

The Construction (Design and Management) Regulations 2007 (CDM 2007).

General

The Construction (Design and Management) Regulations 2007 (CDM 2007)^[33], which replace the Construction (Design and Management) Regulations 1994 and the Construction (Health, Safety and Welfare) Regulations 1996, came into force in Great Britain on 6 April 2007.

The Regulations were drafted to simplify and clarify the delivery of occupational health, safety and welfare in construction. They place duties in terms of management arrangements and practical measures on a range of construction project participants, including clients, designers and contractors.

The purpose of this manual is to provide clients, designers and contractors with information about the Slimdek system, its components and safe methods of construction to help them to discharge the duties prescribed by these regulations.

The new CDM 2007 Regulations are divided into 5 parts:

- Part 1 deals with the application of the Regulations and definitions.
- Part 2 covers general duties that apply to all construction projects.
- Part 3 contains additional duties that only apply to notifiable construction projects, i.e., those lasting more than 30 days or involving more than 500 person days of construction work.
- Part 4 contains practical requirements that apply to all construction sites.
- Part 5 contains the transitional arrangements and revocations.

The Regulations require any person on whom a duty is placed to be competent to discharge that duty, to co-operate with other duty holders and to co-ordinate activities to ensure that performance is maximised and risks are minimised.

Client

The client is required to take reasonable steps to ensure that there are, and continue to be, suitable management arrangements to ensure health, safety and welfare on site, and that the design of any structure intended for use as a workplace complies with the Workplace (Health, Safety and Welfare) Regulations. On notifiable projects the client is also required to appoint a CDM co-ordinator to advise and assist on compliance with the CDM Regulations during the project.

Designer

The term 'designer' includes everyone who prepares or specifies designs for construction work, including variations. This refers not only to the drawings, design details and specifications, but also to specifiers of quality, including lists of specific requirements and materials which they wish to prohibit.

A client may become a designer by insisting upon a specific material or design detail. A contractor may become a designer by designing specific details of their section of work or by temporary works required for the project.

Manufacturers supplying standardised products that can be used in any project are not designers under CDM 2007, although they may have duties under supply legislation. The person who selects the product is a designer and must take account of health and safety issues arising from its use. If a product is purpose made for a project, the person who prepares the specification is a designer under CDM 2007 and so is the manufacturer who develops the detailed design.

Contractor

Of the three main parties highlighted, CDM 2007 has least effect on the duties of the contractor. As would be expected, every contractor is required to plan, manage and monitor construction work carried out by them or under their control in a way which ensures that, so far as is reasonably practicable, it is carried out without risks to health and safety. Contractors must also provide every worker carrying out the construction work under their control with any information and training which they need for the particular work to be carried out safely and without risk to health, including suitable site induction and information on the risks to their health and safety.