

TACKLING HAND INJURIES AND CHANGING PERCEPTIONS



IDENTIFYING THE PROBLEM

Back in 2020, VVB Engineering were **experiencing a consistent rise in hand injuries**. This prompted an investigation which found that their **glove range needed to be better suited** to their working environment and activities.

“They were too bulky for precise work, and many were wrongly specified without high enough cut resistance.”

Group Safe, Sustainable and Wellbeing Director

Their **current range was complicated** and **easily allowed for the selection of the wrong glove**. Gloves **were viewed as a disposable commodity** by all, and this meant additional waste. There was also **an attitude of complying** rather than wearing the right glove.

“The biggest challenge we had was the removal of gloves to undertake precise electrical work. This was a result of our current gloves being too bulky. I realised we needed thinner gloves with better dexterity but in addition, all the gloves needed to have higher cut resistance which was hard to find.”

AT A GLANCE

INDUSTRY

Mechanical & Electrical

LOCATION

United Kingdom

ORGANISATION

27 site locations

500 people

Work across infrastructure projects that cover, fire, communications public health, rail, highways, power, and tunnelling.

CHALLENGE

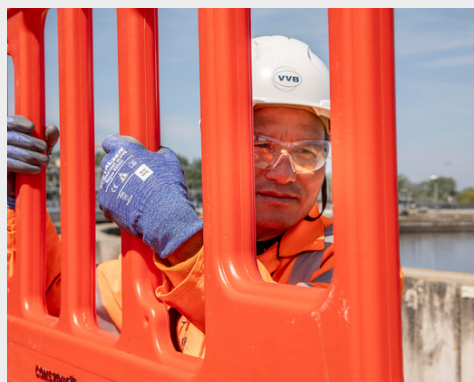
Tackle a consistent rise in hand injuries and a complicated hand protection range.

SOLUTION

Specified a simplified range of gloves that enabled work rather than inhibited it, without compromising on protection.

RESULTS

- Hand injuries halved in 2024
- A change of attitude across the business towards valuing hand protection
- Thus reducing consumption and enhancing the safety culture.



THE SOLUTION

STALSEN worked with VVB Engineering to **specify a range of gloves that enabled work rather than inhibited it**. The new range focused on **innovative gloves** that were ultra lightweight with much higher dexterity and comfort, but also offered the highest cut resistance, ensuring there was **no compromise on protection**.

Hand injuries most **frequently occur when gloves are not on hands**. So ensuring all bases were covered in protection, comfort, and functionality, while also ensuring the range was suited to the activities VVB's workforce were engaged in, meant that we had eliminated the reasons to remove gloves while at work.

"STALSEN enabled us to create a simplified range of quality gloves that are activity based. We have a direct link to Kieran who is the right person to make it all happen. He looks beyond the gloves at behavioural elements. It is rare in this industry to be given such a personalised solution to hand protection".

THE OUTCOME

STALSEN has helped to **change the perception of hand protection and safety** at VVB. The introduction of a specified range of site-specific hand protection has resulted in a significant reduction in hand injuries, **halving injuries in 2024**.

There has been a **change in attitude** across the business which has also had some other positive outcomes, including a **reduction in consumption and waste** and building a stronger safety culture. The new gloves last longer and are looked after by the wearers. It is easy for them to wear the right gloves now as the guess-work has been taken out.

"We don't feel like a number to STALSEN, our business and our safety really matters to them."

50%

REDUCTION IN HAND INJURIES

POSITIVE

CHANGE IN ATTITUDES; REDUCING CONSUMPTION AND WASTE.



TALK TO US ABOUT HAND INJURY REDUCTION.

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