
STATUTORY RULES OF NORTHERN IRELAND

1999 No. 304

HEALTH AND SAFETY

**Lifting Operations and Lifting Equipment
Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1999**

Made - - - - 29th June 1999

Coming into operation 20th September 1999

The Department of Economic Development, being the Department concerned⁽¹⁾, in exercise of the powers conferred on it by Articles 17(1), (2), (3) and (5)⁽²⁾, 45 and 55(2) of, and paragraphs 1(1), (2) and (3), 13, 14(1) and 15 of Schedule 3 to, the Health and Safety at Work (Northern Ireland) Order 1978⁽³⁾ and of every other power enabling it in that behalf, after consultation in accordance with Article 46(1) of that Order with the Health and Safety Executive for Northern Ireland⁽⁴⁾ and such other bodies as appeared to the Department to be appropriate, hereby makes the following Regulations:

Citation and commencement

1. These Regulations may be cited as the Lifting Operations and Lifting Equipment Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1999 and shall come into operation on 20th September 1999.

Interpretation

2. In these Regulations—

“the 1992 Regulations” means the Supply of Machinery (Safety) Regulations 1992⁽⁵⁾;

“accessory for lifting” means work equipment for attaching loads to machinery for lifting;

“EC declaration of conformity” means a declaration which complies with—

(a) regulation 22 of the 1992 Regulations;

(b) Article 12.1 of Council Directive 89/686/EEC⁽⁶⁾ on the approximation of the laws of the Member States relating to personal protective equipment; or

(1) See Article 2(2) of S.I. 1978/1039 (N.I. 9)

(2) Article 17 must be read with S.I. 1992/1728 (N.I. 17), Articles 3(2) and 4(2); S.I. 1992/1728 (N.I. 17) was amended by S.I. 1996/275 (N.I. 2), Article 71(1) and Schedule 6

(3) S.I. 1978/1039 (N.I. 9); the general purposes of Part II referred to in Article 17(1) were extended by S.I. 1992/1728 (N.I. 17), Articles 3(1) and 4(1). Article 47A was inserted by Article 3, and Article 2 was amended by Articles 4 and 8, of S.I. 1997/1774 (N.I. 16)

(4) Article 46(1) was amended by S.I. 1998/2795 (N.I. 18), Article 6(1) and Schedule 1, paragraphs 8 and 18

(5) S.I. 1992/3073 to which there are amendments not relevant to these Regulations

(6) O.J. No. L399, 21.11.89, p. 18; printed in the Schedule to S.I. 1992/3139

- (c) regulation 8(2)(d) of the Lifts Regulations 1997(7);
- “employer” except in regulation 3(2) and (3) includes a person to whom the requirements imposed by the Regulations apply by virtue of regulation 3(3)(a) and (b);
- “essential requirements” has the same meaning as in the Provision and Use of Work Equipment Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1999(8);
- “examination scheme” means a suitable scheme drawn up by a competent person for such thorough examinations of lifting equipment at such intervals as may be appropriate for the purpose described in regulation 9(3);
- “lifting equipment” means work equipment for lifting or lowering loads and includes its attachments used for anchoring, fixing or supporting it;
- “lifting operation” has the meaning given in regulation 8(2);
- “load” includes a person;
- “territorial waters” means United Kingdom territorial waters adjacent to Northern Ireland and “within territorial waters” includes on, over and under them;
- “thorough examination” in relation to a thorough examination under paragraph (1), (2) or (3) of regulation 9—
- (a) means a thorough examination by a competent person;
- (b) where it is appropriate to carry out testing for the purpose described in the paragraph, includes such testing by a competent person as is appropriate for the purpose;
- and “thoroughly examined” shall be construed accordingly;
- “work equipment” means any equipment, machinery, appliance, apparatus, tool or installation for use at work (whether exclusively or not).

Application

3.—(1) Within territorial waters these Regulations shall apply only to and in relation to the premises and activities specified in paragraphs 2 to 6 of Schedule 1.

(2) The requirements imposed by these Regulations on an employer in respect of lifting equipment shall apply in relation to such equipment provided for use or used by an employee of his at work.

