

ARE YOU COMPLYING WITH THE LAW?

Guide to plant and equipment legislation and examinations



Failure to comply with health and safety legislation can have serious consequences for businesses, such as reduction in workforce efficiency, increased risk of accidents and ill health, enforcement by the Health & Safety Executive and heavy fines or even imprisonment. A critical area of health and safety for businesses is the examination of plant and equipment to comply with the various legislation including LOLER, PUWER, PSSR, EAWR, COSHH, DSEAR and COMAH.

Plant and Equipment

This table provides information on types of plant and equipment and applicable legislation

Category of Plant	Example Plant	Legislation
Pressure	Air Receiver Pressure Plant Steam Boiler Blowdown Tank Hot Water Boiler (Pressurised) LPG Storage	Autoclave Boiling Pans (Steam) Canteen Boiler (Steam) Steam Receiver
	Storage of Hazardous Fluids	PSSR
Lifting Plant and Lifts	Crane (e.g. Portal, Pedestal, Overhead, Tower, Mobile, Jib, Swing Jib) Portable Crane (e.g. Engine) Runway Track Suspended Access Equipment Chain Block (Powered or Manual) Winch (Powered or Manual) Fork Lift Truck Order Picker Lifting Accessories (e.g. Slings, Eyebolts, Shackles, Chains)	Rope Blocks Sheer Legs Stairlift Trolley/Carriage Work Handler Wheelchair Lift Straddle Carrier Vehicle Tailboard Lift Sideloader Fork Truck Mobile Gantries Passenger/Goods Lifts
		LOLER
Electrical Systems	Electrical Installations, Portable Appliance Testing, Quarries, Hazardous Area Installations, Petrol Dispensing Areas, Public Entertainment Licence Inspections	EAWR + DSEAR
Electrical/Mechanical Plant	Diesel Engine and Alternator Power Transformer Electric Motor Pump Compressor Water Turbine/Generator	Fan Gas Engine Oil/Coal/Gas Burner Unit Rectifier
		PUWER
Power Presses and Associated Machinery	Friction Screw Press Guillotine (Electric/Hydraulic) Pneumatic Press (Fixed or Moveable Guards) Plastic Injection Moulding Machine Machines Incorporating Photo Electric Guarding Hydraulic Press (Fixed Guards, Moveable/Interlocking Guards/Photo Electric Guard) Power Press (Fixed Guards or Moveable/Interlocking Guards)PUWER Part IV Press Brake (Fixed Guards, Moveable/Interlocking Guards or Photo Electric Guards)	
		PUWER
Dust and Fume Extraction	Dust Extraction (Blasting of Castings) Fume Extraction (e.g. Paint, gases etc) Dust Extraction (e.g. Wood, metal etc)	COSHH

Legislation

PSSR The Pressure Systems Safety Regulations
LOLER The Lifting Operations and Lifting Equipment Regulations
EAWR The Electricity at Work Regulations
PUWER The Provision and Use of Work Equipment Regulations

COSHH The Control of Substances Hazardous to Health Regulations
COMAH The Control of Major Accident Hazards Regulations
DSEAR The Dangerous Substances and Explosive Atmospheres Regulations

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Legislative Examination Requirements

This table provides a list of plant noting the relevant legislative examination requirements including typical frequencies

Plant	Legislation	Legislative requirements
Pressure Systems	PSSR	
Steam Boilers, Vessels and Systems Air Receivers and other gas systems (over 0.5 bar pressure or 250 bar litres capacity) High pressure hot water systems (over 110C) Refrigeration systems/air conditioning plant with compressors over 25kW (combined input power) and a vessel over 250 bar litres capacity		Require a Written Scheme of Examination The Written Scheme determines the frequency and nature of examinations. Typical frequencies for examinations are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 14 months steam systems - 26 months air systems - 5/10 years other gases
Storage of Hazardous Fluids	COMAH	May require Written Scheme of Examination
Lifting Plant and Lifts		
Passenger Lifts	LOLER	Any place of work - 6 months statutory thorough examination Property Owners - Duty of care under Health and Safety at Work Act for common areas. 6 monthly thorough examination advised
Escalator		Statutory where the Workplace (Health, Safety & Welfare) Regulations 1992 applies in places of work
Lifting Machines, Cranes etc.	LOLER	12 monthly thorough examination otherwise a duty of care to the public under the Health & Safety at Work Act (6 monthly inspection advised)
Lifting Accessories (Chains, Ropes etc.)	LOLER	6 monthly examinations
Lifting Persons	LOLER	6 monthly examinations
Excavators	LOLER	12 monthly thorough examination (if used for lifting)
Fixed Electrical System	EAWR DSEAR	5 yearly inspection and testing is considered appropriate for most commercial premises 3 yearly for industrial premises Annually or 6 monthly for quarries 1 - 3 years inspection and test for hazardous areas
Dust/Fume Extraction	COSHH	Fume and wood extraction is usually examined annually (statutory 14 monthly), Metal Dust every 6 months (if used more than 12 hours/week otherwise 14 monthly). Blasting of castings monthly

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