

CDM REGULATIONS 2015

The Construction (Design and Management) Regulations 2015 (CDM Regulations 2015) will govern the management of health, safety and welfare on construction projects within the UK from 06 April 2015.

The CDM Regulations 2015 will apply to all building and construction work and will include new build, demolition, refurbishment, extensions, conversions, repair and maintenance.

The new regulations are significantly different to those that they replace.

The new regulations place the responsibility for managing the health, safety and welfare of a construction project on three duty holders:

Client - Principal Designer - Principal Contractor

The Client will need to ensure that the construction project is set up so that it is carried out from start to finish in a way that adequately controls the risks to the health and safety of those who may be affected.

A Principal Designer (new role) must be appointed* to manage health and safety during the pre-construction phase of a project. The role extends to the construction phase through the Principal Designer's duties to liaise with the Principal Contractor, especially in regard to ongoing design work.

A Principal Contractor must be appointed* to manage health and safety during the construction phase of a project. This involves liaising with the Client and Principal Designer throughout the project, including during the pre-construction phase.

***The Client must appoint a Principal Designer and a Principal Contractor on all construction projects where there is likely to be two or more contractors involved on site.**

To enable the Principal Designer to carry out his duties; he must be appointed at the start of the Design Process (i.e. at the same time as any other Designers involved are being appointed). A Principal Designer must be able to demonstrate his competence and resources to fulfil his role, e.g.: that he has the knowledge, training (including qualifications) and experience as both a designer and a health and safety professional.

The Principal Contractor must be appointed suitably in advance of the planned start of works on site to enable him to adequately plan the Construction Phase. A Principal Contractor must be able to demonstrate his competence and resources to fulfil his role, e.g.: that he has the right skills, knowledge, training and experience.

The Client has a number of other legal duties to fulfil on construction projects under the CDM Regulations 2015 and will be made aware of these by the Principal Designer and Principal Contractor, once appointed.

Sanders Consulting has provided clients procuring construction works with Professional Design Services and Health and Safety Consultancy Services for over twenty years and therefore is well placed to fulfil the new role of Principal Designer. If we can assist those planning construction works for later this year (i.e. after 06-Apr-15) to understand the implications of the revised regulations, we would be very pleased to do so; without obligation.

Please do not hesitate to contact Paul Sanders; contact details below.

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