(3) The requirements imposed by these Regulations on an employer shall also apply—

- (a) to a self-employed person, in respect of lifting equipment he uses at work;
- (b) subject to paragraph (5), to a person who has control to any extent of—
- (i) lifting equipment;
- (ii) a person at work who uses or supervises or manages the use of lifting equipment; or
- (iii) the way in which lifting equipment is used,

and to the extent of his control.

(4) Any reference in paragraph (3)(b) to a person having control is a reference to a person having control in connection with the carrying on by him of a trade, business or other undertaking (whether for profit or not).

(5) The requirements imposed by these Regulations on an employer shall not apply to a person in respect of lifting equipment supplied by him by way of sale, agreement for sale or hire-purchase agreement.

(7) S.I. 1997/831

(8) S.R. 1999 No. 305

(6) Subject to paragraphs (7) to (10), these Regulations shall not impose any obligation in relation to a ship's work equipment (whether that equipment is used on or off the ship).

(7) Where merchant shipping requirements are applicable to a ship's work equipment, paragraph (6) shall relieve the shore employer of his obligations under these Regulations in respect of that equipment only where he has taken all reasonable steps to satisfy himself that the merchant shipping requirements are being complied with in respect of that equipment.

(8) In a case where the merchant shipping requirements are not applicable to the ship's work equipment by reason only that for the time being there is no master, crew or watchman on the ship, those requirements shall nevertheless be treated for the purpose of paragraph (7) as if they were applicable.

(9) Where the ship's work equipment is used in a specified operation paragraph (6) shall not apply to regulations 6 and 8 (each as applied by regulation 3).

(10) Paragraph (6) does not apply to a ship's work equipment provided for use or used in an activity specified in paragraphs 2 to 6 of Schedule 1 save that it does apply to—

- (a) the loading, unloading, fuelling or provisioning of the ship; or
- (b) the construction, reconstruction, finishing, refitting, repair, maintenance, cleaning or breaking up of the ship.

(11) In this regulation—

“master” has the meaning assigned to it by section 313(1) of the Merchant Shipping Act 1995⁽⁹⁾;

“merchant shipping requirements” means the requirements of regulations 3 and 4 of the Merchant Shipping (Guarding of Machinery and Safety of Electrical Equipment) Regulations 1988⁽¹⁰⁾ and regulations 5 to 10 of the Merchant Shipping (Hatches and Lifting Plant) Regulations 1988⁽¹¹⁾;

“ship” has the meaning assigned to it by section 313(1) of the Merchant Shipping Act 1995 save that it does not include an offshore installation;

“shore employer” means an employer of persons (other than the master and crew of any ship) who are engaged in a specified operation;

“specified operation” means an operation in which the ship's work equipment is used—

- (a) by persons other than the master and crew; or
- (b) where persons other than the master and crew are liable to be exposed to a risk to their health or safety from its use.

Strength and stability

4. Every employer shall ensure that—

- (a) lifting equipment is of adequate strength and stability for each load, having regard in particular to the stress induced at its mounting or fixing point;
- (b) every part of a load, and anything attached to it and used in lifting it, is of adequate strength.

Lifting equipment for lifting persons

5.—(1) Every employer shall ensure that lifting equipment for lifting persons—

⁽⁹⁾ 1995 c. 21

⁽¹⁰⁾ S.I. 1988/1636, amended by S.I. 1988/2274

⁽¹¹⁾ S.I. 1988/1639, amended by S.I. 1988/2274

- (a) subject to sub-paragraph (b), is such as to prevent a person using it being crushed, trapped or struck or falling from the carrier;
- (b) is such as to prevent so far as is reasonably practicable a person using it, while carrying out activities from the carrier, being crushed, trapped or struck or falling from the carrier;
- (c) subject to paragraph (2), has suitable devices to prevent the risk of a carrier falling;
- (d) is such that a person trapped in any carrier is not thereby exposed to danger and can be freed.

