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**Back to Boots**

**Autumn Watch**

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Historically during winter months we have experienced high winds moving traffic management signs causing reportable injuries, winds blowing materials into live carriageways and wind causing a change in tree felling operations resulting in debris falling into a live motorway. These events are in addition to an increase in slip, trip, and fall incidents during periods of wet weather and darkness.

For this reason Contract Leaders are asked to review and refresh their Back to Boots approach with their team for the last quarter of the year.

Suggested topics for teams to focus on:

1. **Boots Amnesty**

Choose a day/week, at start of shift review whether boots are fit for purpose (grip, laces, midsole protection).

1. **Light Up**

Review dawn/dusk tasks that were in daylight – do they now require task or environmental lighting?

Do all lighting towers meet the required standard (AMOSS, Hybrid Power)?

1. **Winter Preparedness**

Do you have a supply of grit/de-icer?

Can vehicles/plant be safely de-iced at start of shift? How is work at height controlled to reach windscreens?

1. **Traffic Management Signs**

Are all signs required? E.g. can repeater signs be removed?

Can signs be fixed on a temporary permanent post rather than A Frames?

How are signs secured?

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| **Back To…** | | |
| **B** | Back to Boots | 1. Do you know how often each member of your site team is out on-site? Do you think it is sufficient for their respective roles? Do they think it is sufficient? 2. If more ‘site time’ is required for certain individuals, is there a plan in place to achieve this? 3. Are you certain that the relevant site team members would ‘put on their boots and go and have a look’ when required? Does all your site delivery team prioritise in this way? |
| **O** | Our Responsibilities | What SHE duties are we fulfilling when out on site?   1. Does everyone in your team know their individual SHE responsibilities? 2. Are they clearly communicated and formalised (written roles and responsibilities and reviewed in January performance review). 3. Is there a knowledge gap identified? Is there a plan to fill it? |
| **O** | Our Value | We can all add value.   1. If it looks wrong, it’s highly probable that it is wrong. Do you have experience in all of your site team to know what wrong looks like? 2. Fresh eyes can see things that experienced familiar eyes can’t. Do the less experienced or non-technical members of the team know how they can add value? 3. Does all of your site team have the confidence to challenge? Do they feel duty bound to do so? If not, why not? |
| **T** | Timely action | Do issues/concerns get elevated to the right people & in a timely manner?   1. Does everyone really know the importance of raising concerns/near misses (TBT using Rob Taylor video may help get the message to the work front) & do they feel duty bound to do so? If not, why not? What barriers does your specific contract need to remove? 2. Are you actively engaging with the workforce? Does everyone in the team know who the CL & SHE Manager is? Do they know that they can approach you with any SHE concerns they have that are not being addressed? 3. Are you certain that site issues/concerns are raised in a timely manner and to the right people? Does your team know when you need to be informed? In your absence, who must be there to ensure that sound judgement is maintained, do you ensure that you always have this sufficient cover? |
| **S** | Stop | If in doubt, STOP:   1. Check that everyone has the ‘Managing Director (or JV equivalent) commitment card’, is the message very clearly understood by all? 2. Does everyone genuinely feel empowered to ‘stop, if unsafe to continue’ without recrimination? If not, why not? 3. What particular barriers exist on your site that may prevent people from ‘stop if in doubt’? How can you remove these barriers? |

