

1983 No. 994

HEALTH AND SAFETY
MINES AND QUARRIES

The Miscellaneous Mines (Metrication) Regulations 1983

Made - - - - -	11th July 1983
Laid before Parliament	21st July 1983
Coming into Operation	12th August 1983

The Secretary of State, in exercise of the powers conferred on him by sections 49(1), (2) and (4) and 82(3)(a) of the Health and Safety at Work etc. Act 1974(a) ("the 1974 Act") and of all other powers enabling him in that behalf and for the purpose of giving effect without modifications to proposals submitted to him by the Health and Safety Commission under section 11(2)(d) of the 1974 Act after the carrying out by the said Commission of consultations in accordance with section 50(3) of that Act, hereby makes the following Regulations:—

Citation, commencement and interpretation

1.—(1) These Regulations may be cited as the Miscellaneous Mines (Metrication) Regulations 1983 and shall come into operation on 12th August 1983.

(2) In these Regulations, "the principal Regulations" means the Regulations amended by these Regulations, that is to say—

- The Miscellaneous Mines (General) Regulations 1956(b);
- The Miscellaneous Mines (Electricity) Regulations 1956(c); and
- The Miscellaneous Mines (Explosives) Regulations 1959(d).

Amendments to Regulations to substitute metric measurements for imperial measurements

2. The provisions of the Regulations specified in the Schedule to these Regulations in column 1 shall be amended by substituting for the measurements set out opposite thereto in column 3 the measurements set out in the corresponding entry in column 4.

(a) 1974 c. 37; section 49 was amended by the Employment Protection Act 1975 (c. 71), section 116 and Schedule 15, paragraph 15.

(b) S.I. 1956/1778, to which there are amendments not relevant to these Regulations.

(c) S.I. 1956/1779, to which there are amendments not relevant to these Regulations.

(d) S.I. 1959/2258, to which there are amendments not relevant to these Regulations.

Application to existing premises and plant or premises and plant under construction

3.—(1) Where any premises or plant in existence or under construction immediately before the coming into operation of these Regulations complied with the requirements of the principal Regulations as then in force, then those premises or that plant shall be deemed to comply with the principal Regulations as amended by these Regulations.

(2) Notwithstanding Regulation 2 of these Regulations, Regulation 24(5)(a) of the Miscellaneous Mines (General) Regulations 1956 as in force immediately before the date of coming into operation of these Regulations shall continue to apply in relation to any haulage road in existence at that date.

Signed by order of the Secretary of State.

John Selwyn Gummer,
Joint Parliamentary Under Secretary of State,
Department of Employment.

11th July 1983.

SCHEDULE

Regulation 2

AMENDMENTS TO REGULATIONS

Column 1 Regulations to be amended	Column 2 Subject-matter of measurement(s)	Column 3 Present measurement	Column 4 Substituted measurement
The Miscellaneous Mines (General) Regulations 1956			
1. Regulation 3(2)	Scale of plans of abandoned workings	Forty inches to the mile	1: 1584
2. Regulation 9	(a) Maximum distance between top of and lowest entrance to a shaft or staple pit before guides need be provided (b) Maximum depth of shaft or staple pit in course of being sunk before guides need be provided	(a) One hundred and fifty feet (b) Three hundred feet	(a) 45 metres (b) 90 metres
3. Regulation 14(2)	Speed of winding apparatus above which an automatic contrivance to prevent overwinding must be fitted	Twelve feet per second	4 metres per second
4. Regulation 23(a)	Maximum permitted speed of vehicles in haulage roads, where persons may pass on foot	Six miles per hour	2.7 metres per second
5. Regulation 23(b)	Minimum permitted clearances in haulage roads, where persons may pass on foot while vehicles are moving	Two feet	600 millimetres
6. Regulation 24(1)(a)	(a) Maximum speed of vehicle in a haulage road (b) Maximum permitted distance between refuge holes in certain circumstances	(a) Four miles per hour (b) Three hundred feet	(a) 1.8 metres per second (b) 90 metres
7. Regulation 24(1)(b)	Maximum permitted distance between refuge holes in circumstances other than those described in Regulation 24(1)(a)	Sixty feet	20 metres
8. Regulation 24(2)(a)	Prescribed width of refuge holes	Three feet	1 metre
9. Regulation 24(2)(b)	Minimum prescribed depth of refuge holes	Three feet	1 metre

