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## AGA NOW OFFER FACE FITTING

[AGA now have 6 fully qualified Face Fit Testers ready to come to your sites](#)

Where respiratory protective equipment (RPE) is used as a control measure under Health and Safety Legislation, it is vital that the selected RPE is adequate and suitable. RPE must reduce exposure to as low as reasonably practicable, and in any case to an acceptable level (e.g. below any applicable Workplace Exposure Limits or Control Limits).

To ensure that the selected RPE has the potential to provide adequate protection for individual wearers, the ACoPs supporting COSHH, CAR and CLAW stipulate that tight-fitting RPE must be fit tested as part of the selection process. This will help to ensure that inadequately fitting facepieces are not selected for use. Ill-fitting facepieces can create inward leakages of airborne contaminants.

AGA can advise you on:

- The different types of RPE available
- The different grades of RPE and how to understand what is the right RPE for the task
- The different exposure hazards and ill health from working with wood, silica and construction dust
- The law and requirements for RPE use
- How to correctly fit RPE

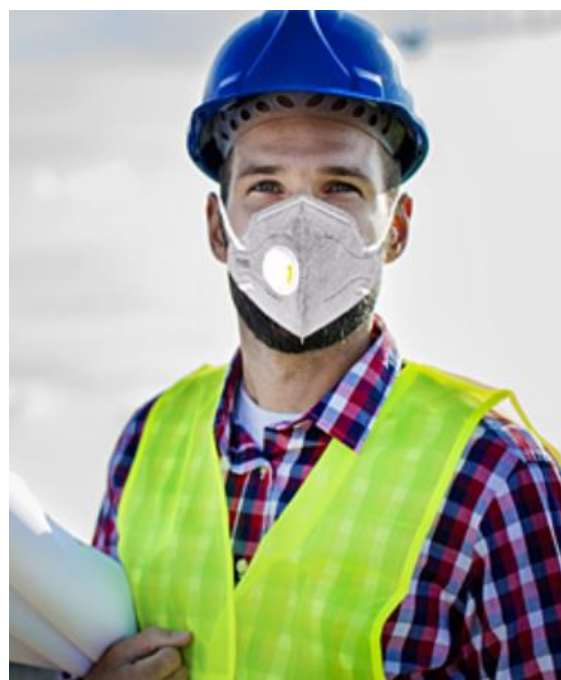
We can then test the face fit of RPE on your operatives using our testing kit and provide certification for each operative.

Please do give us a call if this is of interest to you, on 03300 886585.

# HSE #DUSTBUSTER CAMPAIGN

[The current HSE Dustbuster campaign is in full swing](#)

HSE inspectors will be visiting construction sites across Great Britain to see if businesses have measures in place to protect their workers' lungs from the likes of asbestos, silica and wood dust. We will specifically be looking for evidence of construction workers knowing the risk, planning their work and using the right controls. Is your site ready for a health inspection?



## [Prohibition notice for Essex contractor](#)

A recent visit from the HSE to a site in Harwich focused on dust and face fitting and served an improvement notice for breaches of the following Regulations COSHH 2002, CDM 2015 and the Health and Safety at Work Act. The enforcement officer stated:

“I saw evidence whilst on site that the soft stripping work had been generating significant levels of construction dust (a substance hazardous to health that can contain silica dust and asbestos fibres and cause cancer)

Although workers had been wearing tight fitting disposable masks they had not been subject to “Face Fitting” of the masks by a competent and trained person. This fit-test is needed to ensure the selected RPE can fit the wearer correctly and that an adequate face seal can be achieved thus protecting the wearer from harmful dust inhalation.

If the RPE does not fit it will not protect the wearer. An adequate face seal can only be achieved when the wearer is clean shaven, and I noted that some of the workers on site were not clean shaven at the time of my inspection.”

