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STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

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**1992 No.3004**

**HEALTH AND SAFETY**

**The Workplace (Health, Safety and Welfare) Regulations 1992**

<i>Made</i>	- - - -	<i>1st December 1992</i>
<i>Laid before Parliament</i>		<i>8th December 1992</i>
<i>Coming into force</i>		
<i>The whole Regulations except regulations 5 to 27 and the Schedules, to the extent specified in regulation 1(3)</i>		<i>1st January 1993</i>
<i>Regulations 5 to 27 and the Schedules, to the extent specified in regulation 1(3)</i>		<i>1st January 1996</i>

The Secretary of State, in exercise of the powers conferred on her by sections 15(1), (2), (3)(a) and (5)(b), and 82(3)(a) of, and paragraphs 1(2), 9 and 10 of Schedule 3 to, the Health and Safety at Work etc. Act 1974<sup>(1)</sup> (“the 1974 Act”) and of all other powers enabling her in that behalf and for the purpose of giving effect without modifications to proposals submitted to her by the Health and Safety Commission under section 11(2)(d) of the 1974 Act after the carrying out by the said Commission of consultations in accordance with section 50(3) of that Act, hereby makes the following Regulations:

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**Citation and commencement**

1.—(1) These Regulations may be cited as the Workplace (Health, Safety and Welfare) Regulations 1992.

(2) Subject to paragraph (3), these Regulations shall come into force on 1st January 1993.

(3) Regulations 5 to 27 and the Schedules shall come into force on 1st January 1996 with respect to any workplace or part of a workplace which is not—

- (a) a new workplace; or
- (b) a modification, an extension or a conversion.

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(1) 1974 c. 37; sections 15 and 50 were amended by the Employment Protection Act 1975 (c. 71), Schedule 15, paragraphs 6 and 16 respectively.

*Status: Point in time view as at 06/04/2013.*

*Changes to legislation: There are currently no known outstanding effects for the The Workplace (Health, Safety and Welfare) Regulations 1992. (See end of Document for details)*

### Commencement Information

**II** [Reg. 1](#) in force at 1.1.1993, see [reg. 1\(2\)](#)

### Interpretation

**2.—(1)** In these Regulations, unless the context otherwise requires—

[<sup>F1</sup>“mine” means a mine within the meaning of the Mines and Quarries Act 1954;]

[<sup>F2</sup>“disabled person” has the meaning given by section 1 of the Disability Discrimination Act 1995;]

“new workplace” means a workplace used for the first time as a workplace after 31st December 1992;

“public road” means (in England and Wales) a highway maintainable at public expense within the meaning of section 329 of the Highways Act 1980(2) and (in Scotland) a public road within the meaning assigned to that term by section 151 of the Roads (Scotland) Act 1984(3);

[<sup>F3</sup>“quarry” means a quarry within the meaning of the Quarries Regulations 1999;]

“traffic route” means a route for pedestrian traffic, vehicles or both and includes any stairs, staircase, fixed ladder, doorway, gateway, loading bay or ramp;

“workplace” means, subject to paragraph (2), any premises or part of premises which are not domestic premises and are made available to any person as a place of work, and includes—

- (a) any place within the premises to which such person has access while at work; and
- (b) any room, lobby, corridor, staircase, road or other place used as a means of access to or egress from that place of work or where facilities are provided for use in connection with the place of work other than a public road.

<sup>F4</sup> ...

(2) Any reference in these Regulations, except in paragraph (1), to a modification, an extension or a conversion is a reference, as the case may be, to a modification, an extension or a conversion of a workplace started after 31st December 1992.

(3) Any requirement that anything done or provided in pursuance of these Regulations shall be suitable shall be construed to include a requirement that it is suitable for any person in respect of whom such thing is so done or provided.

(4) Any reference in these Regulations to—

- (a) a numbered regulation or Schedule is a reference to the regulation in or Schedule to these Regulations so numbered; and
- (b) a numbered paragraph is a reference to the paragraph so numbered in the regulation in which the reference appears.

### Textual Amendments

**F1** Words in [reg. 2\(1\)](#) inserted (26.10.1995 for specified purposes, 26.7.1998 in so far as not already in force) by [The Quarries Miscellaneous Health and Safety Provisions Regulations 1995 \(S.I. 1995/2036\)](#), [reg. 1](#), [Sch. 3](#) (with [reg. 3](#))

(2) 1980 c. 66.

(3) 1984 c. 54.

- F2** Words in [reg. 2\(1\)](#) inserted (17.9.2002) by [The Health and Safety \(Miscellaneous Amendments\) Regulations 2002 \(S.I. 2002/2174\)](#), [regs. 1, 6\(a\)](#)
- F3** Words in [reg. 2\(1\)](#) substituted (1.1.2000) by [The Quarries Regulations 1999 \(S.I. 1999/2024\)](#), [reg. 1\(1\), Sch. 5 Pt. 2](#)
- F4** Words in [reg. 2\(1\)](#) revoked (17.9.2002) by [The Health and Safety \(Miscellaneous Amendments\) Regulations 2002 \(S.I. 2002/2174\)](#), [regs. 1, 6\(b\)](#)

**Commencement Information**

- I2** [Reg. 2](#) in force at 1.1.1993, see [reg. 1\(2\)](#)

**Application of these Regulations**

3.—(1) These Regulations apply to every workplace but shall not apply to—

- [<sup>F5</sup>(a) a workplace which is or is in or on a ship, save that regulations 8(1) and (3) and 12(1) and (3) apply to such a workplace where the work involves any of the relevant operations in—
  - (i) a shipyard, whether or not the shipyard forms part of a harbour or wet dock; or
  - (ii) dock premises, not being work done—
    - (aa) by the master or crew of a ship;
    - (bb) on board a ship during a trial run;
    - (cc) for the purpose of raising or removing a ship which is sunk or stranded; or
    - (dd) on a ship which is not under command, for the purpose of bringing it under command;]
- [<sup>F6</sup>(b) a workplace which is a construction site within the meaning of the Construction (Design and Management) Regulations 2007, and in which the only activity being undertaken is construction work within the meaning of those regulations, save that— (i) regulations 18 and 25A apply to such a workplace; and (ii) regulations 7(1A), 12, 14, 15, 16, 18, 19 and 26(1) apply to such a workplace which is indoors]
- (c) [<sup>F7</sup>a workplace located below ground at a mine.]
- <sup>F8</sup>(d) .....

