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Date:	7 th March 2009
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Level 2

Specialist Risk Assessment – COSHH

Endorsement and Authorisation

Endorsed by:



.....
Dave Allen, Working Group Chair

Authorised by:



.....
Julian Lindfield, Steering Group Chair, Safety and Compliance

Accepted for issue by:



.....
Mick McManus, National Standards Manager

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Issue record

Issue	Date	Comments
1	August 1999	New document
2	June 2005	For incorporation into the new OHS Manual that, together with the Safety Systems Manual, replaces the HSSM. Formally NR/HSSM/04.03. References updated. References to withdrawn documents removed. Sections renumbered to reflect new document template. Minor changes made.
3	March 2009	Substantial revision. Document redrafted to reflect a requirement to use the Sypol process. References updated. References to withdrawn documents have been removed.

Compliance

This Network Rail standard is mandatory and shall be complied with by all Network Rail functions from 6th June 2009.

When this standard is implemented, it is permissible for all projects that have formally completed GRIP Stage 4 to continue to comply with the issue of any relevant Network Rail Standards current when GRIP Stage 4 was reached and not to comply with requirements contained herein, unless the designated Standard Owner has stipulated otherwise in the accompanying Briefing Note.

Reference documentation

NR/SP/OHS/00102 *Work Activity Risk Assessment*.

Chemicals (Hazard Information and Package for Supply) Regulations 2002.

Control of substances hazardous to health (Fifth edition). The Control of Substances Hazardous to Health Regulations 2002 (as amended). *Approved Code of Practice and guidance L5 (Fifth edition) HSE Books 2005*.

Management of Health and Safety at Work Regulations 1999.

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1 Purpose

This Network Rail standard specifies a consistent approach to the requirements contained within the Control of Substances Hazardous to Health Regulations 2002 (COSHH) across all Network Rail functions.

2 Scope

This Network Rail standard specifies the process for undertaking all hazardous substance risk assessments within Network Rail.

It applies to all substances, preparations and products deemed as hazardous that are used by Network Rail employees.

COSHH risk assessments referred to within this standard are assessments of the risks to the health and safety of identified workers during the use of or exposure to a hazardous substance.

All COSHH risk assessments referred to within this standard are produced using the Sypol COSHH Management System, unless stated otherwise.

3 Definitions

For the purposes of this standard, the following definitions apply.

COSHH

Control of Substances Hazardous to Health

COSHH Assessment

Specialist risk assessment performed in respect of individuals working or coming into contact with hazardous substances

COSHH Assessment Request Questionnaire Form (CARQ)

Form that records initial COSHH Assessment findings and, once submitted to Sypol, generates the production of a COSHH assessment

Editor

Network Rail employee who has rights within the Sypol database to create or remove Work Areas and Sub Areas and/or request, move or delete COSHH assessments and access the “national” COSHH database

Hazardous Substance

A substance classified as hazardous as defined by the Chemicals (Hazard Information and Packaging for Supply) Regulations 2002, and includes:

- a substance classified as toxic, very toxic, harmful, irritant or corrosive;
- a substance assigned a Workplace Exposure Limit (WEL);
- a dust; and
- a micro-organism; or
- any substance which, by the way it is used