

ULTRA ACCESS

How to proactively plan for a serious accident on site

What considerations to allow for in a possible life and death situation at work

Accidents do unfortunately happen, and (thankfully) for the most part they are very minor, with a simple plaster doing the trick most of the time.

But, there are on occasion serious issues where life and death does hang in the balance...

What do you do when / if the worst case scenario happens?

Proactive planning ones emergency procedures is the first step.

RAMS (short for; **R**isk **A**ssessment **M**ethod **S**tatement) would be the first place to create a process of how to deal with a serious emergency on site.

Considerations have to be made to cover ALL risks and eventualities occurring, which can in itself cause problems with project completion timetables and have an undoubted cost implication.

"Safety has no cost limit" ~ this simply isn't true... and the ambiguous wording used within health and safety is - **reasonably practicable**. So how do we reasonably create a process to deal with emergencies without it being a significant cost to the project budget?



Firstly: the risks to the workforce has to be assessed, with cost effective systems in place, like making sure that there is enough First Aid trained cover for the project, is a good start.

The Health and Safety Executive (HSE) states that 1 in 50 should be "first aid trained", but **we would recommend a ratio of 1 in 10 "first aid trained" to workers** - not 1 in 50 who are **EFAW** (Level 2 Emergency First Aid at Work) trained, with suitably managed and controlled First Aid Kits everywhere there is a Fire Extinguisher Station, and at least 2 **FEW** (Level 3 First Aid at Work) trained - to cover things like sick leave and holidays, etc...
... but its not just training that needs to be thought about...



Secondly: clear, well marked out and safe access routes for medical professionals, like Paramedics is also very important. They have no idea of the project layout, so they would need a layout plan - at each entrance thats quick and easy to follow (under pressure, where every minute counts) to get to where the accident has occurred that simple first aid cannot fix.

And, what about communications?

First Aiders should all be comms-connected via Walkie Talkies, or similar like alarms, with chosen "Marshalls" ready to meet any emergency service personnel who arrive to help and to physically escort them to the location of the incident.

In short: Suitable training with plenty of cover / options, with well maintained and controlled equipment, plus safe, well planned access routes - displayed via easy to read site plan layouts (at each entrance), along with good communications and dedicated on site "Marshalls" can be used for both accidents and fire incidents all the same. It all comes down to **PROACTIVE** planning.

ULTRA ACCESS would always recommend to "plan for the worst, and hope for the best" in all situations...

ULTRA ACCESS
Scaffold Technical Support

www.ultra-access.co.uk
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