(2) In their application to temporary work sites, any requirement to ensure a workplace complies with any of regulations 20 to 25 shall have effect as a requirement to so ensure so far as is reasonably practicable.

(3) As respects any workplace which is or is in or on an aircraft, locomotive or rolling stock, trailer or semi-trailer used as a means of transport or a vehicle for which a licence is in force under the Vehicles (Excise) Act 1971(4) or a vehicle exempted from duty under that Act—

- (a) regulations 5 to 12 and 14 to 25 shall not apply to any such workplace; and
- (b) regulation 13 shall apply to any such workplace only when the aircraft, locomotive or rolling stock, trailer or semi-trailer or vehicle is stationary inside a workplace and, in the case of a vehicle for which a licence is in force under the Vehicles (Excise) Act 1971, is not on a public road.

(4) As respects any workplace which is in fields, woods or other land forming part of an agricultural or forestry undertaking but which is not inside a building and is situated away from the undertaking's main buildings—

- (a) regulations 5 to 19 and 23 to 25 shall not apply to any such workplace; and

(4) 1971 c. 10.

*Status: Point in time view as at 06/04/2013.*

*Changes to legislation: There are currently no known outstanding effects for the The Workplace (Health, Safety and Welfare) Regulations 1992. (See end of Document for details)*

- (b) any requirement to ensure that any such workplace complies with any of regulations 20 to 22 shall have effect as a requirement to so ensure so far as is reasonably practicable.

[<sup>F9</sup>(5) As respects any workplace which is at a quarry or above ground at a mine regulation 12 shall only apply to a floor or traffic route which is located inside a building.]

[<sup>F10</sup>(6) For the purposes of this regulation—

- (a) “dock premises” means any dock, wharf, quay, jetty or other place at which ships load or unload goods or embark or disembark passengers, together with neighbouring land or water which is used or occupied, or intended to be used or occupied, for those or incidental activities, and any part of a ship when used for those or incidental activities;
- (b) “relevant operations” means, in relation to a ship, its repairing, refitting, painting and finishing, the scaling, scurfing or cleaning of its boilers (including combustion chambers or smoke boxes) and the cleaning of its bilges or oil-fuel tanks or any of its tanks last used for carrying oil;
- (c) “ship” includes all vessels and hovercraft which operate on water or land and water;
- (d) “shipyard” means any yard or dry dock (including the precincts thereof) in which ships or vessels are constructed, reconstructed, repaired, refitted or finished; and
- (e) “vessel” means any description of craft used for the transport of goods or passengers or the storage of goods or the accommodation of passengers on water, whether used in navigation or not.]

#### Textual Amendments

- F5** Reg. 3(1)(a) substituted (6.4.2013) by [The Health and Safety \(Miscellaneous Repeals, Revocations and Amendments\) Regulations 2013 \(S.I. 2013/448\)](#), regs. 1, **4(2)**
- F6** Reg. 3(1)(b) substituted (6.4.2007) by [The Construction \(Design and Management\) Regulations 2007 \(S.I. 2007/320\)](#), reg. 1, **Sch. 5** (with reg. 3)
- F7** Reg. 3(1)(c) substituted (26.10.1995 for specified purposes, 26.7.1998 in so far as not already in force) by [The Quarries Miscellaneous Health and Safety Provisions Regulations 1995 \(S.I. 1995/2036\)](#), reg. 1, **Sch. 3** (with reg. 3)
- F8** Reg. 3(1)(d) revoked (26.10.1995 for specified purposes, 26.7.1998 in so far as not already in force) by [The Quarries Miscellaneous Health and Safety Provisions Regulations 1995 \(S.I. 1995/2036\)](#), reg. 1, **Sch. 3** (with reg. 3)
- F9** Reg. 3(5) inserted (26.10.1995 for specified purposes, 26.7.1998 in so far as not already in force) by [The Quarries Miscellaneous Health and Safety Provisions Regulations 1995 \(S.I. 1995/2036\)](#), reg. 1, **Sch. 3** (with reg. 3)
- F10** Reg. 3(6) added (6.4.2013) by [The Health and Safety \(Miscellaneous Repeals, Revocations and Amendments\) Regulations 2013 \(S.I. 2013/448\)](#), regs. 1, **4(3)**

#### Commencement Information

- I3** Reg. 3 in force at 1.1.1993, see [reg. 1\(2\)](#)

### Requirements under these Regulations

4.—(1) Every employer shall ensure that every workplace, modification, extension or conversion which is under his control and where any of his employees works complies with any requirement of these Regulations which—

- (a) applies to that workplace or, as the case may be, to the workplace which contains that modification, extension or conversion; and
- (b) is in force in respect of the workplace, modification, extension or conversion.

(2) Subject to paragraph (4), every person who has, to any extent, control of a workplace, modification, extension or conversion shall ensure that such workplace, modification, extension or conversion complies with any requirements of these Regulations which—

- (a) applies to that workplace or, as the case may be, to the workplace which contains that modification, extension or conversion;
- (b) is in force in respect of the workplace, modification, extension, or conversion; and
- (c) relates to matters within that person's control.

(3) Any reference in this regulation to a person having control of any workplace, modification, extension or conversion is a reference to a person having control of the workplace, modification, extension or conversion in connection with the carrying on by him of a trade, business or other undertaking (whether for profit or not).

(4) Paragraph (2) shall not impose any requirement upon a self-employed person in respect of his own work or the work of any partner of his in the undertaking.

(5) Every person who is deemed to be the occupier of a factory by virtue of section 175(5) of the Factories Act 1961 shall ensure that the premises which are so deemed to be a factory comply with these Regulations.

