



046-Teenager blinded for want of eye protection

Date Of Incident: -

Location : Southampton

Description of the incident:

The employer of a 19-year old demolition worker has been prosecuted and fined after he lost the sight of one eye when he was hit in the eye by a wood splinter as he levered floorboards with a pickaxe at a property in Hyde, Cheshire.

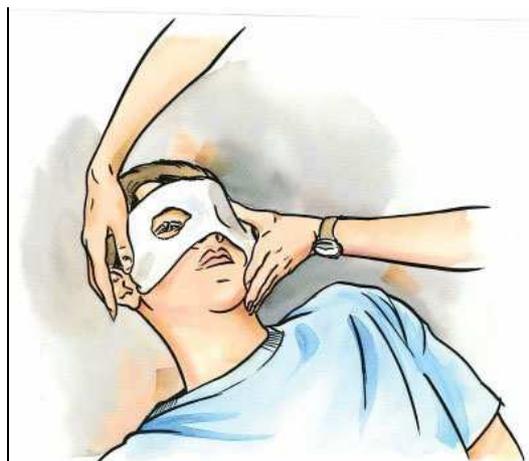
Dovestone Contractors Ltd of Southampton admitted breaching r.4(1) of the Personal Protective Equipment at Work Regulations 1992 by failing to provide eye protection for its employees and was fined £8,000 plus £4,000 costs.

No. of persons dead:

Nil

Other possible news about the incident:

Appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE) is a must-have in today's highly dynamic construction industry where injury statistics are still too high. It is an employer's responsibility to provide employees with the correct PPE wherever there are risks to a workers' health and safety that cannot be adequately controlled in other ways. Often there is some confusion about the purchasing of PPE. To make it clear, it is the employer's responsibility to purchase the appropriate PPE for its workers.



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Once employees have been provided with appropriate PPE to carry out their specific roles, employers should provide training on how to use and maintain the PPE correctly. As soon as training has been provided the employee becomes responsible for maintaining their PPE and must inform their employer if an item of PPE needs to be replaced or is damaged.

One of the main problems faced in the construction industry is that a number of employers or principal contractors dictate PPE to employees without really understanding why they need it themselves. It is vitally important that bosses understand and explain to their employees why PPE is being used, as misunderstanding can lead to inappropriate PPE being used. It can be more dangerous to wear the incorrect PPE on a site than not to wear any at all. The two most common pieces of PPE used by construction workers are hard hats and safety footwear, however, gloves are also becoming more widely used. Eye protection is also important; you only get one pair of eyes so they need protecting when required. Dust can also be harmful on some construction sites in which case face masks may need to be utilised. Whatever the job, the correct fitting equipment must be worn. Employers need to ensure that they are not just generic pieces of equipment - dusk masks need to be bespoke to each person's face. After all everyone is different. If employers are not providing the correct PPE equipment to employees on a construction site then they could be liable if the employee is injured.

The most important thing to remember is that PPE must be appropriate. Don't just wear it because it looks right, but make sure it is fit for purpose and that you know why you are wearing it.

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047 - Plunging plate kills builder

Date Of Incident: 01.12.2010

Location : Austria

Description of incident:

A construction worker was killed by a falling concrete panel on 01.12.10 Isar K., 25, was already dead when an emergency doctor arrived at the building site in the Floridsdorf district. He suffered serious internal injuries when a huge concrete plate dropped on his upper body.

Only some days ago, a 38-year-old worker died when he fell from the roof of a 20-metre-high house in Vienna-Hietzing.

Statistics provided by general Insurance company show that 131 people died in accidents on building sites across Austria in 2008.

No of person injured:

One

Photo graph:



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048 - Explosion in the tanker

Date Of Incident: 01.12.2010

Location : Raipur

Description of incident:

An explosion in the tanker of Euro Pratik steel facility at Siltara industrial area of Raipur claimed lives of five employees, including an official. Five employees, including a site manager, of Euro Pratik steel facility were killed due to an explosion in an oil tanker at Siltara industrial area, Raipur superintendent of police Dipanshu Kabra told PTI.

The oil tanker of the firm was being repaired after it started leaking, when the explosion took place, he said.

Mr Dipanshu Kabra SP Raipur told PTI that 5 employees, including a site manager, of Euro Pratik steel facility were killed due to an explosion in an oil tanker at Siltara. According to information the oil tanker of the firm was being repaired after it formed leakage, when the explosion took place.

