

Common H&S Pitfalls You May Be Missing



Andy Hall (Technical Manager)
Nick Bruton (Operations Manager)

www.southalls.com

WHO WE ARE?

- Family business, established 2003
- Backed by ex-enforcement officers, 20 consultants
- No nonsense realistic approach
- Designers and owners of Safety Cloud
- Safety Cloud and Safety Plus
- Gap Analysis



Flow

- COSHH
- Fume and dust exposure
- LEV & RPE
- Metal Working Fluids
- Legionella assessment
- Noise and vibration



GAME CHANGING OUTCOMES | CUT COSTS | SAVE TIME | REDUCE RISK | ENGAGE EMPLOYEES



COSHH Assessments



GO HOME HEALTHY CAMPAIGN

- ❑ Aims to reduce incidence of occupational ill health through effective and proportionate risk management.
- ❑ Covers lung disease caused by dust, gases, vapours and fumes.
- ❑ Focus shift from safety to health.



GO HOME HEALTHY CAMPAIGN

- ❑ Some quick stats....
- ❑ 12,000 deaths from lung disease (includes asbestos)
- ❑ 20,000 newly reported lung problems per year.
- ❑ Contrast with improvement in safety related fatalities (144 in 2018).



COSHH ASSESSMENT PRODUCTION

- ❑ COSHH Assessments should be completed by employer - they know best how it used
- ❑ Utilise the SDS, although there is a problem with this sometimes.....
- ❑ The SDS **IS NOT** a COSHH assessment

Current revision—Revision 3: June 2016

1. Identification of the substance/ preparation and Company

Product name: CaberWood MDF Pro, Trade, Moisture Resistant and Industrial Grades

Product type: Medium Density Fibreboard (MDF)

Product description:

Dry processed fibreboard having moisture content of less than 20% at the forming stage, and having a density ≥ 450 kg/m³. These boards are essentially produced under heat and pressure with the addition of a synthetic adhesive.

Application:

Building, furniture components, decorative fixtures and fittings, for dry internal and moisture resistant applications. See product literature.

Company:

Norbord Europe Ltd.
Station Road
Cowie, Stirling
Scotland
FK7 7BQ

Tel: (+44)(0)1786 812 921
In case of emergency: (+44)(0)1786 812 921 (office hours)
Ask for Health & Safety or Technical Manager

2. Hazards identification

Physical hazard: Non-classifiable

Health hazard: Non-classifiable

No risk phrases required

3. Identification/ information on ingredients

No materials identified for this purpose as specified the Classification, Labelling and Packaging (CLP) regulations 2009 (amended 2016).

4. First aid

Inhalation: Inhalation of dust can only occur during processing. If inhalation of dust causes adverse effects, remove to fresh air. If discomfort persists, seek medical advice.

Skin: In case of irritation from dust generated from processing, wash with water.

Eyes: If particles enter the eyes during processing, immediately flush eyes with plenty of water. Seek medical attention if irritation persists.

5. Fire Fighting

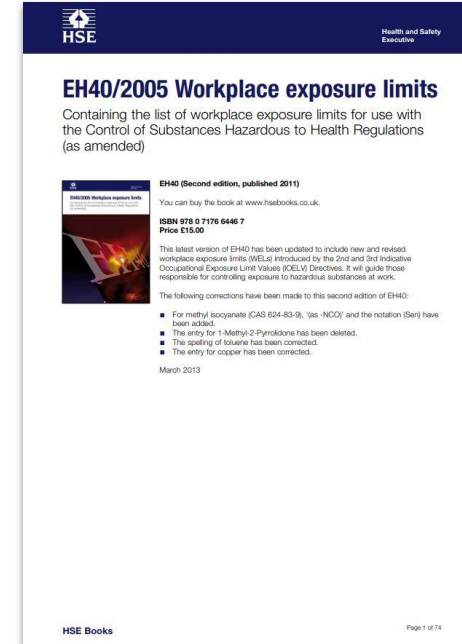
Non-flammable at room temperature, but will burn. In case of fire, soak (flood) with water. For large fires, fire fighters should wear full emergency protective equipment including self-contained breathing apparatus.

Wood waste, or dust may present a fire or explosion hazard- good housekeeping practises must be followed.



WORKPLACE EXPOSURE LIMITS (WEL)

- ❑ HSE Guidance EH40/2005
- ❑ No WEL for Metal Working Fluids
- ❑ No WEL for 'Welding Fume'
- ❑ Hardwood dust reduced to $3\text{mg}/\text{m}^3$
- ❑ Respirable Crystalline Silica WEL $0.1\text{ mg}/\text{m}^3$
- ❑ Assistance (including sampling) to be undertaken by a competent person



CONTROLS - POINTS TO CONSIDER?

