
STATUTORY RULES OF NORTHERN IRELAND

2003 No. 152

**Dangerous Substances and Explosive
Atmospheres Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2003**

Interpretation

2. In these Regulations –

“approved classification and labelling guide” means the “Approved classification and labelling guide: Chemicals (Hazard Information and Packaging for Supply) Regulations 2002” (5th edition)⁽¹⁾ approved by the Executive for use with the CHIP Regulations on 12th November 2002;

“the CHIP Regulations” means the Chemicals (Hazard Information and Packaging for Supply) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2002⁽²⁾;

“dangerous substance” means –

- (a) a substance or preparation which meets the criteria in the approved classification and labelling guide for classification as a substance or preparation which is explosive, oxidising, extremely flammable, highly flammable or flammable, whether or not that substance or preparation is classified under the CHIP Regulations;
- (b) a substance or preparation which because of its physico-chemical or chemical properties and the way it is used or is present at the workplace creates a risk, not being a substance or preparation falling within sub-paragraph (a); or
- (c) any dust, whether in the form of solid particles or fibrous materials or otherwise, which can form an explosive mixture with air or an explosive atmosphere, not being a substance or preparation falling within sub-paragraphs (a) or (b);

“explosive atmosphere” means a mixture, under atmospheric conditions, of air and one or more dangerous substances in the form of gases, vapours, mists or dusts in which, after ignition has occurred, combustion spreads to the entire unburned mixture;

“hazard” means the physico-chemical or chemical property of a dangerous substance which has the potential to give rise to fire, explosion, or other events which can result in harmful physical effects of a kind similar to those which can be caused by fire or explosion, affecting the safety of a person;

“offshore installation” has the same meaning as is given by regulation 3 of the Offshore Installations and Pipeline Works (Management and Administration) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1995⁽³⁾ insofar as that regulation extends to mineral extracting industries within the scope of Article 2(a) of Council Directive 92/91/EEC concerning the minimum requirements for improving the safety and health protection of workers in the mineral-extracting industries through drilling⁽⁴⁾;

(1) L131; ISBN 0-7176-2369-6

(2) [S.R. 2002 No. 301](#)

(3) [S.R. 1995 No. 340](#)

(4) O.J. No. L348, 28.11.92, p. 9

“personal protective equipment” means all equipment which is intended to be worn or held by a person at work and which protects that person against one or more risks to his safety, and any addition or accessory designed to meet that objective;

“preparation” means a mixture or solution of two or more substances;

“risk” means the likelihood of a person’s safety being affected by harmful physical effects being caused to him from fire, explosion or other events arising from the hazardous properties of a dangerous substance in connection with work and also the extent of that harm;

“risk assessment” means the assessment of risks required by regulation 5(1);

“road” has the meaning assigned to it in Article 2(2) of the Road Traffic (Northern Ireland) Order 1995(5);

“safety data sheet” means a safety data sheet within the meaning of regulation 5 of the CHIP Regulations;

“substance” means any natural or artificial substance whether in solid or liquid form or in the form of a gas or vapour;

“territorial sea” means the territorial sea of the United Kingdom adjacent to Northern Ireland and “within the territorial sea” includes on, over and under it;

“workplace” means any premises or part of premises used for or in connection with work, and includes –

- (a) any place within the premises to which an employee has access while at work; and
- (b) any room, lobby, corridor, staircase, road or other place –
 - (i) used as a means of access to or egress from that place of work, or,
 - (ii) where facilities are provided for use in connection with that place of work, other than a road; and

“work processes” means all technical aspects of work involving dangerous substances and includes –

- (a) appropriate technical means of supervision,
- (b) connecting devices,
- (c) control and protection systems,
- (d) engineering controls and solutions,
- (e) equipment,
- (f) materials,
- (g) machinery,
- (h) plant,
- (i) protective systems, and
- (j) warning and other communication systems.