#### Commencement Information

**I4** [Reg. 4](#) in force at 1.1.1993, see [reg. 1\(2\)](#)

#### [<sup>F11</sup>Stability and solidity

**4A.** Where a workplace is in a building, the building shall have a stability and solidity appropriate to the nature of the use of the workplace.]

#### Textual Amendments

**F11** [Reg. 4A](#) inserted (17.9.2002) by [The Health and Safety \(Miscellaneous Amendments\) Regulations 2002 \(S.I. 2002/2174\)](#), [regs. 1, 6\(c\)](#)

#### Maintenance of workplace, and of equipment, devices and systems

**5.—(1)** The workplace and the equipment, devices and systems to which this regulation applies shall be maintained (including cleaned as appropriate) in an efficient state, in efficient working order and in good repair.

(2) Where appropriate, the equipment, devices and systems to which this regulation applies shall be subject to a suitable system of maintenance.

(3) The equipment, devices and systems to which this regulation applies are—

- (a) equipment and devices a fault in which is liable to result in a failure to comply with any of these Regulations; <sup>F12</sup>...
- (b) mechanical ventilation systems provided pursuant to regulation 6 (whether or not they include equipment or devices within sub-paragraph (a) of this paragraph); [<sup>F13</sup>and]

[<sup>F14</sup>(c) equipment and devices intended to prevent or reduce hazards]

Status: Point in time view as at 06/04/2013.

Changes to legislation: There are currently no known outstanding effects for the The Workplace (Health, Safety and Welfare) Regulations 1992. (See end of Document for details)

**Textual Amendments**

- F12** Word in reg. 5(3) revoked (17.9.2002) by [The Health and Safety \(Miscellaneous Amendments\) Regulations 2002 \(S.I. 2002/2174\)](#), regs. 1, **6(d)(i)**
- F13** Word in reg. 5(3) added (17.9.2002) by [The Health and Safety \(Miscellaneous Amendments\) Regulations 2002 \(S.I. 2002/2174\)](#), regs. 1, **6(d)(ii)**
- F14** Reg. 5(3)(c) added (17.9.2002) by [The Health and Safety \(Miscellaneous Amendments\) Regulations 2002 \(S.I. 2002/2174\)](#), regs. 1, **6(d)(iii)**

**Commencement Information**

- I5** [Reg. 5](#) in force at 1.1.1993 for specified purposes and 1.1.1996 in so far as not already in force, see [reg. 1\(2\)\(3\)](#)

**Ventilation**

6.—(1) Effective and suitable provision shall be made to ensure that every enclosed workplace is ventilated by a sufficient quantity of fresh or purified air.

(2) Any plant used for the purpose of complying with paragraph (1) shall include an effective device to give visible or audible warning of any failure of the plant where necessary for reasons of health or safety.

<sup>F15</sup>(3) .....

**Textual Amendments**

- F15** [Reg. 6\(3\)](#) revoked (17.9.2002) by [The Health and Safety \(Miscellaneous Amendments\) Regulations 2002 \(S.I. 2002/2174\)](#), regs. 1, **6(e)**

**Commencement Information**

- I6** [Reg. 6](#) in force at 1.1.1993 for specified purposes and 1.1.1996 in so far as not already in force, see [reg. 1\(2\)\(3\)](#)

**Temperature in indoor workplaces**

7.—(1) During working hours, the temperature in all workplaces inside buildings shall be reasonable.

[<sup>F16</sup>(1A) Without prejudice to the generality of paragraph (1)—

- (a) a workplace shall be adequately thermally insulated where it is necessary, having regard to the type of work carried out and the physical activity of the persons carrying out the work; and
- (b) excessive effects of sunlight on temperature shall be avoided.]

(2) A method of heating or cooling shall not be used which results in the escape into a workplace of fumes, gas or vapour of such character and to such extent that they are likely to be injurious or offensive to any person.

(3) A sufficient number of thermometers shall be provided to enable persons at work to determine the temperature in any workplace inside a building.

#### **Textual Amendments**

**F16** [Reg. 7\(1A\)](#) inserted (17.9.2002) by [The Health and Safety \(Miscellaneous Amendments\) Regulations 2002 \(S.I. 2002/2174\)](#), regs. 1, **6(f)**

#### **Commencement Information**

**I7** [Reg. 7](#) in force at 1.1.1993 for specified purposes and 1.1.1996 in so far as not already in force, see [reg. 1\(2\)\(3\)](#)

### **Lighting**

**8.**—(1) Every workplace shall have suitable and sufficient lighting.

(2) The lighting mentioned in paragraph (1) shall, so far as is reasonably practicable, be by natural light.

(3) Without prejudice to the generality of paragraph (1), suitable and sufficient emergency lighting shall be provided in any room in circumstances in which persons at work are specially exposed to danger in the event of failure of artificial lighting.

#### **Commencement Information**

**I8** [Reg. 8](#) in force at 1.1.1993 for specified purposes and 1.1.1996 in so far as not already in force, see [reg. 1\(2\)\(3\)](#)

### **Cleanliness and waste materials**

**9.**—(1) Every workplace and the furniture, furnishings and fittings therein shall be kept sufficiently clean.

(2) The surfaces of the floors, walls and ceilings of all workplaces inside buildings shall be capable of being kept sufficiently clean.

(3) So far as is reasonably practicable, waste materials shall not be allowed to accumulate in a workplace except in suitable receptacles.

#### **Commencement Information**

**I9** [Reg. 9](#) in force at 1.1.1993 for specified purposes and 1.1.1996 in so far as not already in force, see [reg. 1\(2\)\(3\)](#)

### **Room dimensions and space**

**10.**—(1) Every room where persons work shall have sufficient floor area, height and unoccupied space for purposes of health, safety and welfare.

(2) It shall be sufficient compliance with this regulation in a workplace which is not a new workplace, a modification, an extension and which, immediately before this regulation came into force in respect of it, was subject to the provisions of the Factories Act 1961, if the workplace does not contravene the provisions of Part I of Schedule 1.