(2) Every employer shall ensure that if the risk described in paragraph (1)(c) cannot be prevented for reasons inherent in the site and height differences—

- (a) the carrier has an enhanced safety coefficient suspension rope or chain; and
- (b) the rope or chain is inspected by a competent person every working day.

Positioning and installation

6.—(1) Every employer shall ensure that lifting equipment is positioned or installed in such a way as to reduce to as low as is reasonably practicable the risk—

- (a) of the equipment or a load striking a person; or
- (b) from a load—
 - (i) drifting;
 - (ii) falling freely; or
 - (iii) being released unintentionally;and it is otherwise safe.

(2) Every employer shall ensure that there are suitable devices to prevent a person from falling down a shaft or hoistway.

Marking of lifting equipment

7. Every employer shall ensure that—

- (a) subject to paragraph (b), machinery and accessories for lifting loads are clearly marked to indicate their safe working loads;
- (b) where the safe working load of machinery for lifting loads depends on its configuration—
 - (i) the machinery is clearly marked to indicate its safe working load for each configuration; or
 - (ii) information which clearly indicates its safe working load for each configuration is kept with the machinery;
- (c) accessories for lifting are also marked in such a way that it is possible to identify the characteristics necessary for their safe use;
- (d) lifting equipment which is designed for lifting persons is appropriately and clearly marked to this effect; and
- (e) lifting equipment which is not designed for lifting persons but which might be so used in error is appropriately and clearly marked to the effect that it is not designed for lifting persons.

Organisation of lifting operations

8.—(1) Every employer shall ensure that every lifting operation involving lifting equipment is—

- (a) properly planned by a competent person;
- (b) appropriately supervised; and
- (c) carried out in a safe manner.

(2) In this regulation “lifting operation” means an operation concerned with the lifting or lowering of a load.

Thorough examination and inspection

9.—(1) Every employer shall ensure that before lifting equipment is put into service for the first time by him it is thoroughly examined for any defect unless either—

- (a) the lifting equipment has not been used before; and
- (b) in the case of lifting equipment for which an EC declaration of conformity could or (in the case of a declaration under the Lifts Regulations 1997) should have been drawn up, the employer has received such declaration made not more than 12 months before the lifting equipment is put into service;

or, if obtained from the undertaking of another person, it is accompanied by physical evidence referred to in paragraph (4).

(2) Every employer shall ensure that, where the safety of lifting equipment depends on the installation conditions, it is thoroughly examined—

- (a) after installation and before being put into service for the first time; and
- (b) after assembly and before being put into service at a new site or in a new location,

to ensure that it has been installed correctly and is safe to operate.

(3) Subject to paragraph (6), every employer shall ensure that lifting equipment which is exposed to conditions causing deterioration which is liable to result in dangerous situations is—

- (a) thoroughly examined—
 - (i) in the case of lifting equipment for lifting persons or an accessory for lifting, at least every 6 months;
 - (ii) in the case of other lifting equipment, at least every 12 months; or
 - (iii) in either case, in accordance with an examination scheme; and
 - (iv) each time that exceptional circumstances which are liable to jeopardise the safety of the lifting equipment have occurred; and
- (b) if appropriate for the purpose, inspected by a competent person at suitable intervals between thorough examinations,

to ensure that health and safety conditions are maintained and that any deterioration can be detected and remedied in good time.

(4) Every employer shall ensure that no lifting equipment—

- (a) leaves his undertaking; or
- (b) if obtained from the undertaking of another person, is used in his undertaking,

unless it is accompanied by physical evidence that the last thorough examination required to be carried out under this regulation has been carried out.

(5) This regulation does not apply to winding apparatus to which—

- (a) the Miscellaneous Mines (General) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1970(12),

- (b) the Coal and Other Mines (Shafts, Outlets and Roads) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1970(13) or
- (c) the Mines (Emergency Egress) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1975(14)

apply.

(6) Where lifting equipment was before the coming into operation of these Regulations required to be thoroughly examined by a provision specified in paragraph (7), the first thorough examination under paragraph (3) shall be made before the date by which a thorough examination would have been required by that provision had it remained in operation.

