly Expert Witness Award – Winner</b> Acquisition International Magazine – <b>Most Outstanding for Bespoke Health and Safety Solutions</b> CV Magazine – <b>Most Trusted Health &amp; Safety Consultancy – North East England</b> Lawyer International (Legal 100) – <b>Health and Safety Expert of the Year (UK)</b> Corporate Live Wire – <b>Global Winner.</b>
<b>2017</b>	Lawyer Monthly Magazine <b>Lawyer Monthly Expert Witness Award – Winner</b> Global 100 – <b>Health and Safety Expert of the Year – UK.</b>
<b>2016</b>	Forensic Insider – <b>Health and Safety Expert Witness Award.</b>
<b>2015</b>	Jointly from the Forensic Industry E-Magazine and Security Industry E-Magazine – <b>Award of excellence for services to the health and safety industry</b>

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## Process Commitments

All statements are backed with references to standards and legal requirements or cases.

- **Initial verbal outline consultation at no charge.**
- All **work is undertaken to current Expert Witness standards**, and any other specified standards will also be complied with following discussion and agreement.
- Target of **all reports drafted within three to four weeks** of receipt of instruction and papers.
- **Fees agreed in advance.**
- **Fees are due on completion of the work** (or for cases lasting more than 8 weeks, on a staged basis). A fully itemised account will be provided at the end or at set stage points as required.
- **Legal aid rates** used where this is applicable.

For an estimate of costs or a specific arrangement please contact Vincent to discuss terms.

## Current Employment

- 2012 Safety 4 HEd LLP – Partner / Director** [safety4hed.co.uk](http://safety4hed.co.uk)  
Consultant, Partner and Director for *Safety 4 HEd LLP*. Undertakes work for: universities, technology companies, blue chip FTSE100 companies, charities, and specialist companies in manufacture and services (including asbestos removal).
- 2012 RRC tutor** [www.rrc.co.uk](http://www.rrc.co.uk)  
Affiliate tutor delivering IOSH and NEBOSH accredited courses.
- 2003 Northumbria University** [www.northumbria.ac.uk](http://www.northumbria.ac.uk)  
Lecturer delivering NEBOSH and MSc courses for the School of the Built and Natural Environment.

## Past Employment

- 1999-2012 Newcastle University** [www.ncl.ac.uk](http://www.ncl.ac.uk)  
Head of Safety concerned with strategic compliance and developing a safety culture in a complex fast-moving research environment. Achieved through collaborative working and a significant amount of training. Developed strategies, policies and plans to integrate occupational health, safety, risk management and environmental issues, along with sound business management (including establishing business continuity as a management issue).
- 1989-1999 HSE Inspector** [www.hse.gov.uk](http://www.hse.gov.uk)  
HSE Inspectors change disciplines as instructed by adding to basic core competencies. Role included **enforcement** of legal requirements (including **presenting cases in Court** as the prosecutor); **Investigation** of accidents, incidents and complaints; Provision of **guidance**; **Inspection** of activities; **Audits** (including managing national audits).  
Specialisms included Asbestos removal work, Construction Safety, Demolition, Industrial Radiography, Fairgrounds and the Agricultural industries (including Forestry).

## Degrees

- |            |           |  |
|------------|-----------|--|
| BSc (Hons) | 1985-1988 | BSC Hons. in Forestry – UCNW (now Bangor University)       |
| MSc        | 1988-1989 | MSC in Biological Computation – University of York         |
| Pg Dip     | 1989-1990 | Postgraduate Diploma in Health & Safety – Aston University |
| Cert Ed    | 2012-2013 | Certificate in Education (LLS) – LMU via Newcastle College |