

Glossary of terms and acronyms

1. **Health and Safety at Work etc Act 1974** is a primary piece of legislation covering occupational health and safety in the UK. It defines the main duties imposed on employers (Sections 2 and 3), employees (Sections 7 and 8) and on the body corporate of a company.
2. **So far as is reasonably practicable** means that measures are taken up to a point where the taking of further measures becomes grossly disproportionate to the risk. The greater the risk, the more likely it is that it is reasonable to go to substantial expense, trouble and invention to reduce it.
Where practicable means that measures must be taken where it is possible to do so without any regard to cost, time and trouble.
3. **Dangerous substance DSEAR** a substance, which because of its physico-chemical or chemical properties and the way it is used or is present at the workplace, creates a risk from fires and explosions. A substance subject to the Dangerous Substances and Explosive Atmosphere Regulations 2002 (DSEAR), which requires employers to control the risks to safety from fire and explosions.
Dangerous substance CLP/CHIP means that it is listed in the regulations or has a category of danger associated with it.
4. **Management of Health and Safety at Work Regulations** the Management of Health and Safety at Work Regulations 1999. These regulations are in addition to the requirements of the Health and Safety at Work etc Act 1974 and they extend the employers general safety obligations by requiring additional specific actions on the employer's part such as risk assessment.
5. **Regulatory reform (Fire Safety) Order 2005** places responsibilities for fire risk assessment, to identify, manage, and reduce the risk of fire in establishments.
6. **Significant findings** when you have completed your risk assessment you are required to record the findings of the significant risks. These are the assessment findings that require additional control and which must be communicated to workers
7. **Classification of chemicals** an identification system that allows you to understand how the chemicals that you use cause harm to yourself, others and the environment. It is based on an agreed set of criteria for physical, health and environmental hazards.
Regulation (EC) No 1272/2008 - classification, labeling and packaging of substances and mixtures (known as the 'CLP Regs') comes fully into force in 2015, and there are transitional arrangements in place as the classification moves from those given by the Classification (Hazard Information and Packaging for Supply) Regulations (CHIP).
8. **Suitable and sufficient** with regard to risk assessments, refers to the objective of identifying the hazards, risks and control measures for the activity being studied and assessing if the residual risk is as low as reasonably practicable. The degree of sophistication applied, the applicability of the methodology etc depend on the nature of the work, the significance of the consequences and many other factors.
9. **Hazardous area classification** the areas where hazardous explosive atmospheres may occur should be identified and classified into zones, based on their likelihood and persistence.
10. **Permit to work** a documented risk assessment process for 'non-routine' (engineering) work in a location where the risks require special management. The location, duration, methods and other limits on the work are normally restricted to reduce the risk to the visiting workers and the normal 'residents'.

