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Bosch GuardMe protects lone workers and enables quick help in emergencies

- ▶ 24/7 protection for lone workers
- ▶ GuardMe app uses smartphone to detect emergencies
- ▶ Certified solution meets the requirements for personal emergency signal systems

Frankfurt am Main – Accidents, medical emergencies, or criminal assaults affecting lone workers can go unnoticed, leading to serious consequences. There are approximately 875,000 accidents at work in Germany every year. Numbering an estimated at 8.5 million people, every fifth worker in Germany works alone. This means they spend some or all of their time working out of sight and out of earshot of others. For this reason, a personal emergency signal device solution is required for activities that entail increased risk and that are carried out alone. This is a device that automatically requests help in an emergency. This includes, for example, working with the risk of falling, work involving the use of an open flame or with a risk of fire or explosion, felling trees or professions that pose a risk of criminal attack. Bosch is now launching GuardMe, an app solution which, when used in conjunction with a special smartphone and the connection to certified monitoring centers, fulfills all the functions of a personal emergency signal device.

"A human life is the most precious thing and needs to be protected. That's why we are so delighted to bring a solution to the market that can help save the lives of people, who are at particular risk at work," explains Henning von Boxberg, Chairman of Bosch Service Solutions. "As a product Bosch GuardMe combines the technological standards of the Internet of Things with our more than 30 years of experience in the alarm and security area."

Bosch GuardMe combines the advantages of smartphone and lone worker protection

The GuardMe solution works in combination with special Android smartphones, such as the Sonim XP8. To ensure that the solution can be used reliably even under difficult conditions, Bosch relies on particularly robust smartphones that are particularly resistant to impact, moisture and extreme temperatures. The solution enables both manual alerts and automatic alarm detection. This means the lone worker can request help using an SOS button on the smartphone if an emergency arises. If the worker is no longer able to make an emergency call, for example due to serious injury, sensors on the smartphone recognize that an emergency has occurred by detecting an inclined position or motionlessness. The app then triggers an acoustic pre-alarm – if there is no response, the app establishes a voice connection to a Bosch Monitoring Center. In addition to the personal emergency signal device function, the device can be used as an everyday professional mobile phone for communication and order processing.

Quick rescue according to an individual plan

If a GuardMe voice connection is received at the Bosch Monitoring Center, a trained member of the service team will gather further information about the nature of the accident and injuries and then request the appropriate assistance. "The data available on the smartphone helps ensure faster rescue, for example because the position of the worker is also supplied," explains Matthias Trautner, Head of Monitoring Services at Bosch Service Solutions. What makes the Bosch solution special is that it is possible to determine individually for each device whether, in addition to the rescue workers, internal company personnel are also to be notified, such as company first aiders, the plant fire service or a supervisor. If the lone worker cannot be contacted through a voice connection, assistance will be dispatched straight away according to a pre-defined rescue plan.

Certified product

Many years of experience at Bosch Service Solutions in processing emergency calls have gone into the development of Bosch GuardMe. The Bosch unit has operated security control centers, i.e. professional receiving center for processing emergency calls and alarms, for over 30 years. Other services include eCall for connected vehicles, logistics monitoring or the elevator emergency service. Together with the Android special smartphone, Bosch GuardMe meets all the requirements for a personal emergency signal device according to the regulations of the Association of German Electrical Engineering (VDE). The solution has been certified by German Social Accident Insurance (DGUV) in accordance with standard DIN VDE V 0825-11.

Press photographs: #2978884, #2978885, #2978886, #2978887, #2978888

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Bosch Service Solutions is a leading global supplier of Business Process Outsourcing for complex business processes and services. Using the latest technology and the Internet of Things, the Bosch division develops integrated and innovative service solutions in the areas of Mobility, Monitoring, and Customer Experience. Around 9,500 associates at 25 locations support national and international customers in more than 35 languages, primarily from the automotive, travel and logistics sectors as well as information and communication technology. More information: www.boschservicesolutions.com

The Bosch Group is a leading global supplier of technology and services. It employs roughly 400,000 associates worldwide (as of December 31, 2019). The company generated sales of 77.7 billion euros in 2019. Its operations are divided into four business sectors: Mobility Solutions, Industrial Technology, Consumer Goods, and Energy and Building Technology. As a leading IoT provider, Bosch offers innovative solutions for smart homes, Industry 4.0, and connected mobility. Bosch is pursuing a vision of mobility that is sustainable, safe, and exciting. It uses its expertise in sensor technology, software, and services, as well as its own IoT cloud, to offer its customers connected, cross-domain solutions from a single source. The Bosch Group's strategic objective is to facilitate connected living with products and solutions that either contain artificial intelligence (AI) or have been developed or manufactured with its help. Bosch improves quality of life worldwide with products and services that are innovative and spark enthusiasm. In short, Bosch creates technology that is "Invented for life." The Bosch Group comprises Robert Bosch GmbH and its roughly 440 subsidiary and regional companies in 60 countries. Including sales and service partners, Bosch's global manufacturing, engineering, and sales network covers nearly every country in the world. The basis for the company's future growth is its innovative strength. Bosch employs some 72,600 associates in research and development at 126 locations across the globe, as well as roughly 30,000 software engineers.

The company was set up in Stuttgart in 1886 by Robert Bosch (1861–1942) as "Workshop for Precision Mechanics and Electrical Engineering." The special ownership structure of Robert Bosch GmbH guarantees the entrepreneurial freedom of the Bosch Group, making it possible for the company to plan over the long term and to undertake significant upfront investments in the safeguarding of its future. Ninety-two percent of the share capital of Robert Bosch GmbH is held by Robert Bosch Stiftung GmbH, a charitable foundation. The majority of voting rights are held by Robert Bosch Industrietreuhand KG, an industrial trust. The entrepreneurial ownership functions are carried out by the trust. The remaining shares are held by the Bosch family and by Robert Bosch GmbH.

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