

## Construction (Design and Management) Regulations 2015 Clients – Are you ready for the changes?

### What is happening?

The CDM Regulations 2015 (CDM 2015) are replacing the CDM Regulations 2007 with effect from 6 April 2015. There are transitional arrangements until 6 October 2015 when the new Regulations will come into full effect.

CDM 2015 governs the management of health, safety and welfare when undertaking construction work. The new Regulations will lead to a major shift in the health and safety regulatory regime during the design, construction and life of a project.

### Who is a client?

CDM 2015 defines a Client as anyone for whom a construction project is carried out. The Regulations apply in full to 'commercial' clients, who are individuals and organisations for whom a

construction project is carried out in connection with a business, whether the business operates for a profit or not, but only in part for 'domestic' clients.

### What must a client do?

CDM 2015 makes the client accountable in law for the impact their decisions and approach have on health, safety and welfare on the project. This is because the client has a major influence over health and safety on a project.

Under Regulations 4 and 5 of CDM 2015, clients have the following duties:

- Making suitable arrangements for managing the project;
- Appointing competent duty holders to the project team;
- For projects involving more than one 'trade' contractor appointing a Principal Designer and Principal Contractor. The Principal Designer plans, manages, monitors and co-ordinates health and

safety in the design phase of a project whilst the Principal Contractor will fill this role during the construction phase of a project;

- Before appointing the Principal Designer and Principal Contractor take reasonable steps to ensure that they have the relevant health and safety Skills, Knowledge, Experience and Training (SKET) to carry out the role;
- Maintaining and reviewing the management arrangements throughout the project
- Providing relevant and suitably detailed pre-construction information
- Ensuring a Construction Phase Plan has been produced by the Principal Contractor prior to work starting on site.

### How can Aegis help Clients in fulfilling their duties?

Aegis has 20 years' experience of construction health and safety to draw upon in helping you understand how CDM 2015 will affect your project. We can:

- Provide training for clients who have a general understanding of the regulations but want to understand the changes due to CDM 2015.

- Carry out the Principal Designer role for Client where no design practice has been appointed.
- Carry out the Principal Designer role for the project if the designer does not meet the competence requirements under Regulation 8.