



## Maximizing protection for lone workers

What protective communication devices are available? How can they help?



*All of us know that lone workers are vulnerable. It is essential that they are able to transmit an alarm to trigger a response from colleagues and/or emergency services in the event of an emergency situation. Ascom explains what communication devices are available, and how they can help you to help lone workers.*

### Minimizing lone worker risks

#### **Medical risks**

Stroke, heart attacks and seizures are serious medical emergencies for all of us. They are even more so for lone workers. It is essential that such vulnerable workers can quickly and easily transmit alarms to colleagues and/or emergency services. And it is essential that responders can accurately locate the source of an alarm, and can share that information with other responders.

#### **No-movement and man-down alarms**

When a lone worker's mobile device is inactive beyond a pre-determined time (as can happen with falls or sudden loss of consciousness), his or her mobile device should automatically transmit a so-called 'no movement' alarm to pre-selected recipients. The same holds should the worker's mobile device experience a sudden tilt or drop: an alarm should go to designated recipients.

But one-way communication is of limited value in an emergency. Responders should also be able to locate (ideally to within room-level accuracy) the mobile device that transmitted the alarm—saving critical time. Ascom uses various technologies (Bluetooth Low Energy, IR, DECT and Wi-Fi locating) to accurately and reliably locate lone workers' mobile devices.



### **Workplace incidents**

Lone workers are often to be found in potentially hazardous environments. They can be subjected to extremes of heat or cold. Explosives and dangerous chemicals may be present. Such environments not only require rigorous safety protocols, they also require rugged, reliable enterprise-grade mobile devices and sturdy communication platforms such as those provided by Ascom.

### **Voluntary alarm and voice functionality**

To help lone workers make the best-possible decisions, Ascom solutions are equipped with voice functionality. In noisy, dusty, humid or even dangerous environments, isolated workers can obtain precise information by communicating with colleagues (individually or in conference calls).

## **Personal safety**

Lone workers in certain sectors are vulnerable to physical and verbal abuse. Even when such abuse does not escalate to physical violence, it can lower employee morale, mental well-being and job performance.

### **Discreet alarms**

A simple touch of a button on a mobile device can send a silent, discreet alarm to designated recipients, summoning help without exacerbating a tense situation or provoking an aggressor.

### **The tear-away cord**

A lone worker's mobile device can also feature a tear-away cord. Should the device be snatched or taken from the worker, an alarm is automatically sent to designated responders.

### **Advanced voice functionality**

Ascom's advanced voice functionality includes a discreet voice channel. During a threatening situation, the lone worker can—at the press of a button—open a secure and/or discreet communication channel for responders to listen in. Responders can listen in and monitor the unfolding situation until they reach the device's location.

Ascom has for decades developed security and safety solutions to help maximize the protection of lone workers. Today, these solutions can be found worldwide, in environments ranging from prisons to hospital ERs, from sprawling industrial plants to secure psychiatric care units. **Contact us.**

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