



CONSTRUCTION CONFEDERATION

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Environmental Manual highlights key changes to legislation

The Construction Confederation has updated its Environmental Manual following the imminent introduction of two pieces of environmental legislation which will have major significance for the construction industry.

The Site Waste Management Plans Regulations 2008, will place new legal obligations on every construction project with a contract value in excess of £300,000 while *The Environmental Permitting Regulations 2007* change the way in which industries are 'Permitted (formerly, licensed) to operate'. Both pieces will come into force in April 2008

The Site Waste Management Plans Regulations 2008 have a stated twofold intention of encouraging resource efficiency and reducing the incidence of 'fly-tipping' of construction and demolition waste.

Before a project commences, construction clients will be required to forecast the waste to be generated on their project and to record on a 'Site Waste Management Plan' (SWPM), the steps taken to reduce this quantity of waste. Contractors will need to record the actual waste produced with quantitative details of reuse, recycling or disposal to landfill.

'Fly-tipping' will be discouraged by legally requiring contractors to record, on the 'Plan', the destination of all wastes removed from a construction site together with, on larger contracts, details of the carrier who took the waste to its destination.

The Environmental Permitting Regulations 2007 are made as part of a 'better regulation initiative' and replace over 40 statutory instruments made since 1990 with a single set of Regulations that are only one third of the length of the previous legislation. Since they bring together former Pollution Prevention and Control (PPC) and Waste Management Licensing (WML) requirements into one regime, industry will normally now require a single Environmental Permit for an installation. The implication for construction is primarily in waste activity where, for example, certain changes have been made to 'Exempt waste operations'.

The Environmental Manual incorporates all the changes arising from this new legislation and details the new requirements together with the implications for contractors. Guidance is also provided on the preparation and maintenance of a SWMP.

The update to the Manual also includes guidance on two further requirements of the European Landfill Directive - namely that all non-hazardous waste must be treated prior to landfill and that non-hazardous liquid waste can no longer be disposed of in landfill.

The Manual is written by environmental managers and advisors who are members of the Construction Confederation Environmental Forum and who represent a wide cross section of the UK's leading construction companies. Its main advantage over other guidance documents is that it is written by environmental professionals who actually work full-time within construction and, as such, are aware of the challenges faced by the industry.

Copies of the '*Construction Environmental Manual*' are available to order from Construction Industry Publications (CIP). The hard copy and CD-Rom cost £125 each and the six-monthly updates, £25 each. Tel: 0870 078 4400 Email: sales@cip-books.com Web: www.cip-books.com.

Notes to editors:

1. Construction Industry Publications (CIP) can be contacted:
 - Tel: 0870 078 4400
 - Fax: 0870 078 4401
 - Email: sales@cip-books.com
2. The Construction Confederation is the main representative organisation for building and civil engineering contractors within the UK construction industry, one of the largest and most diverse sectors within the British economy.

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