[Another visit from the HSE to a different Site gave the following advice when cutting wood with power tools](#)

### [Dust Extraction](#)

On-tool extraction – removes dust as it is being produced. It is a type of local exhaust ventilation (LEV) system that fits directly onto the tool. This ‘system’ consists of several individual parts – the tool, capturing hood, extraction unit and tubing.

Use an extraction unit to the correct specification (i.e. H (High) or M (Medium) Class filter unit). Don't just use a general commercial vacuum.

### [Face Fitted Masks](#)

Longer duration work (i.e. over 15–30 minutes accumulated time over the day) will also need Face Fitted FFP3 Masks suitable for the wood dust – particularly in enclosed spaces.



# CONSTRUCTION FIRMS FINED

## Construction firms fined after worker suffers fatal fall

Oliver Connell and Son Ltd and Rydon Construction Ltd have been fined after a worker fell to his death when a temporary platform collapsed.

Southwark Crown Court heard how, on 24 July 2015, Mr. Vasile Nichitut was working on the fifth floor of the construction site at the Green Man Lane Estate, when he walked onto a temporary platform covering a vertical shaft, which collapsed beneath him. He fell approximately 14m and died as a result of his injuries.

An investigation by the Health and Safety Executive (HSE) found that Oliver Connell and Son Ltd had failed to ensure that work at height was properly planned, appropriately supervised and carried out in a safe and practicable manner. Specifically, there was no temporary works design for the platform and the company's system for installing and inspecting it was inadequate.

Rydon Construction Ltd failed to plan, manage and monitor the work involving the temporary platform to ensure that, construction work is carried out without risks to health or safety. They failed to identify the lack of design drawings and carry out suitable checks on the platform.

Oliver Connell and Son Ltd, of Zanrose House, Horsenden Lane South, Greenford, pleaded guilty to breaching Regulation 4(1) of the Work at Height Regulations 2005, and have been fined £360,000 and ordered to pay costs of £4,834.08.

Rydon Construction Ltd, of Rydon House, Station Road, Forest Row, pleaded guilty to breaching Regulation 13(1) of the Construction (Design and Management) Regulations 2015, and have been fined £500,000 and ordered to pay costs of £40,740.88.

After the hearing, HSE inspector Owen Rowley said: "The consequences of temporary works failing can be dire. All contractors involved must ensure that an effective system for managing the temporary works on site is established and adhered to. Crucially, all temporary works require a design to ensure that they are suitable for purpose.

"In this case the failure to manage the risks associated with temporary works and work at height led to the entirely preventable death of Mr. Nichitut."

# BUILDING FIRM FINED OVER FATAL COLLAPSE

## BUILDING FIRM FINED £900,000 AFTER FATAL WALL COLLAPSE

A company has been fined £900,000 after an employee died from head injuries when a wall collapsed on a construction site at Lyme Regis.

Bournemouth Crown Court heard how, on 2 June 2015, Thomas Telfer was working as a bricklayer employed by Capstone Building Ltd, when he was struck by falling masonry after a retaining wall failed as it was being back filled with concrete.

An investigation by the Health and Safety Executive found that the company had failed to appropriately manage the work that was being carried out at the site at Chatterton Heights, Lyme Regis and failed to ensure the health, safety and welfare of employees on site, including Thomas Telfer.



Capstone building Limited, which is in administration, were found guilty after a trial to breaching Section 2 and Section 3 of the Health and Safety at Work Etc Act 1974, were £900,000 and ordered to pay costs of £60,336.99.

Speaking after the hearing, HSE inspector Ian Whittles said: "This tragic incident could so easily have been avoided if the appropriate measures were in place to provide a safe working practice.

"Companies should be aware that HSE will not hesitate to take appropriate enforcement action against those that fall below the required standards."

# GLOBAL ASBESTOS AWARENESS WEEK

TACKLING ASBESTOS-RELATED CANCER TOGETHER

IN ASBESTOS AWARENESS WEEK



Global Asbestos Awareness Week (1-7 April 2019) aims to increase awareness of asbestos and prevent exposure by bringing together experts and victims from around the world to share, learn and take action.

