



DANGER UFO

Uncontrolled falling or flying objects – they're out there. Prevent an attack by controlling the risks, staying alert and wearing the correct PPE.

SAFETY 
365

From flying stones and pandrol clips to falling branches, sleepers, or even a force of nature – UFOs (uncontrolled falling or flying objects) are out there and can strike at any time.

Last year, hundreds of accidents due to falling or flying objects were recorded.

**THIS BOOKLET SHEDS
LIGHT ON SOME OF THE
THINGS YOU CAN DO TO
AVOID A UFO ATTACK!
TAKE THE INFORMATION
ON BOARD, TAKE CARE
AND TAKE ACTION!**

PPE – be prepared for surprise attacks.

Many injuries could have been avoided by wearing the correct PPE. For example, one unfortunate worker cut and fractured his finger when high winds blew a container lid down onto his hand. He wasn't wearing his gloves.

Protect yourself. Ensure you wear the correct hand and eye protection for the job. Wearing your goggles and gloves will help minimise risk of injury.



Stay in a UFO free zone.

Always think about your positioning when going about your job – keeping a safe distance and being aware of potential dangers to yourself and others around you, including the general public and passengers.

Recently, during a demolition, part of a concrete wall fell down a lift-shaft, shattering on the way down and showering onto the ground below. Only luck ensured no passers by were hurt.



Stay alert and be aware of what's out there.

If you're working with heavy loads and using ropes as hoists, is the load secure?

Last year, one Network Rail worker suffered facial injuries when the pressure of a tightly pulled rope, combined with some high winds, caused a container lid to pop off and fly at him.

UFO ATTACKS ARE MORE LIKELY TO OCCUR IN WINDY OR BAD WEATHER CONDITIONS - BE AWARE OF POTENTIAL RISKS.



Preparation – the best defence against UFOs.

Think about the way you are working. Is it really safe or is it an accident waiting to happen? With preparation you'll know what's going to happen next and can **control the uncontrollable.**

Don't cut corners. Doing things correctly could save you a visit to the hospital.



And remember... You're not alone!

Think about how your work can have a direct impact on other people.

Consider the next person and check to see if there's anyone working near you that could be at risk.

Don't cause an accident for someone else. When stacking items or loading a van – place bulky and heavy objects close to the floor with only lighter objects higher up. Make sure all items are secure and are not likely to fall.

