

New regulations that affect your business

The Construction (Design and Management) Regulations 2015

Know the rules



Which?

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These regulations come into force on **06 April 2015**.

These regulations directly affect you if you carry out any kind of construction project and this includes installing kitchens, bathrooms, bedrooms, roofing, extensions, conversions or any other kind of construction related service either as a contractor for another trader or if you provide the service to your own domestic clients.



As a Which? Trusted trader it is necessary that you adhere to these new regulations. If you do not, you may face enforcement action by the Health & Safety Executive and your public liability insurance may be affected.

We're here to help you make sense of these regulations.

In a nutshell

- The regulations are intended to ensure health & safety issues are properly considered to ensure the risk of harm to everyone involved in a project is reduced to a minimum.
- The regulations set out definitions for Principal Designers, Principal Contractors and Contractors.
- You will be responsible for preparing a plan, organising the work and working with others to ensure health & safety.

So what is your role in the project?

The Principal Designer

The Principal Designer (PD) is responsible for all the pre-construction phase planning and design work and there should be liaison between the PD and the Principal Contractor (PC) to ensure a good flow of information particularly with regards to a Construction Phase Plan (CPP). An example of a PD will be a business that supplies kitchens and appoints a contracted installer to carry out the work.

The Principal Contractor

The Principal Contractor (PC) must manage and co-ordinate the construction side of the project. They must liaise with the PD on such things as changes to design and surveys and any implications that has for health & safety and update the health & safety file accordingly.

The PC must also draw up the Construction Phase Plan (CPP) following a survey of the project to be undertaken and ensure that any sub contractors they employ are conversant with it.

Principal Contractors supervising more than one other contractor should draw up a site induction form to ensure other workers know who is responsible for management and supervision and that any risks on site are highlighted

An example of a PC is a kitchen installer contracted by another business to carry out the work but who also in turn sub contracts out more of the work on specific services such as electrical or gas works.

Contractor

The contractor must plan and manage the work under their control, liaise with the PC regarding the CPP and carry out the works without compromising health and safety.

Points to note!

- 1 All projects must have workers with the right skills, knowledge, training and experience to do the job
- 2 Contractors must provide good supervision and information
- 3 All projects must have a Construction Phase Plan (CPP)
- 4 If more than one contractor is involved in a project there must be a health & safety file, a Principal designer (PD) and a Principal Contractor (PC).
- 5 The CPP should be kept safe at all times and the PD should store any health and safety file required.
- 6 If work is scheduled to last more than 30 days and has more than 20 workers all working at the same time then all of points 1 - 5 must be complied with and the client must also notify the HSE of the project.





The Construction Phase Plan, what should it contain?

- Clients details
- Description of the job
- Key dates, start, finish
- Location of toilet and washing facilities
- Details of who else is on site
- Details of the Principal Designer
- Details of the Principal Contractor
- Name who is responsible for the flow of information throughout the job
- Identify the main dangers on site
- Identify working at height risks, ensuring safe ladders, guard rails and platforms
- Identify any risks following excavations and ensuring covers and barriers are in place
- Prevention of structure collapses with adequate props
- Identify any risks related to asbestos and arrange surveys where required
- Prevent exposure to dust created by works
- Prevent accidents caused by electrics not being isolated beforehand
- Assess and note who is supervising workers
- Identify any risks to the public and the client
- Note any other dangers realised

**** This leaflet is a brief guide to the regulations only and is not a full interpretation of the law, a template that can be used for a construction phase plan can be found at www.hse.gov.uk along with all other information about the regulations.***



Trusted Traders

0117 981 2929

trustedtraders@which.co.uk

whichtraders.co.uk