*Status: Point in time view as at 06/04/2013.*

*Changes to legislation: There are currently no known outstanding effects for the The Workplace (Health, Safety and Welfare) Regulations 1992. (See end of Document for details)*

#### **Commencement Information**

**I10** [Reg. 10](#) in force at 1.1.1993 for specified purposes and 1.1.1996 in so far as not already in force, see [reg. 1\(2\)\(3\)](#)

#### **Workstations and seating**

**11.**—(1) Every workstation shall be so arranged that it is suitable both for any person at work in the workplace who is likely to work at that workstation and for any work of the undertaking which is likely to be done there.

(2) Without prejudice to the generality of paragraph (1), every workstation outdoors shall be so arranged that—

- (a) so far as is reasonably practicable, it provides protection from adverse weather;
- (b) it enables any person at the workstation to leave it swiftly or, as appropriate, to be assisted in the event of an emergency; and
- (c) it ensures that any person at the workstation is not likely to slip or fall.

(3) A suitable seat shall be provided for each person at work in the workplace whose work includes operations of a kind that the work (or a substantial part of it) can or must be done sitting.

(4) A seat shall not be suitable for the purpose of paragraph (3) unless—

- (a) it is suitable for the person for whom it is provided as well as for the operations to be performed; and
- (b) a suitable footrest is also provided where necessary.

#### **Commencement Information**

**I11** [Reg. 11](#) in force at 1.1.1993 for specified purposes and 1.1.1996 in so far as not already in force, see [reg. 1\(2\)\(3\)](#)

#### **Condition of floors and traffic routes**

**12.**—(1) Every floor in a workplace and the surface of every traffic route in a workplace shall be of a construction such that the floor or surface of the traffic route is suitable for the purpose for which it is used.

(2) Without prejudice to the generality of paragraph (1), the requirements in that paragraph shall include requirements that—

- (a) the floor, or surface of the traffic route, shall have no hole or slope, or be uneven or slippery so as, in each case, to expose any person to a risk to his health or safety; and
- (b) every such floor shall have effective means of drainage where necessary.

(3) So far as is reasonably practicable, every floor in a workplace and the surface of every traffic route in a workplace shall be kept free from obstructions and from any article or substance which may cause a person to slip, trip or fall.

(4) In considering whether for the purposes of paragraph (2)(a) a hole or slope exposes any person to a risk to his health or safety—

- (a) no account shall be taken of a hole where adequate measures have been taken to prevent a person falling; and
- (b) account shall be taken of any handrail provided in connection with any slope.



(5) Suitable and sufficient handrails and, if appropriate, guards shall be provided on all traffic routes which are staircases except in circumstances in which a handrail can not be provided without obstructing the traffic route.

**Commencement Information**

**I12** Reg. 12 in force at 1.1.1993 for specified purposes and 1.1.1996 in so far as not already in force, see reg. 1(2)(3)

**Falls or falling objects**

**13.**—<sup>F17</sup>(1) .....

<sup>F17</sup>(2) .....

<sup>F17</sup>(3) .....

<sup>F17</sup>(4) .....

(5) So far as is practicable, every tank, pit or structure where there is a risk of a person in the workplace falling into a dangerous substance in the tank, pit or structure, shall be securely covered or fenced.

(6) Every traffic route over, across or in an uncovered tank, pit or structure such as is mentioned in paragraph (5) shall be securely fenced.

(7) In this regulation, “dangerous substance” means—

- (a) any substance likely to scald or burn;
- (b) any poisonous substance;
- (c) any corrosive substance;
- (d) any fume, gas or vapour likely to overcome a person; or
- (e) any granular or free-flowing solid substance, or any viscous substance which, in any case, is of a nature or quantity which is likely to cause danger to any person.

**Textual Amendments**

**F17** Reg. 13(1)-(4) revoked (6.4.2005) by The Work at Height Regulations 2005 (S.I. 2005/735), reg. 1, Sch. 8 (with reg. 3)

**Commencement Information**

**I13** Reg. 13 in force at 1.1.1993 for specified purposes and 1.1.1996 in so far as not already in force, see reg. 1(2)(3)

**Windows, and transparent or translucent doors, gates and walls**

**14.**—(1) Every window or other transparent or translucent surface in a wall or partition and every transparent or translucent surface in a door or gate shall, where necessary for reasons of health or safety—

- (a) be of safety material or be protected against breakage of the transparent or translucent material; and
- (b) be appropriately marked or incorporate features so as, in either case, to make it apparent.

*Status: Point in time view as at 06/04/2013.*

*Changes to legislation: There are currently no known outstanding effects for the The Workplace (Health, Safety and Welfare) Regulations 1992. (See end of Document for details)*

#### Commencement Information

**I14** [Reg. 14](#) in force at 1.1.1993 for specified purposes and 1.1.1996 in so far as not already in force, see [reg. 1\(2\)\(3\)](#)

#### Windows, skylights and ventilators

**15.**—(1) No window, skylight or ventilator which is capable of being opened shall be likely to be opened, closed or adjusted in a manner which exposes any person performing such operation to a risk to his health or safety.

(2) No window, skylight or ventilator shall be in a position when open which is likely to expose any person in the workplace to a risk to his health or safety.

#### Commencement Information

**I15** [Reg. 15](#) in force at 1.1.1993 for specified purposes and 1.1.1996 in so far as not already in force, see [reg. 1\(2\)\(3\)](#)

#### Ability to clean windows etc. safely

**16.**—(1) All windows and skylights in a workplace shall be of a design or be so constructed that they may be cleaned safely.

(2) In considering whether a window or skylight is of a design or so constructed as to comply with paragraph (1), account may be taken of equipment used in conjunction with the window or skylight or of devices fitted to the building.

#### Commencement Information

**I16** [Reg. 16](#) in force at 1.1.1993 for specified purposes and 1.1.1996 in so far as not already in force, see [reg. 1\(2\)\(3\)](#)

#### Organisation etc. of traffic routes

**17.**—(1) Every workplace shall be organised in such a way that pedestrians and vehicles can circulate in a safe manner.

(2) Traffic routes in a workplace shall be suitable for the persons or vehicles using them, sufficient in number, in suitable positions and of sufficient size.