(7) The provisions referred to in paragraph (6) are—

- (a) sections 23(2), 26(2), 27(1)(d) and 28(2) of the Factories Act (Northern Ireland) 1965(15);
- (b) regulations 33(2) and 36(1) of the Shipbuilding and Ship-repairing Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1971(16);
- (c) regulations 28(3), 40 and 46(1) of the Construction (Lifting Operations) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1963(17);
- (d) regulations 3(1) and (2) and 6(1) of the Office and Shop Premises (Hoists and Lifts) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1969(18);
- (e) regulation 6(1)(c) of, and Part III of Schedule 1 to, the Offshore Installations (Operational Safety, Health and Welfare) Regulations 1976(19);
- (f) regulation 15 of the Docks Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1989(20).

Reports and defects

10.—(1) A person making a thorough examination for an employer under regulation 9 shall—

- (a) notify the employer forthwith of any defect in the lifting equipment which in his opinion is or could become a danger to persons;
- (b) as soon as is practicable make a report of the thorough examination in writing authenticated by him or on his behalf by signature or equally secure means and containing the information specified in Schedule 2 to—
 - (i) the employer; and
 - (ii) any person from whom the equipment has been hired or leased;
- (c) where there is in his opinion a defect in the lifting equipment involving an existing or imminent risk of serious personal injury send a copy of the report as soon as is practicable to the relevant enforcing authority.

(2) A person making an inspection for an employer under regulation 9 shall—

- (a) notify the employer forthwith of any defect in the lifting equipment which in his opinion is or could become a danger to persons;
- (b) as soon as is practicable make a record of the inspection in writing.

(3) Every employer who has been notified under paragraph (1) shall ensure that the lifting equipment is not used—

(13) S.R. & O. (N.I.) 1970 No. 132 to which there are amendments not relevant to these Regulations

(14) S.R. 1975 No. 35 as amended by S.R. 1998 No. 375

(15) 1965 c. 20 (N.I.); sections 23(2) and 28(2) were substituted by S.R. 1993 No. 366

(16) S.R. & O. (N.I.) 1971 No. 372; amended by S.R. 1993 No. 366

(17) S.R. & O. (N.I.) 1963 No. 86; amended by S.R. 1993 No. 366

(18) S.R. & O. (N.I.) 1969 No. 26; amended by S.R. 1993 No. 366

(19) S.I. 1976/1019

(20) S.R. 1989 No. 320; amended by S.R. 1993 No. 366

- (a) before the defect is rectified; or
 - (b) in a case to which sub-paragraph (c) of paragraph 8 of Schedule 2 applies, after a time specified under that sub-paragraph and before the defect is rectified.
- (4) In this regulation “relevant enforcing authority” means—
- (a) where the defective equipment has been hired or leased by the employer, the Health and Safety Executive for Northern Ireland; and
 - (b) otherwise, the enforcing authority for the premises in which the defective lifting equipment was thoroughly examined.

Keeping of information

11.—(1) Where, after the coming into operation of these Regulations, an employer obtaining lifting equipment to which these Regulations apply receives an EC declaration of conformity relating to it, he shall keep the declaration for so long as he operates the lifting equipment.

- (2) The employer shall ensure that the information contained in—
- (a) every report made to him under regulation 10(1)(b) is kept available for inspection—
 - (i) in the case of a thorough examination under paragraph (1) of regulation 9 of lifting equipment other than an accessory for lifting, until he ceases to use the lifting equipment;
 - (ii) in the case of a thorough examination under paragraph (1) of regulation 9 of an accessory for lifting, for two years after the report is made;
 - (iii) in the case of a thorough examination under paragraph (2) of regulation 9, until he ceases to use the lifting equipment at the place it was installed or assembled;
 - (iv) in the case of a thorough examination under paragraph (3) of regulation 9, until the next report is made under that paragraph or the expiration of two years, whichever is later;
 - (b) every record made under regulation 10(2) is kept available until the next such record is made.

