1981 No. 269

HEALTH AND SAFETY

Chemical Works (Metrication) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1981

Made	*11th August 1981*
Coming into operation . . .	*1st October 1981*

The Department of Manpower Services, in exercise of the powers conferred on it by Article 45(1) of the Health and Safety at Work (Northern Ireland) Order 1978(**a**) and of every other power enabling it in that behalf, after consultation with the Health and Safety Agency for Northern Ireland and such other bodies as appear to it to be appropriate, hereby makes the following regulations:

Citation, commencement and interpretation

1.—(1) These regulations may be cited as the Chemical Works (Metrication) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1981 and shall come into operation on 1st October 1981.

(2) In these regulations, "the principal regulations" means the Chemical Works Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1922(**b**).

Substitution of metric measurements for imperial

2. The provisions of the principal regulations specified in column (1) of the Schedule shall be amended by substituting for the measurements set out opposite thereto in column (3) the measurements set out in the corresponding entry in column (4).

Application to existing plant, buildings or other structures

3. Where the dimensions of any plant, buildings or other structure in existence immediately before the coming into operation of these regulations complied with the provisions of the principal regulations as then in force, in so far as they related to the dimensions of that plant, building or other structure, then those dimensions shall be deemed to comply with the requirements of the principal regulations as amended by these regulations.

Sealed with the Official Seal of the Department of Manpower Services for Northern Ireland on 11th August 1981.

(L.S.) *R. O. Surgenor*
Assistant Secretary

(**a**) S.I. 1978/1039 (N.I. 9) — (brought into operation on 1st May 1979 by S.R. 1978 No. 384 (C. 21))
(**b**) S.R. & O. (N.I.) 1922 No. 66 (p. 41)

SCHEDULE Regulation 2

Amendment to regulations

(1) Regulation to be amended	(2) Subject matter of measurement	(3) Present measurement	(4) Measurement to be substituted
The Chemical Works Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1922			
Regulation 1(*a*)	Minimum height of edge of vessel above ground or platform	3 feet	920 millimetres
	Minimum height to which vessel is to be fenced	3 feet	920 millimetres
Regulation 1(*b*) (i)	Minimum width of plank or gangway to be placed inside or across such vessels	18 inches	460 millimetres
(ii)	Minimum height of secure fencing	3 feet	920 millimetres
Regulation 1(*c*) (i)	Distance between vessels	18 inches	460 millimetres
(ii)	(*a*) Distance between vessels	18 or more inches	460 millimetres or more
	(*b*) Height of secure fencing	3 feet	920 millimetres
Regulation 4(*c*)	Space between wall and steam pipes or radiators	2 inches	50 millimetres
Regulation 12	Minimum floor area for Ambulance room	100 square feet	9 square metres
Regulation 18	Minimum height of edge of caustic pot, constructed, rebuilt or replaced after date Regulations came into force, above adjoining ground or platform	3 feet	920 millimetres

(1) Regulation to be amended	(2) Subject matter of measurement	(3) Present measurement	(4) Measurement to be substituted
Regulation 20 (ii)	Maximum concentration of free chlorine gas in air in bleaching powder chamber, before chamber may be entered	2.5 grains of free chlorine gas per cubic foot	5.7 grams of free chlorine gas per cubic metre
Regulation 21(*e*)	Minimum height above ground or working platform at which steam or vapour from a vessel containing nitro or amido derivatives of phenol or of benzene or its homologues shall be discharged	25 feet	7.6 metres
Regulation 28(*a*)	Washing facilities		
	(*a*) Minimum length of washing trough per 5 persons	2 feet	600 millimetres
	(*b*) Minimum distance between taps or jets supplying washing water to trough	2 feet	600 millimetres

EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This note is not part of the Regulations.)

These regulations amend the Chemical Works Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1922 by substituting measurements expressed in metric units for measurements not so expressed. The substituted measurements preserve the effect of the original provisions except to the extent necessary to obtain amounts expressed in convenient and suitable terms.

Regulation 3 provides that the amendments do not relate to plant, buildings or structures which were in existence immediately before the coming into operation of these regulations if their dimensions complied with the then existing regulations.