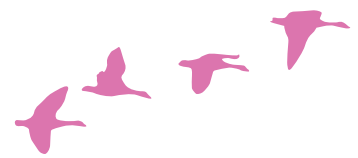


4warned

Update 45 - October 2007



HSE warns Construction Workers - "Don't Take the Risk". Despite knowing what they should be doing, too many people are prepared to allow bad practices to continue.

The HSE has issued a warning to operatives working in the construction refurbishment sector. Stephen Williams, HSE Head of Construction said that 'nearly 1 in 3 construction refurbishment sites inspected put the lives of workers at risk.'

The HSE carried out over 1,500 inspections as part of its rolling inspection programme over a 2 month period, and this resulted in 426 enforcement actions.

Stephen Williams continued, "we stopped work on site immediately during 244 inspections because there was a real possibility that life would be lost or ruined through serious injury. It is completely unacceptable that so many lives have been put at risk. Our inspectors were appalled at the apparent willingness to ignore basic safety precautions. The simple fact is that despite knowing what they should be doing, too many people are prepared to allow bad practices to continue, even though last year 39 people died on refurbishment, repair and maintenance sites.'

HSE have stated their determination to continue on with their campaigns in this area, and will tackle anyone who continues to flout safety precautions.

Work at height remains the biggest concern. Over half of the enforcement action taken during this inspection initiative was against dangerous working at height.

Giving consideration to the above information, careful planning, use of competent operatives and an adequate implementation plan are critical stages of ensuring the safety of workers. The use of the correct equipment is also key to maintaining a safe work place.

(Source - HSE)

If you feel that you need any assistance in your work place then please feel free to contact 4See Risk Management on **01908 263336** or email **enquiry@4seerisk.com**

