

Construction Industry Council CDM Guidance for Designers

Using the guidance

General Administration Note

A 004

1. This series of guidance notes have been drawn up to assist designers in discharging their duties under the Construction (Design and Management) Regulations 1994 [CDM]. While it has been written under discreet section headings, each section should not be read in isolation from other sections, which might be related.

2. For example, erecting a reinforced concrete [rc] structure will involve operatives in fixing reinforcement, erecting shutters and placing, compacting and finishing the concrete. Therefore, the guidance note dealing with designing to reduce hazards with in-situ rc construction is relevant. But erecting a rc structure will, invariably, require working at height and, depending on the design, working in unergonomic positions. Therefore, the guidance dealing with working at height and musculo-skeletal disorders may also contain relevant information. Consequently, the guidance sheet dealing with reinforced concrete construction should be read in conjunction with the other two.

3. In some cases, the information may be contained in more than three sheets.

4. To help designers to decide what information may be relevant for a particular design, Table 1, which links the guidance sheets to the various common construction operations, has been included. While its use is self-explanatory, notes to help the reader have been attached below:

- ✓ means the sheet is completely relevant;
- ? means the sheet may be relevant, either because it contains information related to a process or it contains information related to a hazard.

5. In addition to the topic specific guidance, this document contains a general information series, which is included at the end. These sheets were intended to give designers some background on a number of topics that are outside the mainstream topics, eg, manual handling. It was felt that some knowledge in these areas would help designers to understand better why the some of the advice given in the specific sections is included.

6. Designers will notice that this document does not include a section on the CDM Regulations themselves. This was intentional. The Drafting Committee felt that it would not be a useful addition, because this information is readily available in other publications from the Health and Safety Executive [HSE].

7. These publications are commended to designers, who want to understand how they can discharge their duties under regulation 13 of the CDM regulations.

Abbreviations

8. The text in these guidance notes contains abbreviations. Although, an abbreviation is introduced in the text in parentheses, eg, temporary works equipment [TWE], immediately after the text it will replace, a list of abbreviations, which appear in these notes is given below:

General technical

ACM	Asbestos containing material;
BS	British standard;
CoG	Centre of gravity
dB(A)	Decibels;
HAVs	Hand-arm vibrations syndrome;
MAT	Mobile access tower;
MEWP	Mobile elevating work platform;
MSD	Musculo-skeletal disorder;
MSI	Musculo-skeletal injury;
pc	Precast concrete;
PPE	Personal protective equipment;
rc	Reinforced concrete;
re-bar	Reinforcing bar or reinforcement;
RSA	Rolled steel angle;
RSC	Rolled steel channel;
SAE	Suspended access equipment;
TWE	Temporary works equipment;
UB	Universal beam;
WRULD	Work-related upper limb disorder;

Regulations

CDM	Construction (Design & Management) Regulations 1994;
CHSW	Construction (Health, safety & Welfare) Regulations 1996;
COSHH	Control of Substances Hazardous to Health Regulations 1999;
HSW	Health and Safety at Work etc Act 1974;
LOLER	Lifting Operations & Lifting Equipment Regulations 1998;

Organisations

ACR	Advisory Committee for Roofing;
BCSA	British Constructional Steelwork Association;
CIRIA	Construction Industry Research and Information Association;
HSE	Health and Safety Executive;
SAEMA	Suspended Access Equipment Manufacturers Association;
SCI	Steel Construction Institute;

Construction process	GUIDANCE NOTES																																	
	Health						Technical																		Services		General information							
	H 10.00 series			H 20.00 series			T 10.00 series Groundworks						T 20.00 series												T 30.00 series		B 10.00 series		I series					
	1	2	3	1	2	3	1	2	3	4	5	6	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	1	2	1	2	1	2	
Forming & locating building or structure																																		
Locating structures							✓	✓					✓	?	?	?		✓					✓									✓		
Interior finishes																			✓	✓														
Interior alterations																																		
Site clearance and preparation																																		
Demolition	✓	✓			✓														✓	✓								✓				?	?	
Decommissioning																												✓						
Groundworks																																		
Site investigation	✓																																	
Excavations	✓				?			✓																										
Drainage		?					✓	✓																							?			
Foundations					?		✓	✓	✓		?																							
Underpinning											✓																							
Erecting buildings and structures																																		
Refurbishment	?	?		✓	?							✓	?	?	?	✓	✓		?	?					✓						?	?		
Steelwork	?			?	?							✓	✓					?	?	✓	✓											?	✓	
Pre-cast concrete				?								✓			✓					✓												✓	✓	
In-situ concrete	?			✓	?										✓				✓	✓												?		
Large-scale comp'ts				✓															✓		?	✓										✓	✓	
Small-scale comp'ts																																		
Masonry				✓	✓														✓	✓						✓							✓	
Building services installation and maintenance																																		
Mechanical	?			✓	?														✓	✓	?											✓		
Electrical	?			✓															✓	✓													✓	
Building maintenance																																		
Suspended Access																				✓						✓								
Maintaining plant		?			?														✓	✓	✓											✓		

- Notes to table:
- ✓ means that the sheet is relevant to the operation being designed;
 - ? means that the guidance note contains some useful information;
 - 1 means that the guidance note is available.