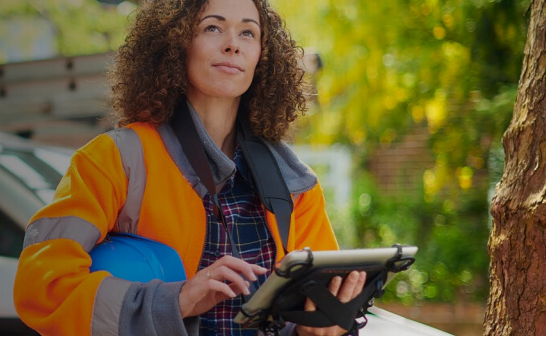




LONE WORKER SAFETY FOR UTILITY FLEETS

A checklist for the sites beyond cellular reach



Pre-deployment verification

Coverage is confirmed for every remote or high-risk site before dispatch — not assumed from carrier maps

Sites with confirmed dead zones are flagged in dispatch records so the same assumption isn't made twice

Underground and confined space access points are assessed for coverage separately from surface coverage at the same location

Lone worker protocols extend to temporary, contract and mutual-aid workers — not just permanent staff



Check-in protocols

Check-in frequency reflects task risk — workers entering confined spaces or working near energized equipment check in more often than those on routine site inspections

Each check-in has a defined escalation trigger: a specific number of missed intervals initiates a response, not a supervisor's judgment call

Workers entering permit-required confined spaces have a dedicated entry and exit check-in, separate from route check-ins

The check-in system generates a timestamped audit trail — every interval, every missed check-in, every escalation — retrievable for OSHA inspection



Dead zone contingencies

Every site with confirmed dead zones has a written contingency: vehicle-level satellite connectivity, a predetermined callback window or buddy check procedure

The contingency is confirmed with the worker before dispatch — not introduced after the first check-in fails

Sites with intermittent cellular coverage are treated as dead zones for planning purposes — not assumed to be reliable



In-vehicle protection for solo drivers

A worker-down device or no-motion detection system is active for solo long-distance routes

Automatic collision notification is enabled and routed to a contact who can initiate a response — not just logged in the platform

Solo drivers on remote routes have a defined transit check-in requirement, separate from the on-site check-in



Emergency escalation

Escalation is automatic — a missed check-in triggers a defined notification sequence without requiring a supervisor to initiate it

First responders and internal contacts receive the worker's last known location, site details and emergency access information at the time of escalation

Escalation procedures have been tested with a live drill at a remote or dead zone site — not only reviewed in a tabletop exercise