Product Information
Risk Assessment

Boiler-house technical risk assessment & risk management

The legal position

The Management of Health and Safety at Work Regulations 1999 (MHSWR) imposes a duty to manage all risks from any work activity, not only in the workplace itself, but also any risks to all persons (including any non-employees) who may be affected by the activity in question.

Regulation 3 requires the completion of a 'suitable and sufficient' risk assessment of the work activity in order to properly identify risks and consider what additional control measures can be put in place. The control measures must have the primary aim of eliminating the risks. Where elimination is not possible, the control measures should aim to reduce the risks to a level as low as is reasonably practical (ALARP).

The owner/user of a boiler system is ultimately responsible for ensuring the system complies with all relevant Health & Safety legislation. While third parties can be used to assist in achieving compliance with these legal obligations, the overall and legal responsibility remains with the Owner/User and cannot be contracted out.

Definition of the legal Duty Holders are:
Owner – This means an employer or self-employed person who owns a pressure system. Where the employer/owner does not have a place of business in Great Britain then the user will be responsible.
User – This means the employer or self-employed person who has control of the operation of the pressure system.

Advantages at a glance

- Compliance with legislation
- Compliance with Guidance BG01
- Comply with owner/user responsibilities
- Ensure essential records are in place
- Identify risks and introduce control measures
- Reduce risks to 'ALARP'
- Enhanced safety for personnel and plant
- Collate and review essential records

SAACKE Service

Task

To carry out and maintain a Boiler-house Risk Assessment

Solution

Use SAACKE expertise to assist with your compliance

The SAACKE risk assessment

SAACKE are able to carry out a thorough risk assessment and will examine risks to Health, Personnel, Plant, Property, Process and Production, Community & Environment, including:

- The likelihood and severity of injury to health and/or life
- Location of the boiler/boiler-house and potential risk to employees, other workers and the wider community, including access, security and adjacent stores, plant rooms and fuel storage areas; and external influences of flooding, freezing and snow
- Inspection of boiler plant and piping systems for adequate lagging, supports for piping and cabling, leaks and identification measures
- Fuel systems, combustion efficiency and emissions
- Type and reliability of controls and integrity of safety related systems
- Record keeping, routine testing and level of supervision
- The positioning of alarms and associated response times
- Additional controls for remote or unsupervised boiler operation
- The presence of other machinery or dangerous materials
- The adequacy of boiler-house ventilation to BS6644:2005 and flue integrity
- Environmental effects, e.g. noise, pollution, spills
- Operational risks such as mechanical or water damage to plant or equipment, water-side explosion due to catastrophic failure of the pressure envelope, explosion caused by unspent fuel or exhaust gases
- Plant operating profile, load and manning levels
- Review of current risk assessment and control measures

Risk assessment optional items

- Flue exhaust gas dispersion modelling and report
- Gas supply line diagram to comply with the Gas Safety (Installation and Use) Regulations 1994
- Access to 'SOPIS' – The SAACKE Online product information system

Evidence of compliance

All tests and examinations should be recorded and retained for a minimum of at least 2 years in a secure and easily accessible location. Examples of records that should be kept and made available for scrutiny include:

- Risk assessment
- Written Scheme of Examination (WSE)
- Examination reports
- Certificates of thorough examination
- Gas supply line diagram & emergency provisions
- Equipment Operating & Maintenance instructions
- Record of periodic boiler tests (NDT, Hydraulic test)
- Boiler-house log book
- Records of servicing and modifications
- As-build drawings to aid fault finding/maintenance
- Maintenance of controls
- Water treatment records
- Training records for boiler operators & managers

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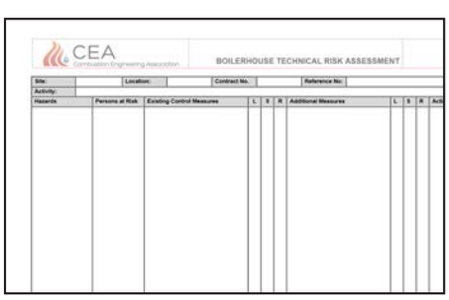

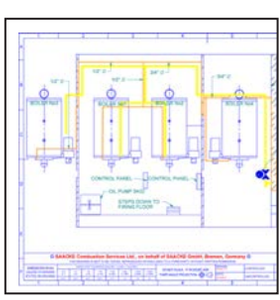

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