Exemption for the armed forces

12.—(1) The Secretary of State for Defence may, in the interests of national security, by a certificate in writing exempt any of the home forces, any visiting force or any headquarters from any of the requirements of these Regulations and any such exemption may be granted subject to conditions and to a limit of time and may be revoked by the said Secretary of State by a certificate in writing at any time.

- (2) In this regulation—
- (a) “the home forces” has the same meaning as in section 12(1) of the Visiting Forces Act 1952⁽²¹⁾;
 - (b) “headquarters” has the same meaning as in Article 3(2) of the Visiting Forces and International Headquarters (Application of Law) Order 1965⁽²²⁾;
 - (c) “visiting force” has the same meaning as it does for the purposes of any provision of Part I of the Visiting Forces Act 1952.

(21) 1952 c. 67

(22) S.I. 1965/1536, to which there are amendments not relevant to these Regulations

Amendment of the Shipbuilding and Ship-repairing Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1971

13. Regulation 2 (application) of the Shipbuilding and Ship-repairing Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1971 is amended—

- (a) in paragraph (2) by substituting for the word “30” wherever occurring the word “47”; and
- (b) in paragraph (4) by omitting the word “31”.

Amendment of the Docks Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1989

14. The Docks Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1989 are amended—

- (a) in regulation 13(4) by substituting the words “thorough examination under regulation 9 of the Lifting Operations and Lifting Equipment Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1999” for the words “test under regulation 14”;
- (b) by revoking regulations 14 and 15;
- (c) by revoking paragraphs (3), (4), (5), (7) and (8) of regulation 16; and
- (d) by revoking regulation 17.

Repeal of provisions of the Factories Act (Northern Ireland) 1965

15. Sections 23, 24 and 26 to 28 of the Factories Act (Northern Ireland) 1965 are hereby repealed.

Repeal of section 85 of the Mines Act (Northern Ireland) 1969

16. Section 85 of the Mines Act (Northern Ireland) 1969(23) is hereby repealed.

Repeal of paragraph (c) of Article 5 of the Quarries (Northern Ireland) Order 1983

17. Paragraph (c) of Article 5 of the Quarries (Northern Ireland) Order 1983(24) is hereby repealed.

Revocation of statutory provisions

18. The statutory provisions specified in column 1 of Schedule 3 are hereby revoked to the extent specified in column 3 of that Schedule.

Sealed with the Official Seal of the Department of Economic Development on

29th June 1999.

Adrianne L. Brown
Assistant Secretary

(23) 1969 c. 6 (N.I.)

(24) S.I. 1983/150 (N.I. 4) to which there are amendments not relevant to these Regulations

SCHEDULE 1

Regulation 3(1) and (10)

Premises and activities within territorial waters

Interpretation

1.—(1) In this Schedule—

“designated area” means any area designated by order under section 1(7) of the Continental Shelf Act 1964(25) and “within a designated area” includes over and under it;

“offshore installation” shall be construed in accordance with paragraph 2(4) and (5);

“stand-by vessel” means a vessel which is ready to give assistance in the event of an emergency on or near an offshore installation;

“vessel” includes a hovercraft and any floating structure which is capable of being staffed.

(2) For the purposes of this Schedule, any structures and devices on top of a well shall be treated as forming part of the well.

(3) For the purposes of this Schedule, a person shall be deemed to be engaged in diving operations throughout any period from the time when he commences to prepare for diving until the time when—

- (a) he is no longer subjected to raised pressure;
- (b) he has normal inert gas partial pressure in his tissues; and
- (c) if he entered the water, he has left it,

and diving operations include the activity of any person in connection with the health and safety of a person who is, or is deemed to be, engaged in diving operations.

(4) Any reference in this Schedule to premises and activities (howsoever described) shall include a reference to any person, article or substance on those premises or engaged in or, as the case may be, used or for use in connection with any such activity, but does not include a reference to an aircraft which is airborne.

Offshore installations

2.—(1) Any offshore installation and any activity on it.

(2) Any activity, including diving operations, in connection with an offshore installation, or any activity which is immediately preparatory thereto, whether carried on from the installation itself, on or from a vessel or in any other manner, other than—

- (a) transporting, towing or navigating the installation; and
- (b) any activity on or from a vessel being used as a stand-by vessel.

