

Lone workers are a feature of any industry however, for employers, they represent a key area of risk as they are often placed in some of the most dangerous situations

Protecting the individual



There is greater awareness of the risks associated to lone workers with the NHS set to spend £29 million on 30,000 lone worker safety devices

In his speech at the Labour Party Conference in September, Health Secretary Alan Johnson stated, "Over 58,000 NHS staff were physically assaulted by patients and relatives in England in 2005-06. This is completely unacceptable. NHS staff working alone and in the community are particularly at risk." The lone worker market is undeniably becoming more prevalent across Europe, driven through changes in both working practices and health and safety legislation.

On 6th April 2008 the recently approved government bill, the Corporate Manslaughter and Corporate Homicide Act, will become law. The new act will mean that senior management within an organisation, whose gross corporate failures in health and safety lead to the death of individuals, are more likely to face successful prosecution and an unlimited fine.

Without sufficient measures in place, many organisations may find that they are exposed to serious penalties when the bill comes into force. There is already a greater awareness of the risks associated to lone workers with the NHS set to spend £29m on 30,000 lone worker safety devices.

The best answer when confronted with risk is to avoid it however if this is not possible then technology can play an important role. Romtrac Plc is a leading specialist solutions provider of mobile location based services for lone worker protection and personal safety. Romtrac will be an active participant in responding to the governments tender and with its partners directly address the issues faced by NHS lone workers.

Romtrac both produce the Romad Personal Safety Phone and developed its lone worker platform, together providing powerful and accurate location based applications. Our service utilises the latest SiRF GPS technology combined with a power-

ful web based tracking platform that can be deployed in any lone worker, security or remote worker environment.

Our service reduces the risks associated with working remotely by providing communication, location, user profile, alert capability and 24/7 response through our accredited strategic business partners.

Our solution helps mitigate the risks that lone workers face by providing them with a robust and easy method of alerting and getting the help they need, fast. With our bespoke platform that is designed to interface with Security Industry Association (SIA) certified response centres, companies can rest easy that they have the best lone worker safety solution for protecting their employees.

Romtrac's lone worker solution won the Working Buildings Week Award for Best Innovation in Health and Safety 2007, awarded at the Workplace Management Conference held at Olympia, London. Recognising the solution's contribution to improving working building environments and the benefits it offers in reducing accidents and potential workplace hazards, Romtrac was awarded the accolade and was also short listed for Best Product Innovation. ●

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