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Reducing the risk of personnel – vehicle incidents

The risk of personnel – vehicle incidents (PVIs) remains a major concern for all companies operating mobile plant. Despite the successful introduction of technology and better working practices accidents can still occur. A new product called ZoneSafe™ aims to provide companies with a new tool for reducing the risk of PVIs even further. ZoneSafe™ is distributed by OnGrade Ltd the Dorset based distributor of mobile plant instrumentation and has been developed by Avonwood Developments, specialists in RFID technology.

ZoneSafe™ is a proximity warning system that produces a detection zone around a vehicle. The zone can be configured to give a full 360° detection monitor at a perimeter range of up to 8m.

When the detection zone is entered by personnel wearing a ZoneSafe™ transponder (also known as tag) an in cab alarm gives audible and visual warning to the operator of the vehicle that the zone perimeter has been breached. An external alarm option can also be fitted, giving warning to pedestrian personnel that they have breached the zone.

ZoneSafe™ tags can be detected by any vehicle or equipment on which a ZoneSafe™ system has been deployed. This makes it ideal for companies who have staff movements across multiple sites. The tags can be worn in a number of ways or be integrated into hi vis clothing or other PPE such as hard hats.

One of unique benefits of ZoneSafe™ when compared to other safety measures such as radar and reversing cameras is that ZoneSafe™ data logs any events caused by a tag breach, the data recorded includes tag number and time and date of the breach. This data can be downloaded and used for the investigation of any incidents and for awareness training of personnel. Because ZoneSafe™ only monitors for wearers of the transponder, false alarms that can occur with other technologies are minimised.

ZoneSafe™ has already received a very positive reception from companies across many industry sectors including those operating within the aggregates, warehousing and distribution, construction, and waste management industries. Other application areas include ports and material handling sites, in fact anywhere there is a need to reduce the risk caused to personnel by moving vehicles and machine hazards.

ZoneSafe™ can be installed on mobile plant of all sizes and types from forklift trucks through to wheeled loaders, excavators, dozers and anything in between.

For further information go to www.proximitywarning.com or contact OnGrade direct using freephone number 08081 201033 or by email info@ongrade.com