(3) Diving operations involving the survey and preparation of the sea bed for an offshore installation.

(4) Subject to sub-paragraph (5), in this Schedule “offshore installation” means a structure which is, or is to be, or has been, used while standing or stationed in water, or on the foreshore or other land intermittently covered with water—

- (a) for the exploitation, or exploration with a view to exploitation, of mineral resources by means of a well;
- (b) for the storage of gas in or under the shore or bed of any water or the recovery of gas so stored;
- (c) for the conveyance of things by means of a pipe; or

(25) 1964 c. 29; section 1 was amended by the Oil and Gas (Enterprise) Act 1982 (c. 23), Schedule 3, paragraph 1

- (d) mainly for the provision of accommodation for persons who work on or from a structure falling within any of the provisions of this sub-paragraph, and which is not an excepted structure.
- (5) For the purposes of sub-paragraph (4), the excepted structures are—
- (a) a structure which is connected with dry land by a permanent structure providing access at all times and for all purposes;
 - (b) a well;
 - (c) a structure which has ceased to be used for any of the purposes specified in sub-paragraph (4) and has since been used for a purpose not so specified;
 - (d) a mobile structure which has been taken out of use and is not for the time being intended to be used for any of the purposes specified in sub-paragraph (4); and
 - (e) any part of a pipeline.

Wells

- 3.—(1) Subject to sub-paragraph (2)—
- (a) a well and any activity in connection with it; and
 - (b) an activity which is immediately preparatory to any activity in head (a).
- (2) Sub-paragraph (1) includes keeping a vessel on station for the purpose of working on a well but otherwise does not include navigation or an activity connected with navigation.

Pipelines

- 4.—(1) Any pipeline.
- (2) Any pipeline works.
- (3) The following activities in connection with pipeline works—
- (a) the loading, unloading, fuelling or provisioning of a vessel;
 - (b) the loading, unloading, fuelling, repair and maintenance of an aircraft on a vessel,
- being in either case a vessel which is engaged in pipeline works.
- (4) In this paragraph—
- “pipeline” means a pipe or system of pipes for the conveyance of any thing, together with—
- (a) any apparatus for inducing or facilitating the flow of any thing through, or through a part of, the pipe or system;
 - (b) any apparatus for treating or cooling any thing which is to flow through, or through part of, the pipe or system;
 - (c) valves, valve chambers and similar works which are annexed to, or incorporated in the course of, the pipe or system;
 - (d) apparatus for supplying energy for the operation of any such apparatus or works as are mentioned in paragraphs (a) to (c);
 - (e) apparatus for the transmission of information for the operation of the pipe or system;
 - (f) apparatus for the cathodic protection of the pipe or system; and
 - (g) a structure used or to be used solely for the support of a part of the pipe or system;
- but not including a pipeline of which no initial or terminal point is situated in the United Kingdom or within territorial waters, United Kingdom territorial waters adjacent to Great Britain or a designated area;

“pipeline works” means—

- (a) assembling or placing a pipeline or length of pipeline including the provision of internal or external protection for it;
- (b) inspecting, testing, maintaining, adjusting, repairing, altering or renewing a pipeline or length of pipeline;
- (c) changing the position of or dismantling or removing a pipeline or length of pipeline;
- (d) opening the bed of the sea for the purposes of the works mentioned in paragraphs (a) to (c), and tunnelling or boring for those purposes;
- (e) any activities incidental to the activities described in paragraphs (a) to (d);
- (f) diving operations in connection with any of the works mentioned in paragraphs (a) to (e) or for the purpose of determining whether a place is suitable as part of the site of a proposed pipeline and the carrying out of surveying operations for settling the route of a proposed pipeline.

Mines

5.—(1) The working of a mine, and work for the purpose of or in connection with the working of any part of a mine.

(2) In this paragraph “mine” and “working of a mine” have the same meaning as in the Mines Act (Northern Ireland) 1969(26).

