

## *“Simple as falling off a ladder “*

The devastating, hidden impact of work-related accidents

**The devastating effect a work-related accident can have on your life will be hit home when Jason Anker, a former construction worker who was left paralysed from the waist down after falling from a ladder in 1993, will talk about his accident and the shocking impact it has had on his life.**

Looking back, Jason says:

“At the time of the accident, I was married with two young children and I’d just been working over the Christmas and New Year period to earn some extra cash to support them. Things were really looking up for me.

“But then the accident changed everything. Being told I would never walk again was so hard, and I became a completely different person. My wife left with the kids, and I lost my home and many friendships as I tried to come to terms with what had happened to me. I did many things I’m not proud of before I finally turned the corner. It was like I was living in a recurring nightmare.”

Jason added:

“Everything I went through could have been avoided had proper health and safety measures been in place. If I’d been more aware of health and safety 17 years ago, I probably wouldn’t have been up that ladder in the first place.

“I don’t want anyone else to go through what I’ve been through because of a work-related accident. I don’t want another family to suffer like mine has. That’s why it is so important that people are taught about health and safety by their employer.”

More than 130,000 workers were injured, and 180 were killed, last year in the UK’s workplaces. Around 200 trainers who provide health and safety training to some of Britain’s biggest organisations will be present at the event, where they will also be able to find out about the benefits of tailored training courses.

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