(3) Without prejudice to the generality of paragraph (2), traffic routes shall not satisfy the requirements of that paragraph unless suitable measures are taken to ensure that—

- (a) pedestrians or, as the case may be, vehicles may use a traffic route without causing danger to the health or safety of persons at work near it;
- (b) there is sufficient separation of any traffic route for vehicles from doors or gates or from traffic routes for pedestrians which lead onto it; and
- (c) where vehicles and pedestrians use the same traffic route, there is sufficient separation between them.

(4) All traffic routes shall be suitably indicated where necessary for reasons of health or safety.

(5) Paragraph (2) shall apply so far as is reasonably practicable, to a workplace which is not a new workplace, a modification, an extension or a conversion.

**Commencement Information**

**I17** [Reg. 17](#) in force at 1.1.1993 for specified purposes and 1.1.1996 in so far as not already in force, see [reg. 1\(2\)\(3\)](#)

**Doors and gates**

**18.**—(1) Doors and gates shall be suitably constructed (including being fitted with any necessary safety devices).

(2) Without prejudice to the generality of paragraph (1), doors and gates shall not comply with that paragraph unless—

- (a) any sliding door or gate has a device to prevent it coming off its track during use;
- (b) any upward opening door or gate has a device to prevent it falling back;
- (c) any powered door or gate has suitable and effective features to prevent it causing injury by trapping any person;
- (d) where necessary for reasons of health or safety, any powered door or gate can be operated manually unless it opens automatically if the power fails; and
- (e) any door or gate which is capable of opening by being pushed from either side is of such a construction as to provide, when closed, a clear view of the space close to both sides.

**Commencement Information**

**I18** [Reg. 18](#) in force at 1.1.1993 for specified purposes and 1.1.1996 in so far as not already in force, see [reg. 1\(2\)\(3\)](#)

**Escalators and moving walkways**

**19.** Escalators and moving walkways shall:—

- (a) function safely;
- (b) be equipped with any necessary safety devices;
- (c) be fitted with one or more emergency stop controls which are easily identifiable and readily accessible.

**Commencement Information**

**I19** [Reg. 19](#) in force at 1.1.1993 for specified purposes and 1.1.1996 in so far as not already in force, see [reg. 1\(2\)\(3\)](#)

**Sanitary conveniences**

**20.**—(1) Suitable and sufficient sanitary conveniences shall be provided at readily accessible places.

(2) Without prejudice to the generality of paragraph (1), sanitary conveniences shall not be suitable unless—

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- (a) the rooms containing them are adequately ventilated and lit;
- (b) they and the rooms containing them are kept in a clean and orderly condition; and
- (c) separate rooms containing conveniences are provided for men and women except where and so far as each convenience is in a separate room the door of which is capable of being secured from inside.

(3) It shall be sufficient compliance with the requirement in paragraph (1) to provide sufficient sanitary conveniences in a workplace which is not a new workplace, a modification, an extension or a conversion and which, immediately before this regulation came into force in respect of it, was subject to the provisions of the Factories Act 1961, if sanitary conveniences are provided in accordance with the provisions of Part II of Schedule 1.

#### Commencement Information

**I20** [Reg. 20](#) in force at 1.1.1993 for specified purposes and 1.1.1996 in so far as not already in force, see [reg. 1\(2\)\(3\)](#)

### Washing facilities

**21.**—(1) Suitable and sufficient washing facilities, including showers if required by the nature of the work or for health reasons, shall be provided at readily accessible places.

(2) Without prejudice to the generality of paragraph (1), washing facilities shall not be suitable unless—

- (a) they are provided in the immediate vicinity of every sanitary convenience, whether or not provided elsewhere as well;
- (b) they are provided in the vicinity of any changing rooms required by these Regulations, whether or not provided elsewhere as well;
- (c) they include a supply of clean hot and cold, or warm, water (which shall be running water so far as is practicable);
- (d) they include soap or other suitable means of cleaning;
- (e) they include towels or other suitable means of drying;
- (f) the rooms containing them are sufficiently ventilated and lit;
- (g) they and the rooms containing them are kept in a clean and orderly condition; and
- (h) separate facilities are provided for men and women, except where and so far as they are provided in a room the door of which is capable of being secured from inside and the facilities in each such room are intended to be used by only one person at a time.

(3) Paragraph (2)(h) shall not apply to facilities which are provided for washing hands, forearms and face only.

#### Commencement Information

**I21** [Reg. 21](#) in force at 1.1.1993 for specified purposes and 1.1.1996 in so far as not already in force, see [reg. 1\(2\)\(3\)](#)

### Drinking water

**22.**—(1) An adequate supply of wholesome drinking water shall be provided for all persons at work in the workplace.

- (2) Every supply of drinking water required by paragraph (1) shall—
- (a) be readily accessible at suitable places; and
  - (b) be conspicuously marked by an appropriate sign where necessary for reasons of health or safety.

(3) Where a supply of drinking water is required by paragraph (1), there shall also be provided a sufficient number of suitable cups or other drinking vessels unless the supply of drinking water is in a jet from which persons can drink easily.

**Commencement Information**

**I22** Reg. 22 in force at 1.1.1993 for specified purposes and 1.1.1996 in so far as not already in force, see reg. 1(2)(3)

**Accommodation for clothing**

- 23.**—(1) Suitable and sufficient accommodation shall be provided—
- (a) for the clothing of any person at work which is not worn during working hours; and
  - (b) for special clothing which is worn by any person at work but which is not taken home.
- (2) Without prejudice to the generality of paragraph (1), the accommodation mentioned in that paragraph shall not be suitable unless—
- (a) where facilities to change clothing are required by regulation 24, it provides suitable security for the clothing mentioned in paragraph (1)(a);
  - (b) where necessary to avoid risks to health or damage to the clothing, it includes separate accommodation for clothing worn at work and for other clothing;
  - (c) so far as is reasonably practicable, it allows or includes facilities for drying clothing; and
  - (d) it is in a suitable location.

