

This Letter is for the attention of all Network Rail Principal Contractors

Network Rail  
The Quadrant  
Milton Keynes  
MK9 1EN

27 February 2017

Our Ref: RL.STE/0207

Dear Sir / Madam,

### Eye and hand protection

Our eyes and hands are things we all take for granted. In the past year (2015/2016) our workforce across Network Rail Infrastructure Projects have suffered:

- 187 eye injuries
- 578 hand injuries

Network Rail has worked with the Rail Contractor Safety Forum (RCSF) and the Infrastructure Safety Liaison Group (ISLG) and we all agree this level of injury is unacceptable. We are seeking to implement the below methodology.

From 1st April 2017 Principal Contractors working at a Network Rail Infrastructure Projects worksite will have in place suitable systems to control the risk of eye and hand injuries. The basic principle will be that all staff working on site will as a minimum wear appropriate eye protection and general purpose gloves that meet the Cut5 standard.

The Principal Contractor will determine where specific hand or eye protection is required as specified by a risk assessment for that activity, based on task, site and environmental risks (including weather conditions).

Yours sincerely,



**Rupert Lown**  
**Head of Corporate Workforce Safety**  
**On behalf of Infrastructure Projects**