

# Fire safety in your workplace - do you comply?

The Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order 2005 applies to virtually all premises, other than dwellings. It requires that, where necessary, premises must be equipped with appropriate firefighting equipment in order to safeguard everyone who is lawfully on, or

## in the immediate vicinity of, the premises.

The regulatory order is a long one but below are some of the major points to consider;

## Who is the responsible person?

- 3. In this Order "responsible person" means—
- (a) In relation to a workplace, the employer, if the workplace is to any extent under his control;
- (b) In relation to any premises not falling within paragraph (a)—
- (i) The person who has control of the premises (as occupier or otherwise) in connection with the carrying on by him of a trade, business or other undertaking (for profit or not); or
- (ii) The owner, where the person in control of the premises does not have control in connection with the carrying on by that person of a trade, business or other undertaking. This article 3 means it is YOUR responsibility to act to ensure fire safety in your place of business.

#### What are their duties?

- 8.— (1) The responsible person must—
- (a) Take such general fire precautions as will ensure, so far as is reasonably practicable, the safety of any of his employees; and
- (b) In relation to relevant persons who are not his employees, take such general fire precautions as may reasonably be required in the circumstances of the case to ensure that the premises are safe.

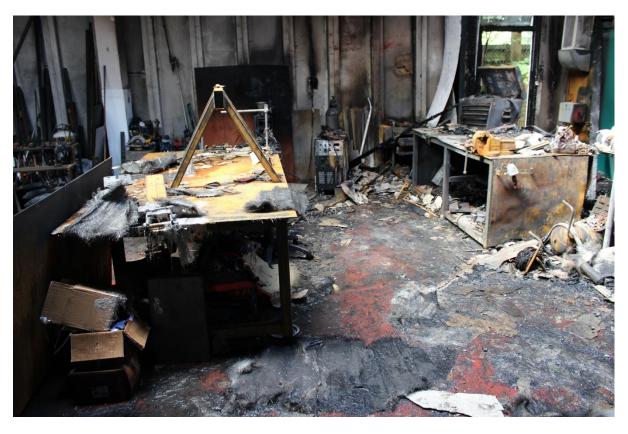
#### Risk assessment

9.— (1) The responsible person must make a suitable and sufficient assessment of the risks to which relevant persons are exposed for the purpose of identifying the general fire precautions he needs to take to comply with the requirements and prohibitions imposed on him by or under this Order. This is a vital part of the order and one which can be done easily.

- 13.— (1) Where necessary (whether due to the features of the premises, the activity carried on there, any hazard present or any other relevant circumstances) in order to safeguard the safety of relevant persons, the responsible person must ensure that—
- (a) The premises are, to the extent that it is appropriate, equipped with appropriate fire-fighting equipment and with fire detectors and alarms; and
- (b) Any non-automatic fire-fighting equipment so provided is easily accessible, simple to use and indicated by signs.

These are just 4 articles from the order, there are 53 in total and we strongly advise the designated person in your organisation reads and understands the order completely.

At HTS we can provide the full range of fire equipment and safety to help you comply with the above. Visit www.htsspares.com to shop!



This is an image of our Horsham depot after a fire ripped through the building in 2017.

### DON'T LET THIS BE YOU