
STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

1992 No. 3004

The Workplace (Health, Safety and Welfare) Regulations 1992

Citation and commencement **E+W+S**

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.

Commencement Information

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

Interpretation **E+W+S**

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

[^{F1}“mine” means a mine within the meaning of the Mines and Quarries Act 1954;]

[^{F2}“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(1) and (in Scotland) a public road within the meaning assigned to that term by section 151 of the Roads (Scotland) Act 1984(2);

[^{F3}“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.

^{F4} ...

(1) 1980 c. 66.
(2) 1984 c. 54.

(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](#))
- 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\(2\)](#)

^{F5}Application of these Regulations **E+W+S**

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

- (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;
- (b) a workplace which is a construction site within the meaning of the Construction (Design and Management) Regulations [^{F6}2015], 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; or
- (c) a workplace located below ground at a mine, except that regulation 20 applies to such a workplace subject to the modification in paragraph (7).

(2) Regulation 12 does not apply to a workplace located above ground at a mine that is a tip (within the meaning of regulation 2(1) of the Mines Regulations 2014).

(3) 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.

(4) 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 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.

(5) 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
- (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.

(6) As respects any workplace that is a quarry—

- (a) regulation 12 only applies to a floor or traffic route that is located inside a building; and
- (b) regulation 20 applies to such a workplace subject to the modification in paragraph (7).

(7) In relation to any workplace that is a quarry or located below ground at a mine, the requirement that sanitary conveniences provided under regulation 20 must be at readily accessible places has effect as a requirement that such sanitary conveniences must be, so far as is reasonably practicable, at readily accessible places.

(8) 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) “mine” means a mine within the meaning of regulation 3 of the Mines Regulations 2014;
- (c) “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;
- (d) “ship” includes all vessels and hovercraft which operate on water or land and water;
- (e) “shipyard” means any yard or dry dock (including the precincts thereof) in which ships or vessels are constructed, reconstructed, repaired, refitted or finished; and
- (f) “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 substituted (6.4.2015) by [The Mines Regulations 2014 \(S.I. 2014/3248\)](#), reg. 1(2), [Sch. 5 para. 7](#) (with [reg. 1\(3\)](#))

F6 Word in [reg. 3\(1\)\(b\)](#) substituted (6.4.2015) by [The Construction \(Design and Management\) Regulations 2015 \(S.I. 2015/51\)](#), [reg. 1](#), [Sch. 5](#) (with [reg. 3](#), [Sch. 4](#))

Commencement Information

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

Requirements under these Regulations **E+W+S**

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\(2\)](#)

[^{F7}Stability and solidity **E+W+S**

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

F7 [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 E+W+S

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; ^{F8}...

(b) mechanical ventilation systems provided pursuant to regulation 6 (whether or not they include equipment or devices within sub-paragraph (a) of this paragraph); [^{F9}and]

[^{F10}(c) equipment and devices intended to prevent or reduce hazards]

Textual Amendments

F8 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)**

F9 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)**

F10 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 E+W+S

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.

^{F11}(3)

Textual Amendments

F11 [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 E+W+S

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

[^{F12}(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

F12 [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 **E+W+S**

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 **E+W+S**

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 **E+W+S**

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.

Commencement Information

110 [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 **E+W+S**

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

111 [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 **E+W+S**

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 E+W+S

- 13.**—^{F13}(1)
- ^{F13}(2)
- ^{F13}(3)
- ^{F13}(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

F13 [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 **E+W+S**

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.

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 **E+W+S**

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 **E+W+S**

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 **E+W+S**

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 **E+W+S**

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 **E+W+S**

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 **E+W+S**

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—

- (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 **E+W+S**

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 **E+W+S**

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 **E+W+S**

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 **E+W+S**

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 [^{F14}and the facilities are easily accessible, of sufficient capacity and provided with seating].

Textual Amendments

F14 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 **E+W+S**

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.

[^{F15}(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

F15 [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)

[^{F16}Disabled persons **E+W+S**

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

F16 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 **E+W+S**

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(3);
- (b) “headquarters” has the same meaning as in article 3(2) of the Visiting Forces and International Headquarters (Application of Law) Order 1965(4);
- (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 **E+W+S**

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(5) 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.

(3) 1952 c. 67.

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

(5) 1963 c. 41.

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\(2\)\(3\)](#)

Signed by order of the Secretary of State.

1st December 1992

Patrick McLoughlin
Parliamentary Under Secretary of State,
Department of Employment

Changes to legislation:

There are currently no known outstanding effects for the The Workplace (Health, Safety and Welfare) Regulations 1992.