

Registered Safety Supplier Scheme



Poor protection risks lives everyday.
Only genuine safety equipment
really protects...



Confidence through Compliance

Have you checked that you are using genuine safety equipment?

When choosing the correct safety equipment, it is important to have full confidence in the product that you are purchasing. The problem arises when organisations believe they are purchasing adequate PPE for the workforce, when in fact the products may be fake or illegal.

Unfortunately, fake and illegal products being manufactured and sold within the PPE industry are an increasingly common problem. Over recent years, a plethora of items have entered the market place, from gloves to high visibility vests, which have been produced using sub standard materials. Often these products are finished such that, to the untrained eye, it is difficult, if not impossible, to identify that they are fake. Ultimately, the wearer risks serious injury.

Buying a fake watch may be illegal but it is unlikely to be life threatening to the end user. Supplying fake personal protective equipment (PPE) however could be the difference between life and death.

Many of these counterfeit products are now readily available on the UK market. It is not really surprising that purchasers of PPE are now more wary about procuring items as there is general confusion over certified products, mainly due to the counterfeit items, falsified certifications and the potentially confusing CE symbol. Nevertheless, there are measures at hand to ensure employers are buying and supplying the correct equipment.



Taking a stand on fake PPE

To help combat the influx of counterfeit and illegal PPE The British Safety Industry Federation (BSIF) has introduced the Registered Safety Supplier Scheme (RSSS). This scheme allows members to identify themselves as having made a formal declaration that they are selling only products that are genuine and legal. The Registered Safety Supplier Scheme acts as a signpost for people to ensure they can buy from a reputable company that they can trust to supply genuine legal products and provide good advice.

Requirements of the Registered Safety Supplier Scheme include a binding declaration that the safety equipment supplied meets the appropriate standards, fully complies with the PPE regulations and is appropriately CE marked. This declaration is, as a condition of the scheme, audited through special provisions set out within the company's ISO9001 Certification. Under the Registered Safety Supplier Scheme this independent audit is one of the key requirements to independently verify conformance; it is the BSIF's belief that the independent audit is a key part of the robustness of the scheme. Each member of the scheme is subject to standards' audits and undertakes to comply with the rules relating to quality conformance and compliance with regulations.

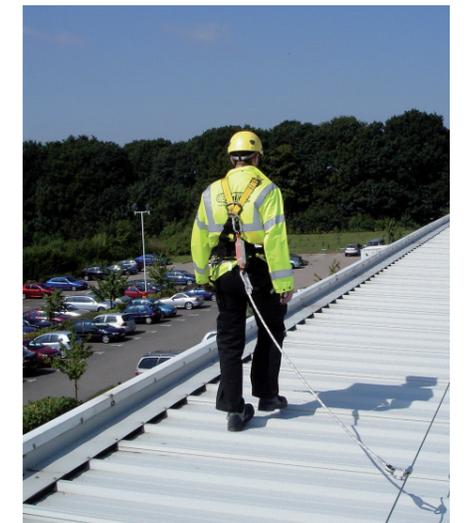
Certified goods will always be paramount in the health and safety world and being extra vigilant when looking after your workforce is essential when health and lives are at risk. By just being aware of the type of counterfeit items available on the marketplace and remembering that offers that seem 'too good to be true' usually are, is a step in the right direction. Purchasing the right PPE is a big responsibility and safety equipment that doesn't perform properly isn't just inconvenient, it may actually cost lives.

How to find a Registered Safety Supplier



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To guarantee that you are purchasing genuine safety equipment ensure that you source from a Registered Safety Supplier. For a full list of members, visit www.bsif.co.uk/registered-safety-suppliers. Alternatively, look out for the distinctive shield when you next buy safety equipment.



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