The week is organised by the Asbestos Disease Awareness Organization (ADAO), the largest independent non-profit in the U.S. dedicated to preventing asbestos exposure, eliminating asbestos-related diseases, and protecting asbestos victims' civil rights through education, advocacy, and community initiatives.

Worldwide, asbestos is the biggest cause of occupational cancer, claiming hundreds of thousands of lives a year worldwide, and around 125 million people are still exposed to it at work.

Andrew Goddard Associates Ltd is supporting Global Asbestos Awareness Week and the Institution of Occupational Safety and Health's (IOSH) global campaign to tackle occupational cancer – 'No Time to Lose', which aims to get carcinogenic exposure issues more widely understood and help businesses take action by providing free practical resources.

Find out more about the campaign at [www.notimetolose.org.uk/gaaw2019](http://www.notimetolose.org.uk/gaaw2019), follow @\_NTTL on Twitter, and use the hashtag #2019GAAW.



# CONSTRUCTION FIRST AID FAQ'S



## What are the first aid requirements for sites?

The Health and Safety (First Aid) Regulations 1981 require all construction sites to have:

1. a first aid box with enough equipment to cope with the number of workers on site
2. an appointed person to take charge of first-aid arrangements
3. information telling workers the name of the appointed person or first aider and where to find them. A notice in the site hut is a good way of doing this

## What is an appointed person?

The appointed person looks after first-aid equipment and facilities and calls the emergency services when required. They can also provide emergency cover where a first-aider is unexpectedly absent (annual leave does not count). Appointed persons do not need first-aid training.

## What is a First Aider?

A first-aider is someone who has undertaken training and has a qualification that HSE approves. This means that they must hold a valid certificate of competence in either:

- first aid at work (FAW), issued by a training organisation approved by HSE
- emergency first aid at work (EFAW), issued by a training organisation approved by HSE or a recognised Awarding Body of Ofqual/Scottish Qualifications Authority

## How many First Aiders do we need on site?

Number of employees	Number of First Aiders
Fewer than 5	At least one appointed person
5-50	As least one first-aider trained in EFAW or FAW depending on the type of injuries that may occur
More than 50	As least one first-aider trained in FAW for every 50 people employed

## E-LEARNING

[CHECK OUT OUR WEBSITE FOR OUR WHOLE RANGE OF NEW ONLINE COURSES](#)

Whether you're looking to improve your own knowledge, or provide training to employees, AGA Ltd.'s new e-Learning portal will allow you to book easy to follow e-learning courses in a number of areas. Each course is followed by a short test to clarify your understanding regarding that topic, which after successful completion, you will be issued with a certificate. Get up to date, specialist training in Control of Substances Hazardous to Health, Fall Prevention, the Construction Design & Management Regulations 2015, Risk Assessments Manual Handling, Fire Safety and many more.

## FREE CDM ADVICE

[CONTINUED PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT FOR ALL](#)

Do you need help understanding the CDM Regulations 2015? Not sure if you are complying with your duties correctly? We offer a free CPD consultation to keep you up to date. One of our experienced CDM Consultants will attend your offices or a location of your choosing and provide up to the minute, competent advice. We cover everything from Duty Holders to Design Risk Management and welcome any questions or scenarios you need help with.

Please get in touch if this would be of interest to you.



Andrew Goddard Associates Ltd  
CDM Advisers and Health & Safety Consultants

Prepared By:

Andrew Goddard Associates Limited  
Avon House  
82 Wellington Street  
Thame  
Oxfordshire  
OX9 3BN

Tel: 03300 886 585  
Email: [info@aga-ltd.co.uk](mailto:info@aga-ltd.co.uk)  
Web: [www.aga-ltd.co.uk](http://www.aga-ltd.co.uk)

