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## 4 **NEWS UPDATE**

- Workplace Wellbeing Day (31 March)
- EMS Gathering 2017 (4-5 May)
- Garda Mountain Challenge (19-21 May)
- CFR Ireland's AED Register
- Employee Safety Award for Clare Fire Service
- Vice President of Paramedics College
- Calls to change status of Coast Guard

## 18 **COMMUNITY AIR AMBULANCE**

A new community air ambulance service, due for lift-off later this year, will serve a population of one million people in the Munster region from its base at Cork Airport. John Kearney, co-founder of Irish Community Air Ambulance, says there's a "lifetime" of fundraising work ahead, but he's confident the public will support this lifesaving initiative.

## 24 **EMERGENCY NETWORKS**

An interactive smartphone app now allows members of the public to take 'selfies' alongside automated external defibrillators (AEDs), while a national network has been set up by a group of community first responders, all in a bid to keep track of these lifesaving devices throughout communities in Ireland.

## 28 **EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT**

Following the recent conclusion of a three-year EU-funded research project to develop new systems to standardise cross-border emergency planning, preparedness, response and recovery procedures discussions are now taking place with agencies in Ireland, Germany and Israel to pilot test the findings of this S-HELP project.

## 32 **DRUG TESTING REGULATIONS**

New legislation under the Road Traffic Act 2016, which is due to come into force in April, will give the Gardaí the authority to subject motorists to random drug testing checks using a portable device for cannabis, cocaine and heroin. So what legal implications can employers expect to face after the Easter Weekend?

## 35 **EMERGENCY CHALLENGE**

The Irish Coast Guard rolled out a number of emergency challenges in a bid to highlight water safety and increase awareness of their operations to over 60,000 students at this year's BT Young Scientist Exhibition at Dublin's RDS.

## 37 **MEDICAL MATTERS**

Scientific evidence supporting the safe and effective use of cannabis to treat certain medical conditions is insufficient and at times conflicting, according to the findings of a report that has examined the potential use of cannabis for medical purposes in Ireland.

## 39 **FORENSIC INVESTIGATIONS**

The Pathfinder remains one of the most useful pieces of equipment used by forensic science experts at thousands of serious crime scenes. First developed in 1997 by a forensics practitioner with the Metropolitan Police, the device is now used by FBI field agents.

## 45 **DEFENCE FORCES**

The Defence Forces has devised a new healthcare system to electronically track and protect the health and wellbeing of all Irish soldiers, sailors and aircrew at home, at sea and on overseas operations.



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# Issue 57

## Emergency Services Ireland

MILLION EURO LIFT-OFF BID  
FOR MUNSTER AIR AMBULANCE



APPROPRIATE SOLUTIONS TO  
REGISTER LIFESAVING DEVICES

DRUG TESTING REGULATIONS  
DUE TO HIT THE ROAD

'S-HELP' IS AT HAND IN  
EMERGENCY SITUATIONS!

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### 47 DRONE SAFETY

The UK Government plans to introduce new measures on the safe use of drones to be matched by strong safeguards to protect the public, following its rollout of a consultation process at the end of last year, which will also consider whether there is a need for a new criminal offence for misuse of drones.

### 53 UK NEWS

- \* First Female Fire Commissioner for London
- \* Drones get to the 'HART' of the matter
- \* App to tap into frontline operating procedures
- \* Policing and Crime Bill to restore public confidence
- \* Agencies join forces for 'Ambition 2017'

### 51 EMERGENCY SERVICES SHOW

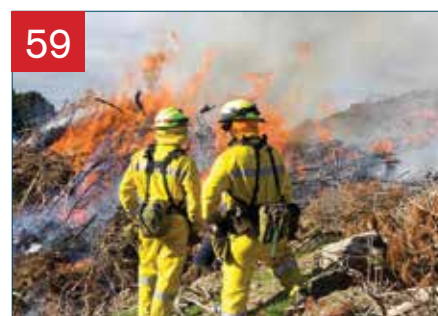
This year's Emergency Services Show returns to Birmingham's NEC from 20-21 September with a host of new interactive health and nutrition seminars, road safety and rescue demonstrations, plus a range of paramedic workshops on paediatric resuscitation, trauma in pregnancy, basic life support and advanced life support.

### 58 INTERNATIONAL NEWS

- European Emergency Number Conference (5-7 April)
- Copenhagen to host EMS2017 Congress (22-24 May)
- Paramedic Expo (18-19 August)
- New Zealand's frontline services collaborate on project
- US fire services to maintain fire hose standards



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59



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