- ❑ Consider the hierarchy of control carefully:
 - ❑ Can you stop using altogether?
 - ❑ Can you swap for something less hazardous?
 - ❑ Barrier off / enclose? LEV use?
 - ❑ Correct set up of equipment?
 - ❑ Less time performing a task? Job rotation?
 - ❑ PPE must be considered the **last resort**
- ❑ COSHH isn't just about meeting those limits, it's about reducing to **ALARP**
- ❑ **You may be asked to justify the steps you have taken**



WELDING FUME - NEW HSE/LA FOCUS

- ❑ All forms of welding fume can cause cancer.
- ❑ Indoor welding tasks require the use of LEV. If LEV is unable to control fume capture then Respiratory Protective Equipment (RPE) is also required.
- ❑ Outdoor welding requires use of RPE.
- ❑ Spot welding? Brazing?
- ❑ HSE guidance issued in January 2020 provides further details



TYPES OF WELDING SUITABLE LEV



- ❑ Adjustable hood important for maximum fume capture
- ❑ Instruct / train employees in correct use and monitor!
- ❑ MIG welding torches can incorporate on tool extraction



WELDING SUITABLE RPE



- ❑ Battery powered pack draws air in
- ❑ Positive air pressure pushes air out over the operatives face
- ❑ Incorporates welding visor



MANUFACTURING DUSTS

- ❑ Any dust can be hazardous if inhaled.
- ❑ Take care - you may have a perfectly non-hazardous material to begin with, but your processes may change this.....



OTHER TYPES OF LEV....



Air bench

GAME CHANGING OUTCOMES | CUT COSTS | SAVE TIME | REDUCE RISK | ENGAGE EMPLOYEES



Enclosed LEV



LEV / RPE REQUIREMENTS

- ❑ LEV needs to be commissioned initially, i.e. will it do the job you want it to?
- ❑ Retain your commissioning certificate.
- ❑ Ongoing thorough examination required at least every 14 months (6 months if you are abrading or polishing).
- ❑ Undertaken by a competent person.
- ❑ Records to be retained for at least 5 years.
- ❑ Use of flow rate indicators.



TYPES OF RPE



**Disposable
half mask**



**Reusable
half mask**



**Full face
mask**



**Air Fed
RPE**



RPE REQUIREMENTS

- ❑ Correct type (suitable & adequate)
- ❑ Must be CE marked
- ❑ Training required in use
- ❑ Face fit testing required - facial hair presence will inhibit a full seal
- ❑ Fit2Fit for competent suppliers
- ❑ Monitoring correct use
- ❑ Storage
- ❑ Programmed checks on the RPE
- ❑ Filters used vary dependant on hazard



RPE - POOR PRACTICE



Poor condition, stored on top of hazardous substances as well?



Keep in an enclosed container / locker so inner surfaces don't become dust contaminated....



RPE CHECKLIST

RPE suitable for wearers (i.e. adequate RPE provided, face fit tested if necessary)?	✓		
Is the RPE in clean condition and kept in a suitable container when not in use?	✓		
Filter checked (within expiry date, not damaged, no visible contamination, easy to breathe through)?			✓
Is the seal around the face adequate (check for any damage)?	✓		
Can the visor be easily seen through?	✓		
Are straps and buckles in good condition?	✓		
Are valves and seals in good condition?	✓		

Decide upon a suitable frequency to undertake this....



METALWORKING FLUIDS (SUDS)

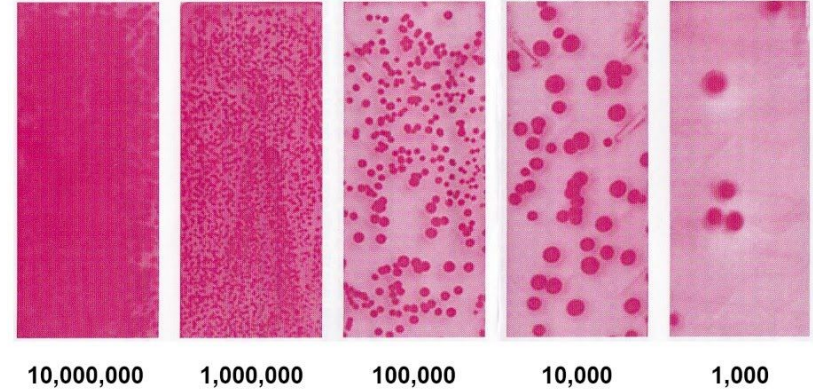
- ❑ Used to cool, lubricate and move away swarf away
- ❑ Water mix or synthetic types available
- ❑ Associated problems:
 - ❑ Dermatitis (all types)
 - ❑ Breathing issues (occ. asthma)
 - ❑ Bacterial growth
- ❑ Need to have management systems in place for these issues....



