2014 · Preparing for Change

Newsletter April 2014

As 2014 progresses, this year will be the forerunner to the new Construction [Design & Management] Regulations 2014, which are scheduled to become operational from the 6th April 2015.

In this Newsletter we have outlined the proposed changes, given the links to the HSE's Consultative Document [CD261] [click here], which includes the 'rationale' behind the substantial alterations, as well as the proposed CDM Regulations 2014 [click here], then the Cost Benefit Analysis, followed by the process for commenting.

We also outline the simple procedure to book a free CDM 2014 Workshop to discuss the implications and what you could be doing to voice your opinions and comments.

CDM Regulations 2014 – Less is More, More or Less?



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In essence, the role of the Principal Designer is fundamentally similar to the oursent CDM Co-ordinator, will one very significant exception in that, apart from assisting the Client with the preparation of the Pre-Construction Information, the Principal Designer is not specifically required to give advice and guidance to the Client, whereas the CDM Co-ordinator has a statutory duty to do so.

It is also important to note that the Client has an absolute duty to ensure that the Principal Design complies with the duties within Regulation \Re .

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As outlined in our previous newsletter, the CDM Regulations have been targeted for some significant changes. This is mainly due to two reasons.

The first being that the UK interpretation of the EU Temporary & Mobile Construction Sites Directive, which spawned the original CDM Regulations 1994, did not completely address all the requirements of the EU Directive, particularly the UK approach to exempting clients who were commissioning design and construction work related to their 'domestic' premises.

The second and politically motivated issue is the current governmental stance of minimising the effect of EU Directives on UK business competitiveness and the implementation of the 'Red Tape' strategy.

As a result of these two issues, a new set of minimalistic CDM Regulations is to be introduced in April 2015, with the following key amendments:

- 1. Replacement of the CDM Co-ordinator with a Principal Designer role within the project team.
- Removal of the Domestic Client exemption and 'transfer' of these CDM Client duties to the Contractor/Designer.
- 3. Obligation to provide information, instruction, training and supervision to replace the CDM competency requirements.
- 4. Replacement of the Approved Code of Practice [ACOP] with Guidance.

For previous CDM Regulatory changes, the HSE have included Transitional Arrangements which allow a time period for existing projects and CDM appointments to phase out. Unusually the new CDM Regulations will be retrospective, applying to existing projects and with the requirement for the Client to replace the CDM Co-ordinator with the Principal Designer, "... as soon as is practicable".

For more details on the proposed duties for the new '*Principal Designer*' and the modifications to the Designer's CDM duties together with other initial comments, [click here].

The next stage in the HSE's 'CDM change control process', is to obtain comment from interested parties within the design and construction industry. If you intend to express your opinion on these proposals then you have until the 6th June 2014 at the latest. The arrangements for commenting are included within the Consultative Document, [click here].

CDM 2014 Consultative Document Review Workshops

PFB are providing free CDM 2014 Workshops outlining the main proposals within the HSE's Consultative Document and the implications to Designers.

To book one of these Workshops, or find out more about CDM 2014, contact:

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