

Risk Improvement Action

RIA ID 00001	Fire Exits and Escape Routes		
Description	<p>Fire doors are an integral part of the fire protection of a building and are designed to restrict or prevent the passage of fire, smoke, heat or hot gases from one compartment to another, or via staircases. Incorrectly operating fire doors or poorly maintained fire exit routes could have potential life safety consequences and reduce the level of property protection afforded.</p> <p>Emergency fire exit doors can become blocked by storage of stock, waste waiting to be removed or fork lift trucks and the like, meaning that employees, visitors or contractors working at your premises, could become trapped in a fire.</p> <p>It is most important that your evacuation routes are kept clear of obstructions. During our recent visit, the following fire escape routes were blocked; Restricted access to two fire exits in the warehouse. These areas are to be cleared of all obstructions and a self-inspection programme introduced, to ensure a safe means of escape is maintained at all times. The fire risk assessment should be reviewed on fire exit doors and escape routes.</p>		
Priority	Important		
Target Implementation Date	3 rd June 2016	Status	Not yet actioned

RIA ID 00002	Electrical Switchgear to be kept Clear		
Description	<p>Electrical faults are one of the causes of many fires and serious personal injuries; therefore it is very important that electrical systems are properly installed and maintained to minimise these risks.</p> <p>Combustible stocks and packing materials are stored in close proximity to electrical switchgear or distribution boards within the warehouse. These are to be removed and a minimum clearance of one metre be maintained around the apparatus at all times. It is recommended that apparatus be enclosed via stout guard rails bolted to the floor or by chain-link fencing.</p> <p>A copy of the company's 'Risk Topics' guidance paper on Electrical Installations and Equipment - Fire Safety - in relation to general precautions is attached for your further information and guidance.</p>		
Priority	Important		
Target Implementation Date	3 rd June 2016	Status	Not yet actioned

RIA ID 00003	Fork Lift Truck Battery Charging		
Description	<p>Many major fires, in industrial premises, have been caused either directly or indirectly, by fork-lift truck operations. This can be avoided by adopting simple fire precaution measures.</p> <p>There are potential fire risks associated with the charging of batteries. It is important that combustible materials and goods are kept clear of the top and the immediate vicinity of the charger.</p> <p>The area around the charger, for a distance of at least 2 metres is to be cleared of all materials and goods. This area is to be maintained clear, with the aid of guard rails or appropriate floor markings.</p> <p>A copy of the company's 'Risk Topic' guidance paper Fork Lift Trucks – Fire and Property Related Guidance is attached for your further information and guidance.</p>		
Priority	Important		
Target Implementation Date	3 rd June 2016	Status	Not yet actioned

RIA ID 00004	Hot Work Permits		
Description	<p>Significant fire risks are associated with hot work processes - such as welding and cutting, grinding and the use of bitumen boilers - which may be undertaken in connection with structural alterations and routine maintenance work. These risks may be further aggravated by contractors who are not familiar with your premises, and who may not be aware of the potential risks. Therefore, you are to introduce a Hot Work Permit Scheme to control all hot work - whether done by contractors or your own employees. A copy of the company's Risk Topic Fire Safety - Hot Work is attached for your further information and detailed guidance.</p>		
Priority	Important		
Target Implementation Date	3 rd June 2016	Status	Not yet actioned

RIA ID 00005	Portable Heaters		
Description	<p>Portable electrical heating appliances increase the risk of fire. Appliances may be accidentally knocked over, or otherwise, placed in close proximity to combustible materials and result in their ignition. In addition they are more likely to suffer mechanical damage and subsequently malfunction and cause a fire.</p> <p>These appliances are to be removed from the premises.</p> <p>Any additional localised heating required is to be permanently fixed to a wall in a position clear of combustible materials. Overhead mounted appliance(s) to incorporate a fan failure device and/or an over temperature cut out device, e.g. gas or electric fan heaters and thermal storage heaters.</p>		
Priority	Important		
Target Implementation Date	3 rd June 2016	Status	Not yet actioned