

Health and Safety Executive		Operational Minute
Field Operations Directorate		OM 1999/104
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To

OM 2001/123

All FOD Staff (Bands 0-4)
 CHID Inspectors (Bands 0-4)
 Mines Inspectors (Bands 0-2)
 Railways Inspectors (Bands 0-3)
 NSD Inspectors (Bands 0-3)
 OSD Inspectors (Bands 0-3)
 Section Heads in other Directorates/Divisions

See also:

WITHDRAWAL OF BS 5304: 1988 CODE OF PRACTICE FOR SAFETY OF MACHINERY

This OM provides information about the present status of British Standard BS 5304: 1988 *Code of practice for safety of machinery* and about the harmonised European standards that replace it.

1 BS 5304: 1988 *Code of practice for safety of machinery* has been a very useful reference source on this topic. However, many of the principles of safeguarding addressed in this British Standard are now covered by harmonised European standards which have been adopted under the Machinery Directive and transposed as British Standards (BS ENs).

2 These harmonised European standards are as follows:

Type 'A' standards

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|---------------------------------------|--|
| BS EN 292: Parts 1 and 2: 1991 | Safety of machinery - Basic concepts, general principles for design. |
| BS EN 1050: 1997 | Safety of machinery - Principles for risk assessment. |

Type 'B' standards

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|------------------------|--|
| BS EN 294: 1992 | Safety of machinery - Safety distances to prevent danger zones being reached by the upper limbs. |
| BS EN 349: 1993 | Safety of machinery - Minimum gaps to avoid crushing of parts of the human body. |

BS EN 418: 1992	Safety of machinery - Emergency stop equipment, functional aspects - principles for design.
BS EN 811: 1997	Safety of machinery - Safety distances to prevent danger zones being reached by the lower limbs.
BS EN 953: 1998	Safety of machinery - Guards - General requirements for the design and construction.
BS EN 954: Part 1: 1997	Safety of machinery - Safety related parts of control systems. Part 1. General principles for design.
BS EN 1037: 1996	Safety of machinery - Prevention of unexpected start-up.
BS EN 1088: 1996	Safety of machinery - Interlocking devices associated with guards - principles for design and selection.
BS EN 60204: Part 1: 1998	Safety of machinery - Electrical equipment of machines - Part 1 : General requirements.

3 Under the rules governing European standardisation, national standards conflicting with European standards must be withdrawn. Therefore BS 5304 has been withdrawn.

4 However the information and drawings contained in BS 5304 were considered by HSE, industry and other interested parties as too useful to be lost. British Standards Institution has therefore declared BS 5304 as obsolescent, which indicates that the standard is not recommended for use for new machinery, but can be used for older (non-CE marked) machinery. For example, such older machinery which meets the safeguarding recommendations in BS 5304 will, in most cases, comply with the Provision and Use of Work Equipment Regulations 1998.

5 Obsolescent standards remain available for purchase, so inspectors can still recommend purchase of BS 5304, but should not refer to it in relation to CE-marked machinery.

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