



SAFETY NEWSLETTER

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Well that's got an early Easter out of the way!

Using our stock of photos and cartoons sent from all over the World—we had a problem last month and had to pay up for a breach of whatever...so no more cartoons on our newsletter and we're taking all back copies off our website—spoilsports!!

But Hey Ho! The accidents continue undiminished:

A solar panel firm has been £153,000 after a worker was seriously injured in a fall through a fragile roof light at a private home in Kent.

The worker, from Ashford, fractured his shin and a vertebra in the incident at Elvington Lane in Hawkinge.

The roof light the 32-year-old man crashed through was on an outbuilding housing a swimming pool. Although the water partially cushioned his fall, he made a heavy impact with the side and flooring around the pool, and was unable to return to work until January this year and only then on a part-time basis.

Glasgow-based P V Solar UK Limited was sentenced at Canterbury Crown Court today after an investigation by the Health and Safety Executive (HSE) found that more could and should have been done to prevent the fall.

The court had heard that the injured worker was part of a three man team working on the pool building to replace faulty solar panels that were initially installed by the same company.

The fragile roof also contained eight roof lights and he fell through one of these as he walked on the roof while carrying a panel.

HSE established that a scaffold tower, ladder and safety harness had been provided for the panel replacement work. However, none of the installation team had received any formal training or instruction on how to use them. This effectively rendered the equipment useless,. Other measures could also have been taken, such as providing full scaffolding or hard covers for the roof lights.

The court had also been told that P V Solar was served with a Prohibition Notice by HSE to stop unsafe work on a fragile roof in Bristol in May 2011. The company was therefore well aware of the need to ensure that adequate provisions were in place to prevent or mitigate falls during work at height.

P V Solar UK Limited, of Cambuslang Road, Glasgow, was fined a total of **£153,000 and ordered to pay a further £29,480 in costs** after pleading guilty to three separate breaches of the Work at Height Regulations 2005.



Signs are there to be read and acted upon..... But tell that to the birds.



A sign on the lawn at a drug rehab centre said: "Keep off the Grass".

The midget fortune-teller who escaped from prison was a small medium at large.

The soldier who survived mustard gas and pepper spray is now a seasoned veteran.



Rambo knowing my hatred of ladders.....Does it his way to change a bulb!! Pratt

WORKER FALLS DOWN LIFT SHAFT

A company in Derbyshire has been fined after a worker fell thirteen metres down a service riser shaft.

Leicester Magistrates’ Court heard how a 36-year-old worker, who was from Romania, was dismantling falsework (a form of temporary structure) in a building that was under construction at Fletcher Development, De Montfort University, Leicester.

An investigation by the Health and Safety Executive (HSE) into the incident found that there was an unsafe system of work and inadequate supervision of workers.

David Ashley Construction Limited, of Alfreton, Derbyshire pleaded guilty to breaching Regulation 4(1) of the Work at Height Regulations 2005, and was **fined £20,000 and ordered to pay costs of £1,776.**

WORKER STRIKES POWER CABLE

A Helensburgh-based contracting company has been fined after a worker hit an underground cable and suffered burns to his hands and face whilst working on a primary school refurbishment project.

Hamilton Sheriff Court heard that the incident took place at a construction site in East Kilbride. A worker for Stewart and Shields Limited was digging holes to erect a fence when he struck a 430v underground electric services cable causing minor flash burns to his hands and face.

The Health and Safety Executive investigated the incident and found that site reports containing information about ‘buried services’ were made available to the company but they had failed to provide this information to workers or clearly mark where the power lines were situated underground. They should also have also ensured that workers using digging devices were adequately trained.

Stewart and Shields Limited pleaded guilty to breaching Regulation 34(3) of the Construction (Design and Management) Regulations 2007 and Section 33(1)(c) of the Health and Safety at Work etc. Act 1974 and were **fined £7,500.**

Working at height—it’s given me a fair old living—inspecting the results of a fall — reporting on idiotic behaviour that brought about the accident in the first place - advising on how to ‘do it properly, safely and without hazard’ etc. etc.

Yet still you find the below going on in construction, demolitions, workshops, garages, shops, offices.....

“Can’t be bothered to use the proper tools for the work in hand; it’ll be all right”

WRONG !!



