

# LKL SAFETY NOTE

## Health and Safety- always lookout for the unthinkable!

**Thanks to the quick response of one of our Farmers wife's and the Air Ambulance Service we have avoided a death.** It sounds brutal but it's a simple as that!

Our message is - When you are thinking about your own health and safety documents/procedures and protocols look beyond the box. Ask yourself the question could that incident occur? If factors lined up - is it foreseeable? Simply copying everyone else is not being proactive.



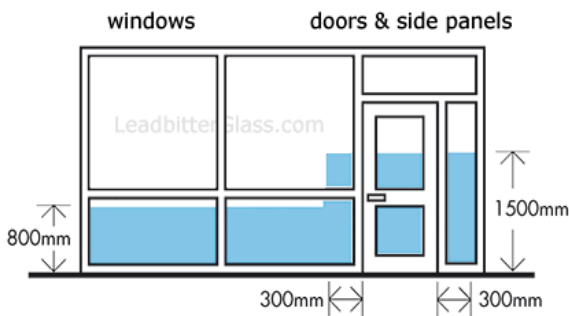
One of our herdsmen tripped and fell through the front door of his mobile home cutting open his arm through his main artery last week. Thankfully he is here to tell the tale, but as I said earlier if it wasn't for a farmers wife who was first aid trained, an ambulance crew who realised that they couldn't get him into hospital fast enough and called the air ambulance he simply wouldn't be here....

The message is two fold.

- Please can all clients look at any glass doors and windows within the workplace and farm accommodation and check they are of reinforced safety materials, safety glazing or have been protected against breakage so that it does not result in large sharp pieces and if not action it!
- And secondly please follow my earlier message, health and safety is about seeing the obvious and the obscure!

There has been FAR TOO MANY AVOIDABLE DEATHS ON FARM RECENTLY- LETS PULL TOGETHER AND TRY AND HELP THE SITUATION!

**Note:** - Glazing that has specifically been identified as a hazard is: -



- in doors and gates, and door and gate side panels, where any part of the transparent or translucent surface is at shoulder level or below;
- in windows, walls and partitions, where any part of the transparent or translucent surface is at waist level or

below. (Excludes greenhouses)

Any pane that is blue – the whole pane should be of safety material (See also current Building Regs. & BS EN 12600)

A quick win is to apply **safety film** to your glazing to make it shatterproof, which can be bought from specialist retailers and Amazon and eBay and fitted yourself. A 5m roll costs approx. £25 – Just check it says it meets the British standard above and is 10 micron thick.

Online safety film suppliers include as an example :-

- Windowfilm.co.uk - can buy on line or have professionally fitted or DIY with online instructions to follow on the website.
- Activewindowfilms.co.uk
- Amazon - variety of suppliers but Luxico and Activefilm brands look suitable.

*By Ben Furnival LKL Regional Manager and Michelle Jeal, LKL Health & Safety consultant*

### **SWAP QUAD BIKES FOR SAFER UTVS**

Quad bikes are used in operations throughout the agricultural sector. However, similar modes of transport are available in the form of a utility vehicle (UTV). Because of the cab structure of UTVs, evidence suggests they are safer for the user. If they overturn, unlike a quad bike, they are unlikely to crush the user underneath the vehicle.

There is a wider range of UTVs increasingly available. Lone working is commonplace on farms and quad bikes undoubtedly pose a greater potential risk in this instance. In 2015, an Australian study by the University of New South Wales questioned the safety of quad bikes after a high number of quad bike-related deaths in that country.

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