

# TRACKPLOT lone worker monitoring solutions:

## Bringing you peace of mind

The UK has one of the leading contractor markets in Europe and almost all organisations use contractors at some time. The value of working with contractors is the versatility they bring, they offer specialists to deliver projects on time and within budget.

Working with safe, credible and ethical contractors is vital for business growth. A fundamental factor for a positive partnership is for organisations to support contractors to keep them safe and well whilst they work.

### What are the risks?

How important is health and safety? It's certainly more than ticking a box for compliance. The Health & Safety Executive's (HSE) report *Workplace fatal injuries in Great Britain, 2020* highlighted that across agriculture, forestry and fishing the sector accounts for around 20% of all worker deaths. Most fatal injuries in this sector are for self-employed workers (65%), which is higher than any other industry. HSE's *Health and safety at work 2020* report also shows the sector had statistically significantly higher injury rates than for all industries.

People have a right to return home from work safe and sound. Risks to workers within the forestry and land management sector include operating heavy machinery, moving vehicles, chemicals, aerial tree work, chainsaw operation, working at height or near pits and silos and livestock. Typically working in remote locations, often rough terrain and in all weathers, these lone workers are exposed to environmental threats, noise and dust daily.

First and foremost you need to know that the Health and Safety at Work Act applies to contractors and subcontractors as well as employees. Any organisation which hires contractors will have duties under health and safety

law, as will the contractor themselves. This also applies when a contractor employs subcontractors.

### What you should expect as a contractor

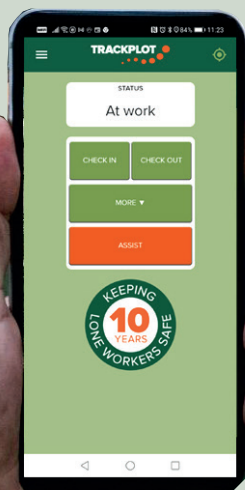
For any contracted work you should receive project specifications and requirements, which should include any hazards that will affect your workers so you can assess the risks. This will help you to decide if you have the experience and equipment to carry out the work required.

It will also enable you to ask pertinent questions, assess their health and safety reputation, request evidence and accreditations. You will need to carry out your own risk assessment which should fit with the hiring organisation's risk assessment. You should expect management throughout the duration of the project, being provided with written explicit instructions and clear expectations before the project starts. This will help you to plan and understand how the work will be managed and supervised, including health and safety aspects.

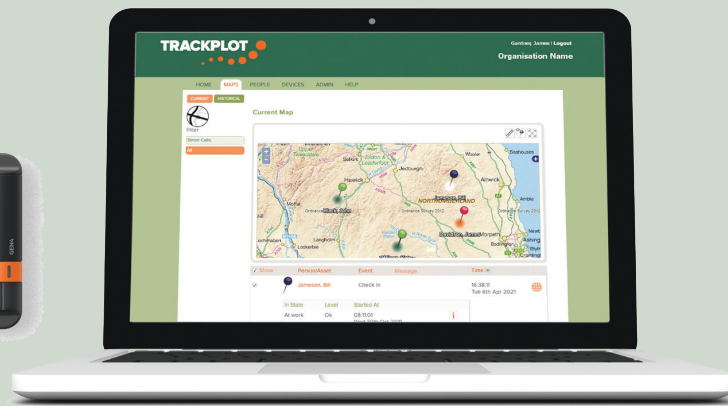
### Why do I need to consider a lone worker monitoring system?

First of all establish if you have lone workers. Businesses are often confused as to whether they employ or engage lone workers or not. A lone worker is someone who performs an activity that is carried out in isolation from other workers without close or direct supervision.

If you do have lone workers then they will need to be treated differently. This is because there will always be greater risks for lone workers without



direct supervision or anyone to help them if things go wrong. You may decide that a control measure you need to put in place is lone worker monitoring to help keep lone workers safe.



### Assessing the Trackplot solution

Trackplot is a lone worker monitoring solution designed for people who work alone outdoors, especially those working in isolated, remote or hazardous locations. Trackplot specialises in the outdoor market where lone workers are exposed to environmental risks such as difficult terrain and harsh weather conditions. If an incident occurs the situation is inherently more dangerous due to their environment which influences the response that is needed in an emergency situation.

