

Fire Safety in Construction: HSE Publishers New Guidance

The second edition of Fire Safety in Construction published by the Health and Safety Executive provides guidance in relation to fire prevention on construction projects and applies to all those involved in the construction process, including clients, designers, contractors and CDM Co-ordinators (the first edition was published by the HSE in 1997). Part 3 of the new guidance outlines the legal responsibilities of those involved on a project including, for example, the obligations under the Construction (Design and Management) Regulations 2007. Failure to comply with the CDM Regulations may not only result in the issue of an Improvement Notice or Prohibition Notice by the HSE, but the persons at fault may face prosecution. The Court is given considerable scope to punish offenders. Furthermore the High Court has the power to impose unlimited fines and in some cases even imprisonment.