Other activities

6.—(1) Subject to sub-paragraph (2)—

- (a) the construction, reconstruction, alteration, repair, maintenance, cleaning, demolition and dismantling of any building or other structure not being a vessel, or any preparation for any such activity;
- (b) the loading, unloading, fuelling or provisioning of a vessel;
- (c) diving operations;
- (d) the construction, reconstruction, finishing, refitting, repair, maintenance, cleaning or breaking up of a vessel except when carried out by the master or any officer or member of the crew of that vessel; and
- (e) the maintaining on station of a vessel which would be an offshore installation were it not a structure to which paragraph 2(5)(d) relates.

(2) Sub-paragraph (1) shall not apply to vessels which are registered outside the United Kingdom and are on passage through territorial waters.

SCHEDULE 2

Regulation 10(1)

Information to be contained in a report of a thorough examination

1. The name and address of the employer for whom the thorough examination was made.
2. The address of the premises at which the thorough examination was made.

3. Particulars sufficient to identify the lifting equipment including where known its date of manufacture.
4. The date of the last thorough examination.
5. The safe working load of the lifting equipment or (where its safe working load depends on the configuration of the lifting equipment) its safe working load for the last configuration in which it was thoroughly examined.
6. In relation to the first thorough examination of lifting equipment after installation or after assembly at a new site or in a new location—
 - (a) that it is such thorough examination;
 - (b) (if such be the case) that it has been installed correctly and would be safe to operate.
7. In relation to a thorough examination of lifting equipment other than a thorough examination to which paragraph 6 relates—
 - (a) whether it is a thorough examination—
 - (i) within an interval of 6 months under regulation 9(3)(a)(i);
 - (ii) within an interval of 12 months under regulation 9(3)(a)(ii);
 - (iii) in accordance with an examination scheme under regulation 9(3)(a)(iii);
 - (iv) after the occurrence of exceptional circumstances under regulation 9(3)(a)(iv);
 - (b) (if such be the case) that the lifting equipment would be safe to operate.
8. In relation to every thorough examination of lifting equipment—
 - (a) identification of any part found to have a defect which is or could become a danger to persons, and a description of the defect;
 - (b) particulars of any repair, renewal or alteration required to remedy a defect found to be a danger to persons;
 - (c) in the case of a defect which is not yet but could become a danger to persons—
 - (i) the time by which it could become such danger;
 - (ii) particulars of any repair, renewal or alteration required to remedy it;
 - (d) the latest date by which the next thorough examination must be carried out;
 - (e) where the thorough examination included testing, particulars of any test;
 - (f) the date of the thorough examination.
9. The name, address and qualifications of the person making the report; that he is self-employed or, if employed, the name and address of his employer.
10. The name and address of a person signing or authenticating the report on behalf of its author.
11. The date of the report.

SCHEDULE 3

Regulation 18

Revocation of statutory provisions

(1) <i>Title</i>	(2) <i>Reference</i>	(3) <i>Extent of revocation</i>
Quarries (Safety, Health, Equipment and Explosives) Rules (Northern Ireland), 1962	S.R. & O. (N.I.) 1962 No. 180	Rules 35 to 40.
Construction (Lifting Operations) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1963	S.R. & O. (N.I.) 1963 No. 86	The whole Regulations.
Construction (Lifting Operations) Prescribed Particulars Order (Northern Ireland) 1963	S.R. & O. (N.I.) 1963 No. 130	The whole Order.
Construction (Lifting Operations) Reports Order (Northern Ireland) 1963	S.R. & O. (N.I.) 1963 No. 132	The whole Order.
Factories (Exemption of Hoists) Order (Northern Ireland) 1967	S.R. & O. (N.I.) 1967 No. 125	The whole Order.
Office and Shop Premises (Hoists and Lifts) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1969	S.R. & O. (N.I.) 1969 No. 26	The whole Regulations.
Shipbuilding and Ship-repairing Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1971	S.R. & O. (N.I.) 1971 No. 372	In regulation 3 the definitions of “lifting appliance” and “lifting gear”; regulations 20 and 30 to 46.
Shipbuilding (Particulars of Annealing) Order (Northern Ireland) 1975	S.R. 1975 No. 169	The whole Order.
Shipbuilding (Lifting Appliances, etc., Forms) Order (Northern Ireland) 1975	S.R. 1975 No. 191	The whole Order.
The Offshore Installations (Operational Safety, Health and Welfare) Regulations 1976	S.I.1976/1019	The whole Regulations.
Hoists and Lifts (Metrication) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1984	S.R. 1984 No. 55	The whole Regulations.
Health and Safety (Miscellaneous Modifications) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1991	S.R. 1991 No. 172	The whole Regulations.