WHAT CHECKS TO CARRY OUT?

- ❑ Checks on bacterial load done via dip slide testing on a weekly basis.
- ❑ Dip slide will require incubation (25°C for 48 hours).
- ❑ Further action needed? Low level clean using a biocide flush or deep clean involving a total sump drain and biocide flush.
- ❑ Have this procedure written down and referred to in your COSHH / risk assessments.

Bacteria Count (CFU/mL)



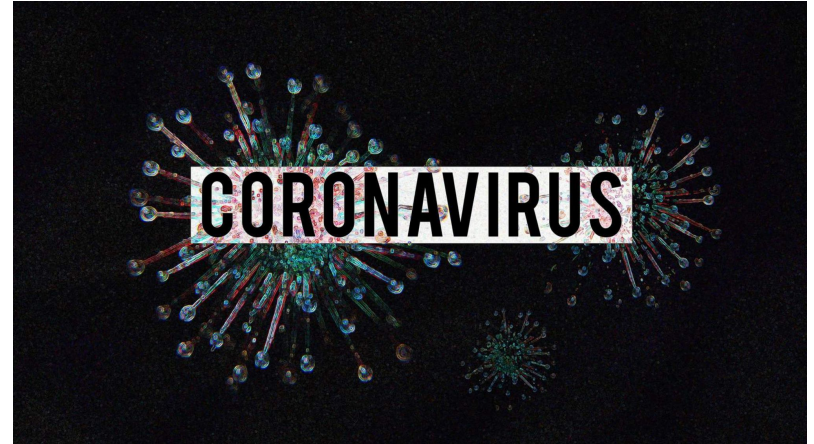
WHAT CHECKS TO CARRY OUT?

- ❑ Weekly checks also required for pH and fluid concentration in water mix fluids.
- ❑ Carry out using pH test kits / strips and a refractometer.
- ❑ Daily visual checks on fluid appearance or the presence of an unusual odour? These may be carried out by the operator.
- ❑ Sump cleaning and draining to be carried out at appropriate intervals.
- ❑ Health surveillance - skin and asthma. Based on risk lower level or higher level.



Coronavirus?

- ❑ Join our Friday morning webinar at 10am
- ❑ Social distancing controls
- ❑ Health surveillance
- ❑ E-learning
- ❑ Risk assessment
- ❑ Check list and audits
- ❑ Communication



LEGIONELLA ASSESSMENT



Are there LEGIONELLA risks in your workplace?

If you have one of the following within your workplace or premises then you have to consider Legionella in your risk assessments:

- A cooling tower or evaporative condenser
- Cleaning tanks / spray tunnels
- Dry or wet cooling systems
- Hot and cold water systems

There are other potential risks (metalworking fluids as already covered).

Potentially foreseeable Legionella risk

The 4 factors that encourage legionella multiplication and dispersal:

- Where the water temperature in all or some of the system may be between **20-45°C**
- It is possible for water droplets (**aerosols**) to be created and spread
- Water is **stored** and/or recirculated
- There are **deposits** that can support bacterial growth such as rust, sludge, scale, biofilm, or organic matter

What do you need to do to comply?

Duty Holder - Employer or person in control of the premises

Should appoint a:

Competent or Responsible Person - person who takes responsibility for controlling any identified risk from exposure to legionella bacteria.

You may call on help or advice from outside sources (e.g. consultancies or water hygiene companies) to carry out the

RISK ASSESSMENT

Preventing or Controlling the Risk: Practical Overview

- Prevent multiplication of the bacteria by avoiding water temperatures that favour its growth.
- Keep the system and the water in it clean.
- Ensure that water cannot stagnate in the system.
- Treat the water to control the growth of legionella.
- Ensure that the release of water spray is properly controlled.

Common Sights



Common Misconceptions and Errors

- Accepting cheapest quote from Water Treatment Company for a Legionella Risk Assessment.
- Forgetting the effect of TMV's on water temperatures.
- Responsible person did not have a clear understanding of their duties.
- No water system schematics.
- Not looking beyond the obvious sources.



