

Unions make workplaces safer

Workplaces with trade union recognition have 50 per cent fewer accidents than those without.

The Health and Safety Executive has shown that trade union safety representatives are far better informed about safety than managers.

Trade unions help make workplaces safer, and UNISON has a strong record of campaigning on health and safety issues.

With UNISON's commitment to health and safety, employers have no choice but to sit up and take notice.

Join UNISON today

UNISON needs as much support as we can get to keep up the pressure for safe working conditions.

If you are not already a member of UNISON please ask your UNISON steward or safety representative for an application form or call UNISONdirect on **0845 355 0845**. Textphone users call UNISONdirect on **0800 0 967 968**.

Lines open from 6am to midnight, Monday-Friday and 9am to 4pm Saturday.

Alternatively visit UNISON's website www.unison.org.uk

Does your work make you sick?

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- **aches**
 - **pains**
 - **infections**
 - **depression**
 - **anxiety**
 - **headaches**
 - **sore eyes**
 - **sore throat**
 - **back pain**
 - **breathing problems?**



Your job can make you sick

Every year, around two and a half million people are made ill because of their work.

Do you suffer from:

- aches and pains in your neck, shoulder, arms or wrists
- regular infections
- depression or anxiety
- back pain
- skin rashes
- headaches
- sore eyes
- sore throat
- breathing problems?

Maybe you just feel thoroughly uncomfortable and exhausted by the end of the working day? If you do, then it may be caused by your work.

You have the right to be safe and healthy at work.

As a UNISON member you can raise any complaints, queries or worries with your UNISON safety representative.

UNISON safety representatives work to ensure that you work in a healthy and safe environment.

UNISON can help

Your working conditions can play a very important role in your health.

Often the dangers you face are hidden rather than obvious. Seemingly harmless working practices and conditions can lead, in time, to serious illness.

Yet work itself is not what is making people ill. Bad working practices and poor health and safety procedures are the cause. Almost all work-related illnesses are avoidable, and UNISON is there to help ensure the health and safety of every one of our members.

You don't have to put up with it

Your employer has a legal duty to provide you with a safe workplace, safe working methods and safe equipment. In addition, your employer cannot allow you to work with substances, such as chemicals, that might put your health at risk.

Once you are a UNISON member, if your employer asks you to work in poor working conditions, or with

dangerous substances or equipment, UNISON is there to assist.

You have the right to be safe and healthy at work

UNISON safety representatives work to ensure that you work in a healthy and safe environment. They have legal rights to help them carry out their duties.

On your behalf they can:

- investigate any problems
- inspect your workplace
- raise health and safety issues with your employer
- get access to information and advice from UNISON.

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