PRODUCT CARD

Control of major accident hazards regulations

Overview

The Control of Major Accident Hazards Regulations (COMAH) 2015 are regulations that aim to prevent and mitigate the effects of major accidents involving dangerous substances, which can cause serious damage or harm to human health and/or the environment.

Dangerous substances include those that are toxic, oxidizing, explosive, flammable or otherwise detrimental to the environment. Regulation 5 of COMAH states that "Every operator must take all measures necessary to prevent major accidents and to limit their consequences for human health and the environment."

How can we help?

We can provide you with a detailed Written Scheme of Examination (WSE). This contains information about the specific examination requirements of the COMAH system to help ensure your business remains compliant and your workforce stay safe.

Following the WSE, our experienced team can provide on-site non-destructive testing of selected plant or equipment within your workplace to determine potential hazards. Then we can support with further examinations of the plant in accordance with the WSE.

"We support you in identifying key risks and putting the right controls in place, helping to reduce the likelihood of major incidents and their impact."

Tom Leach,

Head of Allianz Engineering Compliance Services.

LRQA CERTIFIED ISO 9001

UKAS MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS 0001

Types of service offered

The provision of a bespoke COMAH WSE is based upon a detailed site audit, identification of hazards and the required examination regime. Non-destructive testing (NDT) can be delivered in various forms:

- **Visual inspection** - can be classed as the most basic form of NDT and will always be utilised prior to all NDT inspections, to assess both quality and preparation by the NDT practitioner and is the most important part of our engineer surveyors' normal examination routine.

- **Remote visual inspection** - uses specialist cameras chosen dependent upon plant type, access, restrictions on man entry and the required criticality of inspection. Many systems have recording equipment providing a permanent record of the inspection for future trending of the item condition. Generally used as part of a risk based inspection package utilising other NDT techniques.

- **Ultrasonic inspection** - a non-intrusive method used to detect sub-surface planar or volumetric defects. It can quantitatively measure the physical characteristics of an object from one surface only (e.g. thickness, weld surveys, etc) and may remove the need for entry into a confined or hazardous area.

- **Eddy current inspection** - used to detect surface and sub-surface defects in conductive materials that may not be visible to the naked eye. This method can be used for weld inspections, structural or pressure and can also be used without the removal of well adhered coatings and paints.

- **Magnetic particle inspection** - used to detect surface breaking defects in ferromagnetic materials that may not be visible to the naked eye. It includes weld and tube-plate inspections, forgings and castings, whether on newly manufactured or in service equipment.

- **Dye penetrant inspection/liquid penetrant inspection** - used to detect surface breaking defects in non-ferrous materials that may not be visible to the naked eye.

Undertaking these activities will assist businesses in demonstrating compliance with regulation 5 of COMAH.

Full scope for all the above inspections is available upon request.

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When should you use the service

- For independent examinations of any COMAH identified installation or potential high risk storage facility where the potential for high hazard risk exists.
- If you require technical expertise to assist in the management of your plant or equipment.

Other regulations or guidance to consider

- Pressure Safety Systems Regulations 2000 (PSSR)
- HSG 176 'The storage of Flammable Liquids in Tanks'
- Provision and Use of Work Equipment Regulations 1998 (PUWER).

We also offer

In addition to COMAH, we offer comprehensive inspection services relating to:

- **Vertical Transportation** - inspection and consultancy services in support of the Lifting Operations and Lifting Equipment Regulations 1998 (LOLER) and the Provision and Use of Work Equipment Regulations 1998 (PUWER).
- **Electrical Testing** - including emergency lighting, fire alarm testing and thermal imaging in support of the Electricity at Work Regulations (EaWR) 1989.
- **Working at Height** - inspection of fixed ladders, walkways, handrails and other access equipment in support of the Work at Height Regulations 2005 and the Workplace (Health, Safety and Welfare) Regulations 1992.

For further information
To discuss how we can help you with your engineering needs, please contact:

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Alternatively, visit us online at allianz.co.uk/engineeringcomplianceservices for our full list of engineering services.

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