### Where does the system work?

The Trackplot system can work anywhere. The Trackplot World option uses GPS and satellite-based technology; the Trackplot Mobile option can be used when your lone workers have reliable mobile phone coverage.

### How do I interact with the lone worker monitoring system?

The Trackplot Portal is the control and command centre at the heart of the solution. Using this online interactive platform you can monitor the location, activity and safety of your workforce in real time throughout the day; set up processes and escalation procedures; and reporting. The Portal uses Ordnance Survey mapping and integrates with satellite communication technology and the latest GPS devices, the mobile phone network and the Trackplot Mobile app.

### What do I need to set up and support a lone worker monitoring system?

You need a computer and will need to appoint a person who will be responsible for using the lone worker monitoring system daily to regularly check all your lone workers are safe (you may wish to appoint more than one person if you have shift workers working longer or out of hours or if you

have a larger number of lone workers). That's it. Trackplot is a complete solution and we provide you with everything else you need.

### How flexible is the system?

You self-manage your lone workers and we can help you set up the system to suit how you operate. Your lone workers will have pre-agreed 'Check-in' times and will use one of the many methods to check-in at regular intervals and check-out at the end of their working day. The Trackplot notification system and workflow provides flexible monitoring and notification periods, with automatic alerts if a lone worker is overdue or requires assistance.

### What happens in the case of an accident or emergency?

Trackplot enables escalation and the appropriate level of response to be activated depending upon the incident:

**Assist:** This is used in non-medical emergencies such as a vehicle breakdown. The lone worker can request assistance and your company's escalation procedures will begin.

**SOS:** This is used in medical emergencies only and will result in the appropriate emergency service being deployed depending on the location of the lone worker and their activity.

### What if the lone worker is unconscious?

The Trackplot Portal has an automatic escalation procedure which, in the event that the lone worker is incapacitated, allows the alarm still to be raised.

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Talk to the Trackplot team today to find out how they can support your business and your lone workers.

T: 0131 513 9571  
E: sales@trackplot.com  
www.trackplot.com



# TRACKPLOT

Our customers come first.

Mark B Page is a forestry contractor who has relied on Trackplot since 2012:

Mark set up in private practice in 2000 having acquired years of experience working in forestry, previously at Tilhill Economic Forestry, Shotton Forest Management, Crown Estate Commissioners and Fountain Forestry. He is well known in the forestry sector – across the UK and beyond – for a wide ranging portfolio of forestry projects.

**The business critical issue:**

As a self employed Chartered Forester, Mark provides consultancy and management to clients in South Scotland and North England, often working on forest surveys and data acquisition in woodlands in remote areas without reliable mobile phone coverage.

Historically Mark relied on a mobile phone check-in system with his family, along the lines of “If I haven’t checked in by 17:00 call my client who will know exactly how to find me.” However, this was dependent on having mobile phone reception and on the client being available during their out-of-work hours.

There were occasions when this system fell short. The anxiety it caused for both Mark and his family triggered the need for a more robust system to be put in place.

**How Trackplot helped:**

The Trackplot system has given Mark peace of mind. Mark states, “It is completely reliable and I use the latest GPS device which can get a signal out from under thick tree canopies. I carry it clipped on to my hi-vis work jacket by a carabiner. I normally check-in to Trackplot when I leave my vehicle. I now tend to check-out by means of my mobile phone, once I am finished at the end of the day and back in phone coverage. The flexibility Trackplot offers to check-in and out either by GPS device, mobile phone or online means



there is always a way for me to access the system and let everyone know I am safe.”

**Additional outcomes:**

As Mark’s clients have become more aware of lone worker technology and the benefits it can bring to health and safety, the knock on effect has been that it is now much easier for Mark to create robust Lone Working Risk Assessments for specific projects. Some of his clients have direct experience of using the Trackplot system for their own employees and this knowledge adds credibility and strengthens the confidence they have in Mark’s professionalism.

**“I’ve found Trackplot to give me, my wife and my daughter peace of mind.”**