



Provision and Use of Work Equipment Regulations 1998

ARE YOU FULLY COMPLIANT WITH PUWER 1998?

The Provision and Use of Work Equipment Regulations 1998 places legal responsibilities on employers and employees to ensure all work equipment is suitable for the actual work it is provided to do, that it is used only for operations for which it is suitable, and that it is maintained in an efficient working order and in good repair.

The Provision and Use of Work Equipment Regulations 1998 is law in the United Kingdom

The Provision and Use of Work Equipment Regulations 1998 applies to almost any equipment used at work, from 'tool box tools' to a process installation.

Compliance relies on:

- Appropriate selection of equipment
- Adequate training
- Adequate user information and instructions
- Inspection records
- Competent persons
- Appropriate maintenance regime

Ex-PERTS has a long history of successfully implementing policies and procedures to ensure portable instruments, tools and equipment, are used and managed in full compliance with PUWER 1998.

It is essential that your company has a robust policy statement detailing the practical arrangements made to fulfill your duties under the Regulations.

Maintenance and Operational procedures need to be implemented to support this policy.

Users and maintainers of equipment must be adequately trained, including any risks associated with its use or maintenance may and the precautions to be taken.

Ex-PERTS can help ensure that you are fully compliant with the Provision and Use of Work Equipment Regulations 1998 by offering a range of services to clients:

- Production of in-house policies and procedures
- Audit of existing arrangements
- Assessment of training requirements
- Training on Provision and Use of Work Equipment Regulations 1998
- Company specific bespoke training programmes.



Summary of Provision and Use of Work Equipment Regulations 1998 Part I and Part II

Regulation 1 Citation and commencement

- Replaces old regulations
- New Equipment, Existing Work Equipment, Second Hand Equipment
- “Provided for use” refers to receipt of equipment, not actual date put into use.

Regulation 2 Interpretation

Includes definitions of “Use” and “Work Equipment”

Regulation 3 Application

Imposes obligations on Employer, Employees and Self Employed

Regulation 4(1) Suitability of Work Equipment

Every employer shall ensure that work equipment is so constructed or adapted as to be suitable for the purpose for which it is used or provided.

Regulation 5(1) Maintenance

Every employer shall ensure that work equipment is maintained in an efficient state, in efficient working order and in good repair.

Regulation 6(2) Inspection

Every employer shall ensure that work equipment exposed to conditions causing deterioration which is liable to result in dangerous situations is inspected at suitable intervals.

Regulation 7 Specific Risks

Where the use of equipment is likely to involve a specific risk, restrictions shall be placed on who can use and maintain it.

Regulation 8 Information and Instructions

Information & instructions shall be readily comprehensible and include conditions and methods by which the equipment may be used; foreseeable abnormal situations and the action to be taken; conclusions drawn from experience in using the equipment.

Regulation 9 Training

Every employer shall ensure that all persons who use work equipment have received adequate training for the purposes of health and safety, including training in the methods which may be adopted when using the work equipment, any risks which such use may entail and the precautions to be taken.

Regulation 10 Conformity with Community requirements

Work equipment shall be designed and constructed in compliance with any essential requirements.

Regulation 11 Dangerous parts of machinery

Every employer shall ensure measures are taken to prevent access to dangerous parts of machinery or to stop the movement of machinery before any part of a person enters a danger zone

Regulation 12 Protection against specified hazards

Every employer shall take measures to ensure that exposure to any risk from any specified hazard is either prevented or, where that is not reasonably practicable, adequately controlled.

Regulation 14,15, 16, 17, 18 & 19 Controls

Every employee shall ensure that, where appropriate, work equipment is provided with one or more controls for the purposes of starting or making a significant change in operating conditions and bring the work equipment to a safe condition in a safe manner.

Emergency stop.

Controls for work equipment are clearly visible and identifiable.

Control Systems and means of isolation.

Regulation 20 Stability

Work equipment or any part of work equipment shall be stabilised by clamping or otherwise.

Regulation 21 Lighting

Requires suitable and sufficient lighting, which takes account of the operations to be carried out, to be provided where a person uses work equipment.

Regulation 22 Maintenance Operations

Requirement for appropriate measures to ensure maintenance operations can be carried out without exposing persons to risk.

Regulation 23 & 24 Markings & Warnings

Requires equipment to be marked in a clearly visible manner with any marking appropriate for reasons of health and safety and incorporate appropriate warnings or warning devices appropriate