



## Chemical Agents Risk Assessment



All employers and self-employed people have duties under health and safety law to assess risks in the workplace. The **Safety, Health and Welfare at Work (Chemical Agents) Regulations 2001** obliges employers and the self-employed to assess the risks arising from the use, or presence of, chemical agents in the workplace. This risk assessment will form the basis of the Safety Statement that is required for all workplaces. It must take into account the hazards associated with the chemical (toxic, corrosive etc), how the chemical will be used (heated, ignition sources etc), how it is stored (ensuring segregation), how many people will be exposed to it, and the means that will be used to control the exposure of employees to chemicals.

These regulations apply to all of the following:

- Substances brought into the workplace and handled, stored and used for processing (eg raw materials, solvents, cleaning, agents, glues, resins, paints)
- Substances generated by a process or work activity (eg fumes from welding/soldering, dust from machining of wood, solvent vapours from painting, dust from quarrying)
- Substances or mixtures produced by the work process including by-products, residues or waste

**OHSS can assist your organisation in complying with the Chemicals Agents Regulations** by establishing if there is any potential for employee exposure to chemical agents, determine the risk to employee health by monitoring the exposure levels (in line with the 2010 Code of Practice), recommend control measures, and finally, record all findings in a comprehensive Chemical Agents Risk Assessment.

### OHSS Safety Consultants

Unit 2 Beat Centre, Stephenstown Industrial Estate · Balbriggan · Co. Dublin  
Tel: 01 6905907 · Fax: 01 8020439  
[info@ohss.ie](mailto:info@ohss.ie) · [www.ohss.ie](http://www.ohss.ie)