**Commencement Information**

**I23** Reg. 23 in force at 1.1.1993 for specified purposes and 1.1.1996 in so far as not already in force, see reg. 1(2)(3)

**Facilities for changing clothing**

- 24.**—(1) Suitable and sufficient facilities shall be provided for any person at work in the workplace to change clothing in all cases where—
- (a) the person has to wear special clothing for the purpose of work; and
  - (b) the person can not, for reasons of health or propriety, be expected to change in another room.
- (2) Without prejudice to the generality of paragraph (1), the facilities mentioned in that paragraph shall not be suitable unless they include separate facilities for, or separate use of facilities by, men and women where necessary for reasons of propriety [<sup>F18</sup>and the facilities are easily accessible, of sufficient capacity and provided with seating].

*Status: Point in time view as at 06/04/2013.*

*Changes to legislation: There are currently no known outstanding effects for the The Workplace (Health, Safety and Welfare) Regulations 1992. (See end of Document for details)*

#### Textual Amendments

**F18** Words in [reg. 24\(2\)](#) added (17.9.2002) by [The Health and Safety \(Miscellaneous Amendments\) Regulations 2002 \(S.I. 2002/2174\)](#), regs. 1, **6(g)**

#### Commencement Information

**I24** [Reg. 24](#) in force at 1.1.1993 for specified purposes and 1.1.1996 in so far as not already in force, see [reg. 1\(2\)\(3\)](#)

### Facilities for rest and to eat meals

**25.**—(1) Suitable and sufficient rest facilities shall be provided at readily accessible places.

(2) Rest facilities provided by virtue of paragraph (1) shall—

- (a) where necessary for reasons of health or safety include, in the case of a new workplace, an extension or a conversion, rest facilities provided in one or more rest rooms, or, in other cases, in rest rooms or rest areas;
- (b) include suitable facilities to eat meals where food eaten in the workplace would otherwise be likely to become contaminated.

[<sup>F19</sup>(3) Rest rooms and rest areas shall—

- (a) include suitable arrangements to protect non-smokers from discomfort caused by tobacco smoke; and
- (b) be equipped with—
  - (i) an adequate number of tables and adequate seating with backs for the number of persons at work likely to use them at any one time; and
  - (ii) seating which is adequate for the number of disabled persons at work and suitable for them.]

(4) Suitable facilities shall be provided for any person at work who is a pregnant woman or nursing mother to rest.

(5) Suitable and sufficient facilities shall be provided for persons at work to eat meals where meals are regularly eaten in the workplace.

#### Textual Amendments

**F19** [Reg. 25\(3\)](#) substituted (17.9.2002) by [The Health and Safety \(Miscellaneous Amendments\) Regulations 2002 \(S.I. 2002/2174\)](#), regs. 1, **6(h)**

#### Commencement Information

**I25** [Reg. 25](#) in force at 1.1.1993 for specified purposes and 1.1.1996 in so far as not already in force, see [reg. 1\(2\)\(3\)](#)

### [<sup>F20</sup>Disabled persons

**25A.** Where necessary, those parts of the workplace (including in particular doors, passageways, stairs, showers, washbasins, lavatories and workstations) used or occupied directly by disabled persons at work shall be organised to take account of such persons.]

### Textual Amendments

**F20** [Reg. 25A](#) inserted (17.9.2002) by [The Health and Safety \(Miscellaneous Amendments\) Regulations 2002 \(S.I. 2002/2174\)](#), regs. 1, **6(i)**

### Exemption certificates

**26.**—(1) The Secretary of State for Defence may, in the interests of national security, by a certificate in writing exempt any of the home forces, any visiting force or any headquarters from the requirements of these Regulations and any exemption may be granted subject to conditions and to a limit of time and may be revoked by the said Secretary of State by a further certificate in writing at any time.

(2) In this regulation—

- (a) “the home forces” has the same meaning as in section 12(1) of the Visiting Forces Act 1952<sup>(5)</sup>;
- (b) “headquarters” has the same meaning as in article 3(2) of the Visiting Forces and International Headquarters (Application of Law) Order 1965<sup>(6)</sup>;
- (c) “visiting force” has the same meaning as it does for the purposes of any provision of Part I of the Visiting Forces Act 1952.

### Commencement Information

**I26** [Reg. 26](#) in force at 1.1.1993 for specified purposes and 1.1.1996 in so far as not already in force, see [reg. 1\(2\)\(3\)](#)

### Repeals, saving and revocations

**27.**—(1) The enactments mentioned in column 2 of Part I of Schedule 2 are repealed to the extent specified in column 3 of that Part.

(2) Nothing in this regulation shall affect the operation of any provision of the Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act 1963<sup>(7)</sup> as that provision has effect by virtue of section 90(4) of that Act.

(3) The instruments mentioned in column 1 of Part II of Schedule 2 are revoked to the extent specified in column 3 of that Part.

### Commencement Information

**I27** [Reg. 27](#) in force at 1.1.1993 for specified purposes and 1.1.1996 in so far as not already in force, see [reg. 1\(2\)\(3\)](#)

(5) 1952 c. 67.

(6) S.I. 1965/1536, to which there are amendments not relevant to these Regulations.

(7) 1963 c. 41.

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Signed by order of the Secretary of State.

1st December 1992

*Patrick McLoughlin*  
Parliamentary Under Secretary of State,  
Department of Employment



## SCHEDULE 1

Regulations 10 and 20

### PROVISIONS APPLICABLE TO FACTORIES WHICH ARE NOT NEW WORKPLACES, MODIFICATIONS, EXTENSIONS OR CONVERSIONS

#### PART I

##### SPACE

1. No room in the workplace shall be so overcrowded as to cause risk to the health or safety of persons at work in it.

##### Commencement Information

**I28** Sch. 1 para. 1 in force at 1.1.1993 for specified purposes and 1.1.1996 in so far as not already in force, see reg. 1(2)(3)

2. Without prejudice to the generality of paragraph 1, the number of persons employed at a time in any workroom shall not be such that the amount of cubic space allowed for each is less than 11 cubic metres.

##### Commencement Information

**I29** Sch. 1 para. 2 in force at 1.1.1993 for specified purposes and 1.1.1996 in so far as not already in force, see reg. 1(2)(3)

3. In calculating for the purposes of this Part of this Schedule the amount of cubic space in any room no space more than 4.2 metres from the floor shall be taken into account and, where a room contains a gallery, the gallery shall be treated for the purposes of this Schedule as if it were partitioned off from the remainder of the room and formed a separate room.