PROFESSIONALS EVERY ONE !



Another professional!

A shocking example of

‘not thinking’

WORKER DIES AFTER INHALING FUMES

An employer has been fined after a worker died after inhaling fumes while cleaning a chemical stripping paint tank at a motor vehicle repair company.

Dundee Sheriff Court heard how Steven Conway, 33, was employed by Diamond Wheels (Dundee) Limited to undertake general duties at its premises.

These duties included collections and deliveries, removing and replacing tyres, and moving alloy wheels into, and out of, the chemical stripping tank.

The Health and Safety Executive (HSE) investigation found Mr Conway was provided with no formal training in respect of the use of the chemical stripping tank and the chemical stripping agent used by the company. Instead he was given 'on the job' training.

The court heard Mr Conway, was overcome by dichloromethane vapour while attempting to remove stripping debris from within the chemical stripping tank and died as a result of his exposure to those vapours.

Diamond Wheels (Dundee) Limited, was fined **£50,000** after pleading guilty to offences under Section 2(1) and 33(1)(a) of the Health and Safety at Work etc Act 1974.

EMPLOYEE TRAINING—IT'S NOT AN OPTION—IT'S ESSENTIAL FOR SAFE WORKING PRACTISES.

USEFUL IDEAS:

Save money on heating by covering your walls with tin foil.

Remove the top five rungs from your ladder to make it safer.

Avoid a dirty tide mark round your bath by always filling it until it overflows.

RIDDOR—ACCIDENT REPORTING CHANGES:

Deaths and injuries

If someone has died or has been injured because of a work-related accident this may have to be reported. Not all accidents need to be reported, other than for certain [gas incidents](#), a RIDDOR report is required only when: the accident is [work-related](#) and it results in an injury of a type which is reportable

Types of reportable injury

The death of any person

All deaths to workers and non-workers, with the exception of suicides, must be reported if they arise from a work-related accident, including an act of physical violence to a worker.

Specified injuries to workers

The list of 'specified injuries' in RIDDOR 2013 replaces the previous list of 'major injuries' in RIDDOR 1995. Specified injuries are (regulation 4):

- fractures, other than to fingers, thumbs and toes
- amputations
- any injury likely to lead to permanent loss of sight or reduction in sight
- any crush injury to the head or torso causing damage to the brain or internal organs
 - serious burns (including scalding) which:
 - covers more than 10% of the body
 - causes significant damage to the eyes, respiratory system or other vital organs
- any scalping requiring hospital treatment
- any loss of consciousness caused by head injury or asphyxia
 - any other injury arising from working in an enclosed space which:
 - leads to hypothermia or heat-induced illness
 - requires resuscitation or admittance to hospital for more than 24 hours

Safety barriers:

A well thought out answer without the bother!



Two associate companies have been fined after the death of a worker in London, killed when concrete joists fell on him.

Electrician John Walker, who worked for 777 Environmental Limited, met his death while working on a demolition site on Walworth Road, Elephant and Castle, where the Strata Building now sits.

He was working on an area of the site near to a couple of remote controlled demolition machines in August 2007. The machines in breaking through a structural beam dislodged several concrete joists which struck the worker and he died at the scene.

Southwark Crown Court was told the companies failed to prepare or implement an effective and safe system of work for the demolition, which ultimately allowed for an uncontrolled collapse to take place.

777 Environmental Limited was the subcontractor and employer of Mr Walker, and was brought in to undertake the demolition of the building. Its failure to properly investigate the nature of the structure as demolition proceeded led to the uncontrolled collapse.

It admitted breaching Section 2(1) of the Health and Safety at Work etc. Act 1974, at an earlier hearing and was fined **£90,000**.

777 Demolition and Haulage Co. Limited was found guilty, after a trial, of breaching Section 3(1) of the Health and Safety at Work etc. Act 1974 and fined **£125,000**.

Costs of £167, 857 were awarded to HSE.

Contact Us

Give us a call for more information about our services, training, site assessments and products - or visit our web site for information—we're here to support you in gaining zero accidents at work!!

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Be Safe out there!



REMEMBER

....all of you is beautiful and valuable - even the ugly, stupid and worthless bits.

Do not suffer in silence if you can make others suffer with you!