Your Work Equipment Checks Area

Matrix

Create Questions

View All Actions

Add Work Equipment Item

Back

[Expand All](#) | [Close All](#) [Show Current](#) | [Show Archived](#) | [Show All](#)

LEGIONELLA

Click to close

ID Mark	Actions ?	Options
6 Monthly Cold Water Tank T°C Check		
Monthly Cold Water Sentinels T°C Check		
Monthly Hot Water Cylinder T°C Check		
Monthly Hot Water Sentinels T°C Check		
Quarterly Shower Head Clean		
Weekly Flush of Little Used Outlets		

Services & Inspections

[Show Current](#) | [Show Completed](#) | [Show All](#)

Type	Description	Statutory Examination	Last Examination	Frequency	Next Examination	Co On
Cold Water Tank 1	Six monthly inspection and clean of tank		01/03/2019	6 month	01/09/2019	

Noise & Vibration



Noise Common Issues

- Hierarchy
- Equipment
- Maintenance
- Exposure
- PPE - proving they know how to wear it!
- Hearing protection zones
- Health surveillance



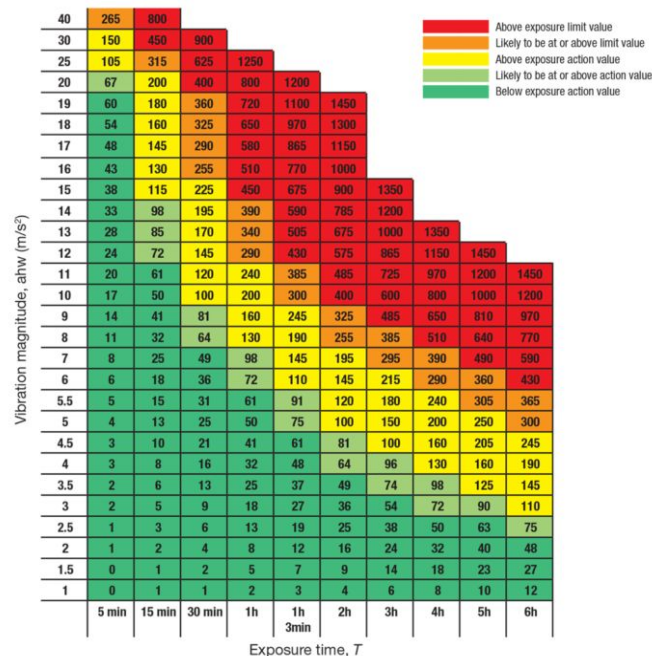
Vibration

- How do you measure? Just rely on manufacturers information?
- Be organised, keep a register of equipment detailing what it is, servicing schedules etc.
- Law requires suitable and sufficient risk assessment remember!
- Investigate further - HSE resources, or your own vibration assessment?
- Exposure Levels to be aware of:
 - Exposure Action Value (EAV) is 2.5 m/s^2
 - Exposure Limit Value (ELV) is 5.0 m/s^2



Vibration

- Remember ALARP - it's not simply a case of 'we are under we are OK'....
- HSE have useful tools:
 1. A vibration calculator to input vibration magnitudes and trigger times into
 2. Ready reckoner
- Health surveillance - questionnaires are fine for 'tier 1 & 2' assessment.
- May become RIDDOR reportable
- Don't forget staff need training on this and the risks to which they are exposed



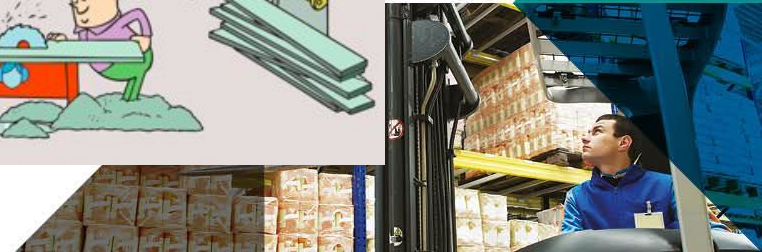
Conclusion



Re-doing hazard spot in your business never a bad idea



GAME CHANGING OUTCOMES | CUT COSTS | SAVE TIME | REDUCE RISK | ENGAGE EMPLOYEES



Do you need help?

- Are you compliant with the regulations?
- Would you benefit from a gap analysis?
- Safety Cloud compliance software to help you make you ongoing asbestos management simple, quick and effective.



HOW TO GET IN TOUCH WITH US!

 0345 257 4015

 0871 714 5973

 hello@southalls.com

 Cranmore Place,
Cranmore Drive,
Solihull,
West Midlands,
B90 4RZ

Questions or need more help?

HOW TO GET IN TOUCH WITH US!

 0345 257 4015

 0871 714 5973

 hello@southalls.com

 Cranmore Place,
Cranmore Drive,
Solihull,
West Midlands,
B90 4RZ

Webinar series offer: New Safety Cloud and Safety Plus customers receive 2 months free software use for contracts that start in May and June 2020!