##### Commencement Information

**I30** Sch. 1 para. 3 in force at 1.1.1993 for specified purposes and 1.1.1996 in so far as not already in force, see reg. 1(2)(3)

#### PART II

##### NUMBER OF SANITARY CONVENIENCES

4. In workplaces where females work, there shall be at least one suitable water closet for use by females only for every 25 females.

##### Commencement Information

**I31** Sch. 1 para. 4 in force at 1.1.1993 for specified purposes and 1.1.1996 in so far as not already in force, see reg. 1(2)(3)

5. In workplaces where males work, there shall be at least one suitable water closet for use by males only for every 25 males.

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**Commencement Information**

**I32** Sch. 1 para. 5 in force at 1.1.1993 for specified purposes and 1.1.1996 in so far as not already in force, see reg. 1(2)(3)

6. In calculating the number of males or females who work in any workplace for the purposes of this Part of this Schedule, any number not itself divisible by 25 without fraction or remainder shall be treated as the next number higher than it which is so divisible.

**Commencement Information**

**I33** Sch. 1 para. 6 in force at 1.1.1993 for specified purposes and 1.1.1996 in so far as not already in force, see reg. 1(2)(3)

SCHEDULE 2

Regulation 27

REPEALS AND REVOCATIONS

PART I

REPEALS

**Commencement Information**

**I34** Sch. 2 Pt. I in force at 1.1.1993 for specified purposes and 1.1.1996 in so far as not already in force, see reg. 1(2)(3)

1 Chapter	2 Short title	3 Extent of repeal
1961 c. 34	The Factories Act 1961	Sections 1 to 7, 18, 28, 29, 57 to 60 and 69
1963 c. 41	The Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act 1963	Sections 4 to 16
1956 c. 49	The Agriculture (Safety, Health and Welfare Provisions) Act 1956	Sections 3 and 5 and, in section 25, sub-sections (3) and (6)

## PART II

### REVOCATIONS

#### Commencement Information

**I35** Sch. 2 Pt. II in force at 1.1.1993 for specified purposes and 1.1.1996 in so far as not already in force, see reg. 1(2)(3)

(1) Title	(2) Reference	(3) Extent of revocation
The Flax and Tow Spinning and Weaving Regulations 1906	S.R. & O. <a href="#">1906/177</a> , amended by <a href="#">S.I. 1988/1657</a>	Regulation 3, 8, 10, 11 and 14
The Hemp Spinning and Weaving Regulations 1907	S.R. & O. <a href="#">1907/660</a> , amended by <a href="#">S.I. 1988/1657</a>	Regulations 3 to 5 and 8
Order dated 5 October 1917 (the Tin or Terne Plates Manufacture Welfare Order 1917)	S.R. & O. <a href="#">1917/1035</a>	The whole Order
Order dated 15 May 1918 (the Glass Bottle, etc. Manufacture Welfare Order 1918)	S.R. & O. <a href="#">1918/558</a>	The whole Order
Order dated 15 August 1919 (the Fruit Preserving Welfare Order 1919)	S.R. & O. <a href="#">1919/1136</a> , amended by <a href="#">S.I. 1988/1657</a>	The whole Order
Order dated 23 April 1920 (the Laundries Welfare Order 1920)	S.R. & O. <a href="#">1920/654</a>	The whole Order
Order dated 28 July 1920 (the Gut Scraping, Tripe Dressing, etc. Welfare Order 1920)	S.R. & O. <a href="#">1920/1437</a>	The whole Order
Order dated 9 September 1920 (the Herring Curing (Norfolk and Suffolk) Welfare Order 1920)	S.R. & O. <a href="#">1920/1662</a>	The whole Order
Order dated 3 March 1921 (the Glass Bevelling Welfare Order 1921)	S.R. & O. <a href="#">1921/288</a>	The whole Order
The Herring Curing (Scotland) Welfare Order 1926	S.R. & O. <a href="#">1926/535 (S.24)</a>	The whole Order
The Herring Curing Welfare Order 1927	S.R. & O. <a href="#">1927/813</a> , amended by <a href="#">S.I. 1960/1690</a> and <a href="#">917</a>	The whole Order
The Sacks (Cleaning and Repairing) Welfare Order 1927	S.R. & O. <a href="#">1927/860</a>	The whole Order
The Horizontal Milling Machines Regulations 1928	S.R. & O. <a href="#">1928/548</a>	The whole Regulations

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(1) Title	(2) Reference	(3) Extent of revocation
The Cotton Cloth Factories Regulations 1929	<a href="#">S.I. 1929/300</a>	Regulations 5 to 10, 11 and 12
The Oil Cake Welfare Order 1929	S.R. & O. <a href="#">1929/534</a>	Articles 3 to 6
The Cement Works Welfare Order 1930	S.R. & O. <a href="#">1930/94</a>	The whole Order
The Tanning Welfare Order 1930	S.R. & O. <a href="#">1930/312</a>	The whole Order
The Kiers Regulations 1938	S.R. & O. <a href="#">1938/106</a> , amended by <a href="#">S.I. 1981/1152</a>	Regulations 12 to 15
The Sanitary Accommodation Regulations 1938	S.R. & O. <a href="#">1938/611</a> , amended by <a href="#">S.I. 1974/426</a>	The whole Regulations
The Clay Works (Welfare) Special Regulations 1948	<a href="#">S.I. 1948/1547</a>	Regulations 3, 4, 6, 8 and 9
The Jute (Safety, Health and Welfare) Regulations 1948	<a href="#">S.I. 1948/1696</a> , amended by <a href="#">S.I. 1988/1657</a>	Regulations 11, 13, 14 to 16 and 19 to 26
The Pottery (Health and Welfare) Special Regulations 1950	<a href="#">S.I. 1950/65</a> , amended by <a href="#">S.I. 1963/879</a> , <a href="#">1973/36</a> , <a href="#">1980/1248</a> , <a href="#">1982/877</a> , <a href="#">1988/1657</a> , <a href="#">1989/2311</a> and <a href="#">1990/305</a>	Regulation 15
The Iron and Steel Foundries Regulations 1953	<a href="#">S.I. 1953/1464</a> , amended by <a href="#">S.I. 1974/1681</a> and <a href="#">1981/1332</a>	The whole Regulations
The Washing Facilities (Running Water) Exemption Regulations 1960	<a href="#">S.I. 1960/1029</a>	The whole Regulations
The Washing Facilities (Miscellaneous Industries) Regulations 1960	<a href="#">S.I. 1960/1214</a>	The whole Regulations
The Factories (Cleanliness of Walls and Ceilings) Order 1960	<a href="#">S.I. 1960/1794</a> , amended by <a href="#">S.I. 1974/427</a>	The whole Order
The Non-ferrous Metals (Melting and Founding) Regulations 1962	<a href="#">S.I. 1962/1667</a> , amended by <a href="#">S.I. 1974/1681</a> , <a href="#">1981/1332</a> and <a href="#">1988/165</a>	Regulations 5, 6 to 10, 14 to 17 and 20
The Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act 1963 (Exemption No. 1) Order 1964	<a href="#">S.I. 1964/964</a>	The whole Order
The Washing Facilities Regulations 1964	<a href="#">S.I. 1964/965</a>	The whole Regulations
The Sanitary Conveniences Regulations 1964	<a href="#">S.I. 1964/966</a> , amended by <a href="#">S.I. 1982/827</a>	The whole Regulations

