To support the implementation of the EU Directive 2010/32/EU in the prevention of sharps injuries.

The EU Directive (2010/32/EU) on the prevention of sharps injuries will come into force in May 2013 and will require all healthcare organisations to introduce measures to prevent needlestick injuries to their staff, as well as reduce the incidence and prevalence of occupational injuries to NHS staff every year.
ELIMINATION, PREVENTION & PROTECTION

Standard precautions should be taken to protect against sharps injuries. There are 5 main ways for employers to meet their statutory duty of care:

1. Eliminating
Eliminate the unnecessary use of sharps by implementing changes in practice and on the basis of the results of a risk assessment.

2. Specifying
Specify and implement safe procedures for the use and disposal of sharp medical instruments and contaminated waste.

3. Providing
Provide medical devices that incorporate safety-engineered protection mechanisms.

4. PPE
Provide Personal Protective Equipment for all employees.

5. Recapping
Ban the practice of re-sheathing or recapping with immediate effect.

DIFFERENT TYPES OF SAFETY ENGINEERED DEVICES, SHARPS TRANSFER AND DISPOSAL

1. Needleless Connector Systems
Connectors use devices other than needles to connect one IV to another - example shows the plunger-type s.

2. Retracting Finger Prick Lancets
Sliding or hinged needle shields attached to disposable syringes.

3. Huber Needles
Designed with a deflected/non-coring point to eliminate the potential of "coring", or cutting a plug from the silicone septum of a vascular port.

4. Self-Blunting
A blunt cannula seated inside a phlebotomy needle is advanced beyond the needle tip before the needle is withdrawn from the vein.

5. Self-Blunting
Needles of sharps that retract into a syringe or back into the device.

6. Retractable Needles or Blades
Needles of sharps that retract into a syringe or back into the device.

7. Safety Scalpels
Single-use disposable scalpels with a shield that is advanced forward over the blade after use, containing and removing the hazard.

8. Sharps Transfer
Facilitates hands-free transfer, providing for safe placement and retrieval of sharps.

9. Sharps Disposal
Provision of sharps disposal equipment should be as close as possible to the areas where sharps are being used or to be found.” (See Clause 6)

Images of safety engineered devices adapted from US Occupational Safety and Health Administration [www.osha.gov/SLTC/etools/hospital/hazards/sharps]
These illustrations are presented for educational purposes and do not imply endorsement of a particular product.
Choosing the most suitable safety engineered devices for your purposes can be confusing.

Bunzl Healthcare is working closely with suppliers to provide a range of safety engineered mechanisms designed to protect the healthcare worker and comply with this Directive. We provide a comprehensive range of safety engineered devices from leading suppliers including syringes, needles, blood collection products, and a wide choice of associated products.

**SUPPORT**

- **Procurement**
  To help enhance your product range and create added value.

- **Account Managers**
  To help you identify savings opportunities.

- **Supplier Support**
  To advise you and aid with implementation.

- **Customer Service**
  Dedicated teams to provide a rapid response to your queries.

**REFERENCES**


**KNOWLEDGE**

- Helping to identify a suitable range of products for your requirements.
- Guidance on the different product categories targeted by this Directive, including:
  - Safety needles/ syringes
  - Sharps disposal for theatre
  - Scalpels & Blades
  - Needles
- Showing a range of branded options in each product category, covering all budget requirements.
- Highlighting any saving opportunities, features and benefits and innovation of an alternate product.
- Providing you with the correct product codes for ease of ordering through Bunzl Healthcare.

**REASSURANCE**

- Bunzl Healthcare offer a dedicated end to end Supply Chain Service that meets the logistics and procurement needs of every customer.
- We are committed to high standards of health and safety that protects our employees and yours.
- We are ISO 13485:2003 certified - Medical devices - Quality management systems - Requirements for regulatory purposes.

**OUR RANGE OF SAFETY PRODUCTS**

1. Safety Needles
2. Safety Syringes
3. Insulin Safety Systems
4. Tuberculolin Safety Syringes
5. IV Cannulæ & Infusion Safety Systems
7. Safety Lancets
8. Huber Needles
9. Safety Scalpels
10. Scalpel Disarmers
11. Sharps Transfer & Disposal
12. Ampoule Breaker Devices

For more information on our range of safety engineered devices, please visit our website, speak to your Account Manager or contact Customer Services on the details below.

www.bunzlhealthcare.co.uk/sharpssafety