

Over 20% of drink driving offences occur in the morning

UK Safety Experts Urge UK Businesses to Protect Workforce During Festive Season

UK businesses have a legal responsibility of ensuring staff are not over the alcohol limit while at work, to support this, [Arco](#), the UK's leading health and safety expert, wants to encourage the use of [breathalysers](#) in the work place this festive season.

December is statistically the worst month for drink driving in the UK.^[1] As everyone winds down over the festive period, more people risk being over the limit. New figures show that 58% of people who have four or more drinks on a night out sometimes drive the following morning, but that only one third of people are aware they could still be over the limit,^[2] which is why over 20% of drink driving offences occur in the morning.^[3]

Under the Health and Safety at Work, Act of 1974, employers have a legal responsibility to ensure, the health and safety of employees, if they don't they could be prosecuted. To tackle this, many UK businesses are being advised to adopt a drug/alcohol screening for employees this winter with an emphasis on those in safety-sensitive industries, including jobs that require the operation of industrial machinery or driving and logistics. This is important, as in safety critical areas, drug and alcohol misuse can cause serious accidents which can be life threatening.^[4]

Arco recommends that breathalysers are an ideal solution in the workplace as a means of screening and urge businesses to take responsibility to provide peace of mind for workers and employers. If an employee operates machinery while under the influence of alcohol they can pose a risk to himself and also others,^[5].

Arco provide a range of [breathalysers](#) including the new Drager Alcotest models.

- 45A1700 – Drager Alcotest 5820 (new product)
- 45A1800 – Drager Alcotest 6820 (new product)
- 45A2000 – Drager Interlock 7000 (new product)

For more information on alcohol testing and Arco's range of breathalysers, please visit

www.arco.co.uk/breathalysers

Notes

Full List of Products:

- 45A1700 – Drager Alcotest 5820 (new product)
- 45A1800 – Drager Alcotest 6820 (new product)
- 45A2000 – Drager Interlock 7000 (new product)
- 45A1200 – Alco Sense Breathalyser Twin Pack
- 45A1300 – CA20 Pro Fuel Cell Breathalyser
- 45A1400 – Alco VISOR Mk X Breathalyser
- 45A1500 – Alco VISOR Mercury Breathalyser & Printer

About Arco

Arco is the UK's leading safety company and has a core purpose of keeping people safe at work. Through its dedicated in house experts, Arco helps to shape the safety world in order to ensure UK workers go home safe every night. It distributes a world-class range of over 170,000 quality assured, branded and own brand products, including personal protective equipment, workwear, safety footwear, gloves, workplace safety and hygiene products. It also provides professional services encompassing training, consultancy and site services.

Headquartered in Hull, Arco reaches its customers through its extensive product catalogue, interactive website and 47 strong retail store network. The company has sales of over £287m and employs approximately 1600 people nationwide.

Arco is committed to providing safety equipment that is genuine and compliant with relevant standards and regulations. To do this, it has a five step product assurance process and is the only safety distributor with an independently accredited testing laboratory. Additionally, it is a member of the BSIF Registered Safety Suppliers Scheme.

Founded in 1884 and with a heritage spanning four generations, Arco demonstrates traditional family values and is dedicated to its Corporate Social Responsibility policy. It continually demonstrates its support of local business communities and charitable organisations, donating in excess of 1% of pre tax profits annually. In 2007, Arco became a member of the Ethical Trading Initiative (ETI) incorporating their internationally recognised code of labour practice into its own ethical policy and in 2010 became a member of Sedex, the Supplier Ethical Data Exchange. To ensure ethical standards are continuously met throughout its supply chain, Arco carries out regular audits amongst all suppliers and, working with the ETI and other regulatory bodies, the company plays a leading role in helping to eliminate modern day slavery across the globe. For more information, visit www.arco.co.uk.