

Emergency Preparedness for Mobile Workers



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Health & Safety Legislation



Safety, Health & Welfare at Work Act 2005

Section	
Section 8	General Duties of Employers
Section 11*	Emergency and Serious & Imminent Danger
Section 13	Duties of Employees
Section 19*	Hazard Identification & Risk Assessment
Section 27	Health Surveillance

Organisations to carry out a Legal review of there duties to mobile workers.

Assessing the Mobile Worker Risk



As per Section 19 of the health, Safety & Welfare at Work Act 2005: An employer must:

1. Define what type of Mobile workers you have in your organisation.
2. Map out their work/travel activities per mobile worker defined as above.
3. Carry out a thorough Risk analysis of their respective activities.
4. Emergency Preparedness for each and every mobile worker must be considered and action plans but in place as per Section 11 of the 2005 act.

Section 11 - Emergency Preparedness



Section 11 of the SHWWA 2005 states that organisations shall prepare for Emergencies, that may affect their workforce.

11(1) – Employers must prepare and revise as necessary plans and procedures for all potential emergency situations.

- *Outline necessary measures to be taken.*
- *Arrange any necessary contacts with the appropriate emergency services.*
- *Select designated persons who are required to implement those plans.*
- *Training and equipment available to them is adequate.*

11(2) – In the event of an emergency or serious and imminent danger an employer should:

- *Inform all employees concerned of the risks involved.*
- *Refrain from requiring employees to carry out or resume work where a risk persists.*
- *Employers should take appropriate steps to avoid the consequences of the dangers, even when there is a breakdown in communication links.*
- *Inform employees to leave their place of work and proceed to a safe place.*

Global & Local Arrangements

In a crisis or an emergency situation, arrangements should address local & global arrangements:

1. **Preparedness** – being prepared to deal with an emergency, having your incident management plan in place to deal every potential threat level.
2. **Mitigation** – Measures in place to reduce the severity of a situation, dealing thoroughly with incident
3. **Response** – Measures to deal with the emergency, the possible need for additional internal/external expertise.
4. **Recovery** – Monitoring, continuing support mobile worker and de-escalation of incident and recovery.



Mobile Worker Case Law



A utilities company has been fined £1.8 million following the death of a man in a water filtration tank in a case that should serve as a stark reminder for companies with mobile workers off site.

The father-of-two died in December 2013 when he fell into six and a half feet of water inside the tank while unblocking a filter at a water treatment works.

Despite activating the company's lone worker alarm system it wasn't until he failed to respond to a phone call – some 90 minutes later – that someone was sent to investigate.

The case came to a conclusion in April 2017, with the sitting judge at Truro Crown Court declaring the tragedy “*an accident waiting to happen.*”

Emergency Preparedness

Don't let one of your Mobile workers be an accident waiting to happen –

What do I need to do to protect my mobile workers in an emergency situation:

1. Outline who your mobile workers are.
2. Identify potential risks, by carrying out a risk assessment
3. Train your mobile workers & their supervisors in the safe system of work for their activities.
4. Develop a mobile worker policy and communicate.
5. Encourage cooperation between mobile worker(s) and the management team – ensure that the mobile worker(s) are involved in the decision making process regarding emergency preparedness for their activities in the field.
6. Set out roles & responsibilities in the event of an emergency in the field.
7. Invest in appropriate mobile workers monitoring systems. Trial monitoring systems prior to going live.
8. Develop an IMT in the event of an activation of monitoring system, carry out incident management team exercises.



Incident Management Plans



The objectives of Incident Management plan are to:

- Identify the Incident Management Team (IMT) and structure within an organisation.
- Define the key IMT roles and responsibilities.
- Provide guidance to IMT members for responding to serious incidents that have the potential to cause harm to mobile workers.
- IMT plans and procedures that realistically address potential emergency and crisis scenarios that the company may face.
- Select and train key individuals to respond to emergencies.
- Provide resources to facilitate an efficient and effective response.
- Test and validate levels of emergency and incident management preparedness through the conduct of drills and exercises on a periodic basis.
- Review and revise the plan on a scheduled basis.

