

# ACCIDENTS AT WORK

## ✗ THE SILLY AND THE SAVVY WHEN IT COMES TO PPE ✓

In a workplace, particularly in dangerous environments such as construction sites, manufacturing plants and warehouses etc., it is important to use personal protective equipment (PPE) and to adhere to the safety

guidance given by site managers and employers. **The savvy worker will stay safe, while the silly worker is likely to get hurt** and if the accident was his fault, he won't be able to claim compensation.

### SAVVY

The savvy worker wears PPE correctly and listens out for danger. In 2013/14 there were **252** reported accidents in the construction industry involving a moving/flying/falling object - 2 of these were fatal (RIDDOR)



He is protected from: falling objects, sparks from welding and chemical splashes etc

Anti-vibration gloves prevent Hand Arm Vibration Syndrome (HAVS) The savvy worker takes regular breaks to ensure he minimises damage to his hands



Regular maintenance of tools helps to keep them in good condition, maximises efficiency and reduces vibration

Whether steel-toe-capped, rubber soled or non-slip, safety footwear is required/supplied to help prevent accidents and personal injury



They may not look great, but safety footwear can prevent slipping accidents, puncture wounds, crush injuries, & prevent build up of static charge

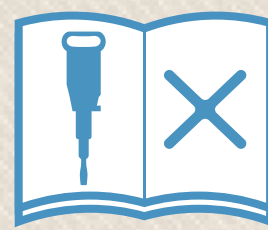
### SILLY

The silly worker prefers style and comfort over safety. He may be listening to his favourite band, but he can't hear the digger reversing behind him

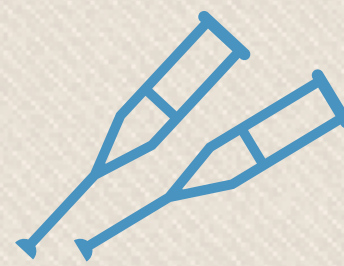


If an accident happens, the judge may reduce the amount of compensation or even dismiss the claim altogether if the silly worker did not protect himself with the PPE supplied or did not pay attention to his potentially dangerous surroundings

The silly employee works through his lunch break so he can leave early, but he can't hold a pint of beer later that night because his hands are numb and shaking



Ignoring manufacturer's instructions for maintenance and Health and Safety Executive (HSE) guidelines on maximum usage times can be dangerous and could cause personal injury accidents or industrial illnesses such as Vibration White Finger



Trainers may be okay for a walk in the park, but for a day on a construction site they can be extremely dangerous - One slip with a saw or spade, and you could lose more than a few weeks' pay, you could lose your toes!

**1,012**



**13**



In 2013/14 there were 1,012 reported serious injuries in the UK where a worker was struck by a moving vehicle - 13 of these were fatal (RIDDOR)

**3.2 MILLION**



The estimated number of working days lost to Upper Limb Disorders in 2013/14 was 3.2 million (HSE)

If you protect yourself and adhere to relevant safety guidelines you are likely to stay accident free. However, if you have been injured in a work accident

that was not your fault or caused by another person's negligence, then there's a strong chance that your claim for compensation will be successful.

Seth Lovis & Co's **personal injury solicitors** are experts in this field - call us today to make a claim.

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