

Accident Statistics 2008/09

The facts you need to know

- **180** workers were killed at work.
- Of the main industries, agriculture and construction have the highest rate of fatal injury.
- **131 895** other injuries to employees.
- **246 000** reportable injuries occurred
- **29.3 million** days were lost overall (24.6 million due to work-related ill health and 4.7 million due to workplace injury).

Council fined £50,000 following death of a manager

Dudley Metropolitan Council was fined £30,000 and ordered to pay £20,000 in costs after pleading guilty to breaching Section 2(1) of the Health and Safety at Work Act.

A council employee and the driver of the vehicle, pleaded guilty to two breaches of Section 7 of the Health and Safety at Work Act and was fined £750 and ordered to pay £500 in costs.

The man killed was a council manager who was described as a "well-liked professional manager". He was struck and killed by a wheeled shovel loader. Wolverhampton Court heard how the loader was driven against the direction of the site's one-way system and had the loading shovel at a height that meant the driver couldn't see in front properly. Suitable precautions were not taken to make sure he didn't damage any other vehicles or harm pedestrians.

Company fined £11,500 after worker falls from height

A Southend-based company has been prosecuted after an aircraft painter was severely injured in a fall - leaving him unable to work for more than two years.

The painter was working with a colleague to wrap a plane's wing in plastic sheeting to protect it from paint stripper. He stepped out on to the wing flap - where nothing was in place to prevent falls - and fell five metres to the hangar floor below. His left elbow was broken and he badly damaged some ligaments. He has been unable to work since the accident.

Fine of £108,800 after man is crushed to death

A major airport services company has been fined £90,000 after a man was crushed to death under a vehicle at Heathrow Airport in 2008.

The company pleaded guilty to breaching Section 2(1) of the Health and Safety at Work Act etc. 1974, at the City of London Magistrates' Court, on 27 November 2009. The company was fined £90,000 and ordered to pay costs of £18,800.

The court heard that a vehicle maintenance specialist was repairing a defective vehicle used to pull baggage trolleys, also known as a baggage tug, which had broken down near Heathrow Airport's Terminal 1.

The vehicle was raised 60cm in the air on a single trolley jack as its only means of support. The worker was underneath the tug when the trolley jack moved backwards, dropping the tug onto him. He died at the scene shortly afterwards from head injuries.

Refuse company fined £350,000 after death of worker

A refuse company has today been fined £130,000 after a worker was killed near Aylesbury when a 1,100-litre recycling bin fell on his head.

The worker was collecting refuse outside a pub near Aylesbury when the incident happened. Aylesbury Crown Court heard that a recycling bin fell from the bin hoist on the recycling lorry and landed on his head, killing him.

Looking After Your Business

You have a responsibility to protect the health & safety of your staff and others affected by your work. Managing health and safety does not need to be expensive, timeconsuming or bureaucratic. Health and safety is good business that brings its own benefits:

- Safe working environment
- Reduction in absences
- Lower insurance premiums
- A good reputation
- Increased productivity

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