



STACS of News

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Think Safety at Christmas



Festive Facts



- ❖ Hospitals reported 4 broken arms last year after cracker pulling accidents.
- ❖ Three people die each year testing if a 9volt battery works on their tongue.
- ❖ Eighteen people had serious burns trying on a new Jumper with a lit cigarette in their mouth.
- ❖ Nineteen people have died in the last 3 years believing that Christmas decorations were chocolate.
- ❖ Thirty people have died while watering their Christmas tree while the fairy lights were plugged in.
- ❖ Fifty-eight people are injured each year by using sharp knives instead of screwdrivers. (Incidentally, in Birmingham they don't even use proper screwdrivers. Instead they get out the 'Birmingham Screwdriver', otherwise known as a hammer.)
- ❖ One hundred and one people have had to have broken parts of plastic toys pulled out of the soles of their feet.
- ❖ 1000 people a year are hurt falling off chairs putting up Christmas decorations, or falling out of lofts while looking for decorations.

*Don't Become A Statistic
Be Safe This Christmas*



Site security during Christmas

Here's a quick list of checks to make before you break up for Christmas:

- Check the perimeter fencing is in place and secure
- Check all gates
- Lock up all entrance points
- Remove valuables from the site or put in secure storage
- Lock up all containers
- Check temporary structures are stable and able to withstand bad weather conditions
- Store away any materials and equipment on site
- Remove all keys and immobilise plant
- Barrier or cover all excavations
- Remove ladders and access to scaffolding and platforms
- Remove waste and flammable materials to reduce the risk of arson
- Consider CCTV or patrols in high-risk areas
- Provide an out of hours emergency contact for the site

Roof work in cold weather

When it comes to working on roofs in winter, don't take any risks. Monitor the weather forecast so you can anticipate and be prepared for poor weather conditions. Carry out a risk assessment every day to check that it is safe to work and that conditions haven't changed. Pay particular attention to working at height platforms and do not work on roofs in icy conditions.

If windy, HSE recommends that roofers should check wind speeds with a hand held anemometer and refer to the National Federation of Roofing Contractors guidance on maximum wind speeds.

Make sure you and your employees are wearing the right personal protective equipment and extra clothing suitable for the job and the weather conditions. This usually involves using several layers of clothing, as well as waterproofs or wind-resistant fabrics where necessary. Also, choose water-resistant footwear, with enhanced slip-resistance or ice grips if required.



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