



For GMB Members in **ASDA STORES**

GMB – WORKING FOR YOU IN ASDA

AUGUST 2009 - 50

PPE AND FOOTWEAR

Dear Colleagues

GMB has constantly raised concerns on protective and adequate footwear for Stores workers.

Again, progress is being made. Whilst there has been consultation with GMB Safety Representatives on protective footwear, we have asked the Company to reconsider the risk assessment regarding protective footwear. In particular, GMB believes protective non-slip footwear is required for the rotisserie and petrol stations. Likewise, the issue of appropriate footwear for bakeries needs to be considered because of the flour having a corrosive effect on shoes.

Whilst the Company is going to make affordable appropriate footwear available to all Stores, GMB argues that affordable footwear should be made more widely available in Stores because of the risk of foot injuries. GMB did ask for statistics for recorded foot injuries resulting from roll cages. We were advised that only 1.3% of injuries in Stores are reported as being down to roll cages. We believe this is down to underreporting of injuries. **It is important that GMB representatives in Stores do their utmost to ensure accidents and near misses are reported.**

GARY SMITH
NATIONAL SECRETARY

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GMB COMMERCIAL SERVICES SECTION**