(1) <i>Title</i>	(2) <i>Reference</i>	(3) <i>Extent of revocation</i>
Lifting Plant and Lifting Equipment (Records of Test and Examination etc.) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1993	S.R. 1993 No. 366	The whole Regulations.
Construction (Health, Safety and Welfare) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1996	S.R. 1996 No. 510	Paragraph 2 of Schedule 9.

EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This note is not part of the Regulations.)

1. These Regulations impose health and safety requirements with respect to lifting equipment, which is defined in regulation 2(1).

2. Save as regards the matters mentioned in paragraphs 4 and 5(b), the Regulations give effect as respects Northern Ireland to Article 4a in respect of lifting equipment, to point 3.2 of Annex I, and to the final paragraph of point 3.2.5 of Annex II, to Council Directive [89/655/EEC](#) (O.J. No. L393, 30.12.89, p. 13) on the minimum health and safety requirements for the use of work equipment by workers at work (“the Directive”) as amended by Council Directive [95/63/EC](#) (O.J. No. L335, 30.12.95, p. 28).

3. Save in the case of regulation 10(1) and (2), the Regulations place duties on employers. In addition (not required by the Directive) regulation 3 (application) places those duties on self-employed persons, and certain persons having control of lifting equipment, of persons at work who use or supervise or manage its use, or of the way it is used, to the extent of their control (regulation 3(3) to (5)).

4. The Regulations have limited application to ships (regulation 3(6) to (11)).

5. The Regulations make provision with respect to—

- (a) the strength and stability of lifting equipment (*regulation 4*);
- (b) the safety of lifting equipment for lifting persons (*regulation 5*);
- (c) the way lifting equipment is positioned and installed (*regulation 6*);
- (d) the marking of machinery and accessories for lifting, and lifting equipment which is designed for lifting persons or which might so be used in error (*regulation 7*);
- (e) the organisation of lifting operations (*regulation 8*);
- (f) the thorough examination (*defined in regulation 2*) and inspection of lifting equipment in specified circumstances (*regulation 9(1) to (3)*);
- (g) the evidence of examination to accompany it outside the undertaking (*regulation 9(4)*);
- (h) the exception for winding apparatus at mines from regulation 9 (*regulation 9(5)*);
- (i) transitional arrangements relating to regulation 9 (*regulation 9(6) and (7)*);

- (j) the making of reports of thorough examinations and records of inspections (*regulation 10 and Schedule 2*); and
 - (k) the keeping of information in the reports and records (*regulation 11*).
- 6.** The Secretary of State for Defence may grant exemptions from the Regulations in the interests of national security (*regulation 12*).
- 7.** Statutory provisions replaced by these Regulations are repealed or revoked; consequential amendments are made (*regulations 13 to 18 and Schedule 3*).
- 8.** In Great Britain the corresponding Regulations are the Lifting Operations and Lifting Equipment Regulations 1998 (S.I. [1998/2307](#)). The Health and Safety Executive has prepared a cost benefit assessment in relation to those Regulations and copies of that assessment, together with a Northern Ireland Supplement prepared by the Department of Economic Development, are held at the offices of the Health and Safety Executive for Northern Ireland at 83 Ladas Drive, Belfast BT6 9FR, from where copies may be obtained.
- 9.** A person who contravenes the Regulations is guilty of an offence under Article 31 of the Health and Safety at Work (Northern Ireland) Order 1978 and is liable, on summary conviction, to a fine not exceeding the statutory maximum (currently £5,000) or, on conviction on indictment, to a fine.