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HAPPY NEW
YEAR!!

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HELLO & WELCOME TO OUR FIRST NEWSLETTER OF 2017

Construction (Design and Management) Regulations 2015 (CDM)

Are you meeting your duties under the CDM Regulations 2015? Carry out building construction, Maintenance and Repair Safely. For the Building or Facilities Manager, some of the greatest worries arise during building work. To stay legal, you'll need to follow the Construction (Design and Management) Regulations 2015 (CDM). Read on to understand how best to meet your obligations and ensure that, whether it's a routine job or a major capital project, the work gets completed safely.

Meet the CDM Construction Management Requirements

If the work involves constructing, altering, converting, fitting out, up-keep, maintaining, redecorating, de-commissioning, demolishing or dismantling any building or other structure, you will have duties as the 'client' under the Construction (Design and Management) Regulations 2015 (CDM). The four most important are to:

- 1) Make suitable arrangements for managing a project. For example, appoint other duty holders such as the Principal Designer and Principal Contractor. As a rule of thumb, the more complex the project, and the greater the hazards it presents, the more elaborate these arrangements will need to be.
- 2) Tell other duty holders about hazards you know about, for example, the location of asbestos and buried cables.
- 3) Insist on a safety plan before work starts and that welfare (toilet/eating/washing) Facilities are made available. Note: These duties apply to all projects, not just to those that are 'notifiable'.
- 4) Notify the project online at www.hse.gov.uk/forms/notification/f10.htm if either A or B below applies:

CDM 2015: When you must notify construction work?

A) The construction phase is expected to last longer than 30 days and involve more than 20 workers on site at any one time, or

B) B) The construction phase involves more than 500 person-days of work.

Note: Construction phase means the time between when actual construction work starts on the site and when it finishes.

Take a look at our CDM Toolbox Talk online

[CDM Regulations Toolbox Talk & Record Sheet](#)

Fire and Safety

What's the correct frequency for fire checks?

Question:

Please could you advise whether checks are legally required on fire alarms, etc. Do they have to be done weekly or can they be carried out on a monthly basis?

Answer:

It depends, Article 17 of the regulatory reform (Fire Safety) order 2005 sets out that, from a fire safety standpoint, your legal duty is to ensure your premises/equipment 'subject to a suitable system of maintenance and maintained in an efficient state, in efficient working order and in good repair'. So, for example, check your alarm weekly (using a different call point each time) but make sure it has a service every six months. Extinguishers should have an initial check on commissioning, with an annual check thereafter and replacement if the extinguisher is found to be defective or reaches the end of its service life. Check emergency lighting with a quick visual inspection every day (is the little red light on?) with more in-depth checks monthly and annually. The annual check should include verifying that the lighting will stay on for three hours, or whatever is the designed battery life. Any check, and any action taken as a result, should be logged.

Must we provide prescription safety glasses?

Question:

Can you clarify the position for employers on the provision of prescription eyewear for glasses wearers? We manufacture UPVC windows and doors and currently provide over glasses for these workers.

Answer:

While there is no legal duty on the employer to provide, or pay for prescription safety glasses, it is good practice to do so, as well as being the norm for major employers. Many glasses wearers prefer them (one lens to look through rather than two), and it's certainly a measure to consider seriously, especially if you require eye protection to be worn all the time. With any personal protective equipment (PPE), first decide whether the risk could be eliminated or minimized in some other way, for example by the use of flying object screens on machines. Then, if you judge that these methods do not by themselves provide sufficient protection, you would be right to provide PPE and insist on its use. With eye protection, you can meet the requirements of the Personal Protective Equipment Regulations 1992 by providing over glasses as you currently do. If you need more information on these rules and on selecting eye or any other type of PPE, the key reference is the HSE's L25 guide 'Personal Protective Equipment at Work).

Latest HSE News

Sentence after member of public injured after garage pit fall

<http://press.hse.gov.uk/2016/sentence-after-member-of-public-injured-after-garage-pit-fall/>

Construction companies fined after failing to carry out basement excavation work safely

<http://press.hse.gov.uk/2016/construction-companies-fined-after-failing-to-carry-out-basement-excavation-work-safely/>

Staffordshire logistics company fined over safety failings

<http://press.hse.gov.uk/2016/staffordshire-logistics-company-fined-over-safety-failings/>