

Alert No 07/2015

This safety alert has been prepared by the RSTA. Completed forms for adding to the RSTA website should be submitted to Clive Mitchell clive@rsta-uk.org For further information regarding this safety alert please email Clive or phone 07557529410

**Safety Alert**

**Music Headphones**

Description of near hit

A number of operatives have been observed using use of head phones while working and operating machinery on-site.

 

The use of headphones and earphones on site to listen to music from a personal music device or mobile phone is prohibited, including the use of ear defenders with built in radios.

Why did this happen?

Using headphones and earphones on site to listen to music from a personal music device or mobile phone can cause the following risks:



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**Safety Alert**

* Failure to hear vehicle and plant auditory cues/sirens i.e. when they are reversing
* Failure to hear approaching traffic
* Failure to hear a fire alarm or other warning alarms
* Failure to hear a verbal order for an emergency stop
* Failure to hear colleagues conversations or instructions
* Earphone wires can also become trapped in plant and machinery
* Damage to public and client perception.

 Action

All employees are reminded that the use of headphones and earphones on site are prohibited.