Process to a Smarter Place



- Research what's available that's suits your needs
- Organise a workgroup – and formulate a plan for protection of mobile workers and the use of smarter technologies.
- Upload all relevant health & safety information to all company smartphones – that includes emergency plans.
- Survey each and every mobile workers and find out what the concerns actually are – plan to deal with them.
- Emergency numbers should be on speed dial.
- Have a system in place for mobile workers who travel aboard – either via smartphone or an emergency provider.
- IMT should be set up to deal with potential incidents that could occur to your mobile workforce.

Prevention & Protection



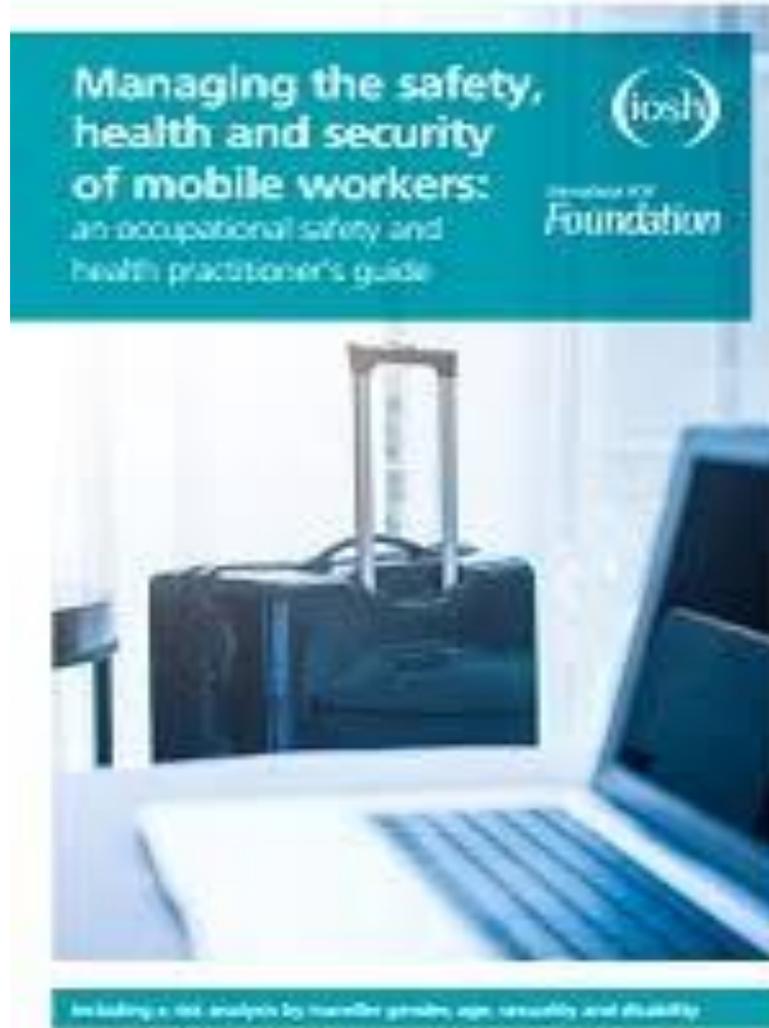
1. Build a **robust framework to ensure maximum protection** for mobile Workers, as they are expected to work under heavy conditions and in most cases in remote areas.
2. focus on the **proactive measures** a company should take in order to provide a safe and healthy environment for its mobile Workers.

Summary

- Define who your Mobile Workers are,
- Carry out an thorough risk assessment with workers in their off-site locations.
- Agree on protective measures to be taken – locally/Internationally,
- List potential incidents that may occur and plan.
- Set up IMT team to manage events that may occur and test response,
- Train your mobile worker force and supporting management team,
- Put in smart technologies to keep lines of communication open,
- Culturally – workers should have a say in protective measures taken,
- Continually improve/review your mobile workers protection systems to keep them up to date and robust.



Guidance



https://www.google.ie/search?q=managing+the+safety+health+and+security+of+mobile+workers&source=lnms&tbm=isch&sa=X&ved=0ahUKewi2sb2rr7nZAhViJcAKHe-1CuYQ_AUICigB&biw=1024&bih=620&dpr=1



Thank You.

Any Questions?