

## Safety Alert:

# Hoodies & Hats Underneath Hard Hats

Date:

Distribution:

At this time of year, we tend to start to see a large number of workers wearing their hoodies or beanie hats under their safety helmets to keep them warm. While understandable given the need to keep warm throughout the winter months HSE clearly states that head protection should:

- Fit the person wearing it.
- Compatible with all other items of clothing.
- Should conform to CE/UKCA marking and BS EN 397.
- Worn properly with operatives provided information, instruction and training in to how to use the item.

Wearing a hoodie or a hat underneath your hard hat not only compromises the fit of the helmet, but also endangers others if the helmet were to fall off your head whilst working at height. This will also leave you exposed to falling objects from above, without a safety helmet on the impact of a falling object can cause serious injury or death.

Lastly wearing a hoodie underneath your helmet narrows your field of vision increasing your chance of collision with machinery and other hazards.

There is a simple solution in this situation. If you are cold on site and you are in need for extra warmth above your neck, there is a variety of hard hat liners available on the market. These products are specially designed to work with your helmet by either attaching directly to the inside of the helmet itself or made with stretchy material designed to provide a tight fit to provide minimal interference with the helmet.

Below are some examples of the types of headwear that's worn on site both compliant and non-compliant.

### Examples of headwear underneath hard hats



Examples of loose-fitting hats & hoodies under hard hats

Examples of safe/tested hard hat liners

As you can see in the examples above the helmet liners provide similar levels of protection from the elements however most importantly, they provide a far more secure fit than when wearing a hoodie, a beanie or woolly hat.

An important thing to note when it comes to purchasing hard hat liners is to check if the liner is compatible with your make and model of helmet. **Helmet manufacturers will sell liners designed and tested for use with their helmets. For example, a JSP liner**

**may not be compatible with a Centurion helmet.** All liners purchased must be tested for compatibility with the specific hard hats they will be worn under.

Details of compatibility can usually be found on the liner retailers' website.

**How a hard hat liner can be securely fastened to the inside of a helmet using**

**Some liners however fit snugly and securely to the user's head to ensure a safe and secure fit**



**Example of a compliant liner inserted securely to a helmet**



This safety alert was delivered by:

**Manager:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

And was delivered to the below named and signed employees and contractors.

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Signature: \_\_\_\_\_