No of person injured:

Five died

Photo graph:



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049 – Forest Fire Kills 40 prison guards

Date Of Incident: 02.12.2010

Location : Israel

Description of incident:

About 40 people have died in what is thought to be Israel's largest ever forest fire, police have said.

Many of the victims were prison guards travelling on a bus which was caught in the inferno in the Carmel Mountains near the northern city of Haifa.

Thousands of people, including prison inmates, have been evacuated from the area.

Scores more have been injured, the ambulance service said. The cause of the blaze was not immediately known.

'Horrific scene'

The Israeli prison service said the bus was carrying guards to help with the evacuation of nearby Damon Prison, which was threatened by the blaze.



More than 13,000 people have had to leave their homes to escape the flames

The men had been raced to the area from central Israel to assist in the rescue, prison service spokesman Yaron Zamir said.

A fire brigade spokesman told the Jerusalem Post that the flames had travelled 1,500m (4,920ft) in less than three minutes.

"The bus had no chance. They tried to escape but were burned alive. It was a horrific scene," the spokesman told the newspaper.

He called it a "difficult, sad and incomprehensible day."

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A senior police chief from Haifa who was also in the area was reported to have been critically injured.



There were no reported injuries among prison inmates.

"We are harnessing all the forces of the state to deal with this disaster and rescue those who are injured and to stop the fire," Mr Netanyahu said.

He said protecting life was now the priority.

"We don't want any more injuries, any more dead. We suffered a hard blow and we don't want any more dead, not even one."

In a rare request for foreign assistance, Mr Netanyahu called on Italy, Cyprus and Russia to help in tackling the fire.

Greece, which faced its own disastrous wildfires in 2007, has sent a team of experts, while US President Barack Obama has also offered assistance.

The UK has dispatched a Royal Air Force helicopter based in Cyprus with firefighting equipment.

A second helicopter can be deployed almost immediately as needed, said a spokeswoman for the British embassy to Israel.

The fire in the northern Carmel region broke out about midday (1000 GMT), and hundreds of firefighters were battling the flames on the ground and from the air amid heavy winds.

Emergency crews from across the country tried to reach the scene, weaving through heavy rush-hour traffic as night fell.

"We're on a road that takes you down Carmel Mountain and everything is burning on both sides," a paramedic supervisor from the ambulance service, Erez Geller, told the BBC.

"It's dark now and this makes it very complicated with the fire. It's a catastrophe because we have so many fatalities.

"We have had several fires in the last 10 to 12 years but nothing like this," Mr Geller said.

Major roads in the area have been closed and parts of Haifa, Israel's third largest city, have been evacuated.

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At a ceremony marking the Jewish festival of Hanukkah, Israeli President Shimon Peres praised the firefighters tackling the flames, saying they exemplified "personal and superior bravery"

"We pray for their safety. We pray for the cessation of the fire," he said.

Some 13,000 people have been evacuated from the area.

Israeli media said it was the biggest forest fire in the country's history, with 7,000 acres (2,800 hectares) of land destroyed by Thursday evening.

Israel is currently suffering a period of drought with no significant rain since the spring.

Israel's Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, who has visited the affected area, said it was an "unprecedented disaster".

The BBC's Jon Donnison in the region says the Israel's emergency services have not had to handle an operation on such a scale since the war in Lebanon in 2006.

No of person injured:

Around 40 died

Photo graph:



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050 – 81 die in Chilean prison fire

Date Of Incident: 20.12.2010

Location : Chile

Description of incident:

A fire in a prison in the Chilean capital of Santiago has left at least 81 inmates dead, officials say.

The blaze broke out in the San Miguel prison yesterday morning, with television pictures showing smoke billowing from the building.

Hundreds of inmates were evacuated, with up to 14 prisoners said to have life-threatening injuries.

President Sebastian Pinera described the prison system as "inhumane" and said reforms should be speeded up.

He said the fire was a "hugely painful tragedy".

"We cannot guarantee the number of dead will not rise," he said.

The president at one point said 83 had died, but officials later revised this figure down.

Reports said the fire broke out after a fight between rival gangs, who set mattresses on fire.

Health Minister Jaime Manalich said this was the deadliest incident in the history of the Chilean prison service.

No of person injured:

Around 81 died

Photo graph:

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SEED express its deepest condolence and pray the god to look after the families of the died and injured people in the above incidents.



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