(1) Title	(2) Reference	(3) Extent of revocation
The Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act 1963 (Exemption No. 7) Order 1968	<a href="#">S.I. 1968/1947</a> , amended by <a href="#">S.I. 1982/827</a>	The whole Order
The Abrasive Wheels Regulations 1970	<a href="#">S.I. 1970/535</a>	Regulation 17
The Sanitary Accommodation (Amendment) Regulations 1974	<a href="#">S.I. 1974/426</a>	The whole Regulations
The Factories (Cleanliness of Walls and Ceilings) (Amendment) Regulations 1974	<a href="#">S.I. 1974/427</a>	The whole Regulations
The Woodworking Machines Regulations 1974	<a href="#">S.I. 1974/903</a> , amended by <a href="#">S.I. 1978/1126</a>	Regulations 10 to 12
The Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act 1963 etc. (Metrication) Regulations 1982	<a href="#">S.I. 1982/827</a>	The whole Regulations

## EXPLANATORY NOTE

*(This note is not part of the Regulations)*

1. These Regulations impose requirements with respect to the health, safety and welfare of persons in a “workplace”, defined in regulation 2(1).

2. Except to the extent specified below, the Regulations give effect as respects Great Britain to Council Directive [89/654/EEC](#) (OJ L. 393, 30.12.89, p.1) concerning the minimum safety and health requirements for the workplace (“the Directive”).

3. The Regulations do not apply to a workplace which is or is in or on a ship (regulation 3(1)(a)). Nor do they impose requirements with respect to—

- (a) stability and solidity (Annex I, point 2; and Annex II, point 2 of the Directive);
- (b) electrical installations (Annex I, point 3; and Annex II, point 3 of the Directive);
- (c) emergency routes and exits (Annex I, point 4; and Annex II, point 4 of the Directive);
- (d) fire detection and fire fighting (Annex I, point 5; and Annex II, point 5 of the Directive);
- (e) thermal insulation (Annex I, point 9.1, second paragraph, of the Directive); and
- (f) first aid rooms or equipment (Annex I, point 19; and Annex II, point 14 of the Directive).

4. The Regulations are disapplied in relation to construction sites and sites where mineral exploration or extraction is undertaken. The application of specified regulations is modified in their

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application to temporary work sites, specified means of transport and specified parts of agricultural undertakings (regulation 3).

5. Requirements are imposed upon employers, persons who have, to any extent, control of a workplace, and persons who are deemed to be the occupiers of factories for the purposes of section 175(5) of the Factories Act 1961 (c. 54) (regulation 4).

6. The Regulations impose requirements with respect to—

- (a) maintenance (regulation 5);
- (b) ventilation of enclosed workplaces (regulation 6);
- (c) temperature indoors and the provision of thermometers (regulation 7);
- (d) lighting (including emergency lighting) (regulation 8);
- (e) cleanliness of the workplace, furniture, furnishings and fittings; the ability to clean the surface of floors, walls and ceilings; and the accumulation of waste materials (regulation 9);
- (f) room dimensions and unoccupied space (regulation 10 and Schedule 1, Part I);
- (g) the suitability of workstations (including workstations outdoors) and the provision of suitable seats (regulation 11);
- (h) the condition of floors (regulation 12);
- (i) the condition and arrangement of routes for pedestrians or vehicles (regulations 12 and 17);
- (j) protection from falling objects and from persons falling from a height or falling into a dangerous substance (regulation 13);
- (k) the material or protection of windows and other transparent or translucent walls, doors or gates and to them being apparent (regulation 14);
- (l) the way in which windows, skylights or ventilators are opened and the position they are left in when open (regulation 15);
- (m) the ability to clean windows and skylights (regulation 16);
- (n) the construction of doors and gates (including the fitting of necessary safety devices) (regulation 18);
- (o) escalators and moving walkways (regulation 19);
- (p) the provision of suitable sanitary conveniences (regulation 20 and Schedule 1, Part II);
- (q) the provision of suitable washing facilities (regulation 21);
- (r) the provision of a supply of drinking water and of cups or other drinking vessels (regulation 22);
- (s) the provision of suitable accommodation for clothing and of facilities for changing clothing (regulations 23 and 24); and
- (t) the provision of suitable facilities for rest and to eat meals (regulation 25).

7. The Secretary of State for Defence may grant exemption from the requirements of the Regulations in the interests of national security (regulation 26).

8. Provisions replaced by the Regulations are repealed or revoked. There is a saving for provisions of the Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act 1963 (c. 41) in specified circumstances (regulation 27 and Schedule 2).

**Status:**

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**Changes to legislation:**

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