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Health and Safety Executive		Sector Information Minute	
Manufacturing		SIM 03/2003/53 (formerly 06/2003/04)	
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Target Audience
AFQ Inspectors

AMENDMENTS TO THE QUARRIES REGULATIONS 1999

This SIM summarises the changes made to the Quarries Regulations by the Health and Safety (Miscellaneous Amendments) Regulations 2002.

BACKGROUND

1 The Health and Safety (Miscellaneous Amendments) Regulations came into force on 17 September 2002. This SIM deals only with the amendments made to the Quarries Regulations 1999. The amendments are minor alterations and no revision to the current Approved Code of Practice and guidance is being made as a result of these.

REGULATION 2 (1)

2 The definition of “explosive” has been deleted and replaced with definitions which mirror those used in other legislation relating to explosives:

“explosive article” means an article containing one or more explosive substances;

“explosive substance” means -

(a) a solid or a liquid substance; or

(b) a mixture of solid or liquid substances or both, which is capable by chemical reaction in itself of producing gas at such a temperature and pressure and at such a speed as could cause damage to surroundings or which is designed to produce an effect by heat, light, sound, gas or smoke or a combination of these as a result of non-detonative self-sustaining exothermic chemical reactions;

“explosives” means explosive articles or substances.

This makes no material change to enforcement of the Quarries Regulations.

REGULATION 33(4)

3 The word “*undertaken*” is replaced by the word “*completed*”. This strengthens and clarifies the requirement to complete remedial work identified in the geotechnical assessment within the time period specified by the geotechnical specialist.

REGULATION 45(4)

4 The figure “(2)” is replaced by the figure “(3)”. This clarifies the arrangements relating to quarry abandonment plans submitted to the HSE.

ACTION BY INSPECTORS

5 At inspection visits, inspectors should read relevant sections of the geotechnical assessment (e.g. summary and recommendations) and seek evidence that any remedial work recommended in the report has been, or is likely to be, completed within the timescale set out by the specialist.

6 As a result of these amendments, when referring to the Quarries Regulations in letters, for enforcement purposes etc the words “as amended” should be added.

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