

Catalyst Safety

health & safety specialists

Legionella Risk Assessment Specification

Legionella Risk Assessment Specification

Introduction

Legionella is a water borne bacteria which can cause significant pneumonia related disease, including fatal illness, through the inhalation of contaminated small airborne droplets (aerosols). It is common in all water supplies and the risk of exposure to the bacteria will depend on a number of factors including the growth of the organism, production of aerosols and storage water conditions.

There have been several legionella outbreaks in the UK, resulting in hospitalisations and a number of deaths. Therefore it is essential that the risk from legionella is effectively managed and controlled

The main legal requirement for all businesses and those in control of property containing water systems, such as landlords, is that they evaluate the risk of legionella and then prepare and implement a control scheme to minimise this risk. Health and safety law requires that you:

Protect the health and safety of employees and others who may be affected by your activities (Health and Safety at Work etc Act 1974, Sections 2 and 3).
Assess the risks to the health and safety, including legionella, of employees and others who may be affected (The Management of Health and Safety at Work Regulations 1999, Regulation 3).
Assess the risk from hazardous substances, including legionella, and then prevent or control exposure (The Control of Substances Hazardous to Health 2002 (COSHH)).

This risk assessment process should be documented, implemented and then the control measures monitored and reviewed to ensure that the assessment remains valid, taking account of any changes to your business, work practices and workplaces.





Legionella Risk Assessment Specification

Legionella Risk Assessment

We offer Legionella Risk Assessments which will:

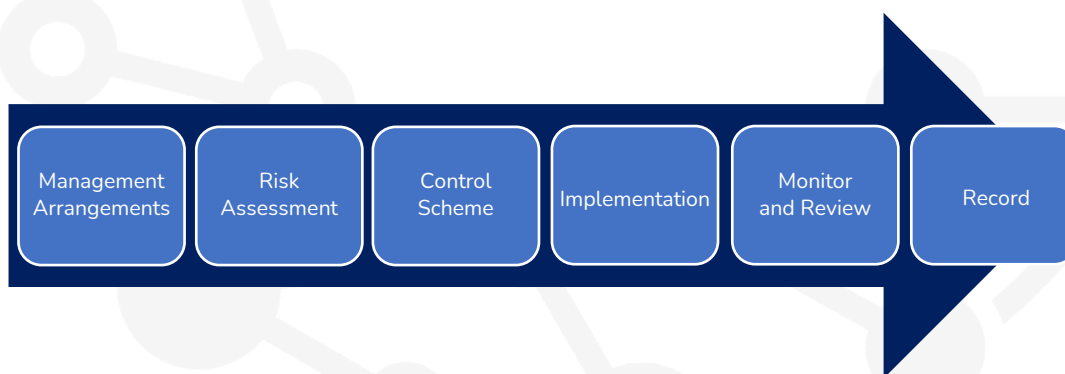
Look at your organisations activities and the risks presented by legionella to your business, people, clients and customers.

Evaluate compliance with the Approved Code of Practice L8: Legionnaire's disease: The control of legionella bacteria in water systems and the current technical guidance HSG 274.

Method

The legionella risk assessment will be completed by an expert who is experienced in the water systems associated with your organisation. All decisions made will be evidence based, eg supported by physical observations, photographs/videos and the records available. The following key areas will be considered:

- Water systems present and those which present higher risk as they produce aerosols, eg cooling towers, evaporative condensers, whirlpools and spas, as well as other systems which may generate aerosols such as hot and cold water systems and showers.
- The condition of those systems and specifically those that enable growth of the organism, eg water storage, rust and organic materials, lack of cleaning and maintenance.
- The existing control measures to minimise growth of legionella and dispersal of droplets.
- The organisational arrangements for effectively managing legionella, including appointment of dutyholders and their competence for their role.





Legionella Risk Assessment Specification

Method continued...

The process will be completed as follows:

- Consultant is matched to the job based around the type of organisation, water systems and their experience.
- Appointment arranged with your key managers as they understand how your systems operate.
- Information requested in advance of the site visit so the consultant can prepare and to ensure effective use of the time available.
- A physical assessment is completed of all water systems under your control.
- All key risk areas and the associated risk controls will be reviewed (see summary above).
- All key documentation is identified and evaluated; this will include the control scheme, water treatment records, waterlog book and training records.
- We will measure existing risk controls against the following criteria: likelihood of growth, dispersal and ill-health, personal injury claim, enforcement action and level of legal compliance.
- Representative water samples will be taken for analysis which will be analysed and provide an independent view of the effectiveness of control and any water treatment contractor.
- While on site we will inform you of any immediate improvements and agree interim controls.
- A report will be prepared which documents the existing legionella risk controls and how you are currently complying with legislation and official guidance.
- This includes a prioritised Action Plan identifying practical and cost-effective improvements.
- The actions can also be managed via our online compliance management tool, where records can also be stored and managed.
- We can assist you in planning and implementing actions to ensure effective use of resources.

Further Assistance

We can also assist with the following:

- Auditing the effectiveness of risk assessments and control schemes.
- Practical training of key personnel in their roles and responsibilities and how to discharge them.
- Investigation of failures in control measures, positive legionella samples and suspected outbreaks.



Legionella Risk Assessment Specification

Further Information

For further information please contact info@catalystsafety.co.uk or call 07973 736 967.

Catalyst Strategic Safety Management delivers solutions to all your health and safety risk management needs, including the following:



Health & Safety

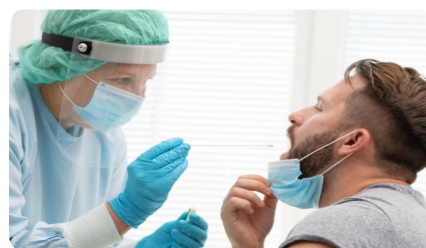
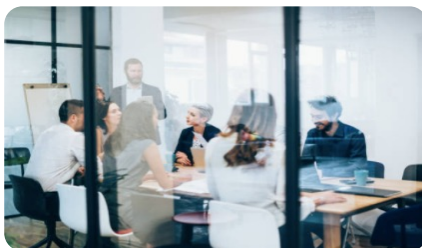
- Business Review
- Risk Assessments
- CDM
- Accident Investigation
- Expert Witness
- Policy Development
- ISO45001 Evaluation

Fire Safety

- Fire Risk Assessment
- Fire Strategy
- Passive Surveys
- Fire Engineering

Asbestos

- Asbestos Management Surveys
- R&D Surveys
- Project Management



Legionella

- Legionella Assessments
- Compliance Audits

Training

- Accredited NEBOSH and IOSH training
- Business specific training

Covid/Infection Control

- Compliance Audits
- Policy Development
- Guidance



Catalyst Safety
health & safety specialists

**To discuss this specification further,
please contact:**

Gordon Allan
Managing Director

t: 07973 736 967

e: gordon.allan@catalystsafety.co.uk

This document has been prepared by Catalyst Strategic Safety Management Limited and is confidential and intended solely for the use of the individual or entity to whom it has been sent. This document and its contents are the property of Catalyst Safety and should not be used, forwarded, shared or replicated, without the express permission of Catalyst Safety.