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Column 1 Regulations to be amended	Column 2 Sub-ject-matter of measurement(s)	Column 3 Present measurement	Column 4 Substituted measurement
The Miscellaneous Mines (General) Regulations 1956— <i>contd.</i>			
10. Regulation 24(2)(c)	Minimum prescribed height of refuge holes	Six feet	1.8 metres
11. Regulation 24(3)	In relation to the provision of refuge holes minimum width of clear space between vehicles in a road and one side of that road on which side of the road refuge holes shall be situated	Two feet	600 millimetres
12. Regulation 24(5)(a)	Maximum amount of mineral to be carried per hour in a haulage road, if refuge holes are not to be provided	Ten tons	10 tonnes
13. Regulation 24(5)(b)	Minimum clearance permitted between vehicles and one side of haulage road, if refuge holes are not to be provided	Two feet	600 millimetres
14. Regulation 33	Maximum aggregate amount of oil in which electrical apparatus may be immersed without the provision of suitable and sufficient means for localising and extinguishing any fire resulting from ignition of the oil	One hundred gallons	450 litres
15. Regulation 43(2)	Maximum intervals of length at which winding ropes must be cleaned and examined for wear	Three hundred feet	90 metres
16. Regulation 47(1)	(a) Minimum length of rope to be cut when that rope re-capped if used in certain haulage apparatus (b)(c)(d) Maximum lengths of ropes to be cut if re-capping done within certain periods	(a) Six feet (b) Three feet (c) Four feet (d) Five feet	(a) 2 metres (b) 1 metre (c) 1.2 metres (d) 1.5 metres

AMENDMENTS TO REGULATIONS—*contd.*

Column 1 Regulations to be amended	Column 2 Subject-matter of measurement(s)	Column 3 Present measurement	Column 4 Substituted measurement
The Miscellaneous Mines (General) Regulations 1956— <i>contd.</i>			
17. Regulation 48(a)	(a) Melting point of metal used for capping (b) Maximum temperature of metal used for capping when poured into the socket of the capel	(a) 570°Fahr (b) 685°Fahr	(a) 300°C (b) 365°C
18. Regulation 48(c)	Approximate mean temperature of capel socket immediately before white metal is poured in	212°Fahr	100°C
19. Regulation 61	Minimum gauge of railway lines which may not be installed at a mine unless either owned by a railway company or provided for in special regulations	Four feet eight and a half inches	1.432 metres
20. Regulation 68	Height of a ledge or other place which is not fenced at which a person may not work unless he has been provided with a rope or other suitable protective device	Fifteen feet	4.5 metres
21. Regulation 74(2)	(a) Length of ladder at or below which platforms not required (b) Intervals at which platforms required if a ladder exceeds a certain length (c) Minimum distance above platforms which ladder shall project	(a) and (b) Thirty feet (c) Three feet	(a) and (b) 10 metres (c) 1 metre
22. Regulation 76	Minimum height of continuous skirting board required on the open side of any gantry or platform	Nine inches	230 millimetres

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AMENDMENTS TO REGULATIONS—*contd.*

Column 1 Regulations to be amended	Column 2 Subject-matter of measurement(s)	Column 3 Present measurement	Column 4 Substituted measurement
The Miscellaneous Mines (Electricity) Regulations 1956			
23. Regulation 7(2)	Minimum permitted cross-sectional area of earthing conductors	0.022 square inches	14 square millimetres
24. Regulation 9	Minimum permitted cross-sectional area of conductor connecting two or more earth-plates with more than 2 ohms resistance between them	0.022 square inches	14 square millimetres
25. Regulation 13(3)(a)	Cross-sectional area of a copper conductor which has a conductivity equivalent to the minimum required conductivity of a metallic covering for flexible cables supplying portable apparatus of over 250V d.c. or 125V a.c.	0.022 square inches	14 square millimetres
26. Regulation 13(3)(b)	Cross-sectional area of a copper conductor which has a conductivity equivalent to the minimum required conductivity of a screen of wires containing more or less completely every conductor forming part of the relevant circuit	0.022 square inches	14 square millimetres
27. Regulation 13(3)(c)	Cross-sectional area of a copper conductor which has a conductivity equivalent to the minimum required conductivity of a screen of wires containing separately but more or less completely all the conductors forming part of the relevant circuit	0.011 square inches	7 square millimetres
28. Regulation 14(2)(a)	Rating of at least one motor in apparatus above which electricity at a voltage exceeding two hundred and fifty direct current or one hundred and twenty five alternating current may be supplied	Five horse power	3.5 kilowatts

AMENDMENTS TO REGULATIONS—*contd.*

Column 1 Regulation to be amended	Column 2 Subject-matter of measurement(s)	Column 3 Present measurement	Column 4 Substituted measurement
The Miscellaneous Mines (Electricity) Regulations 1956— <i>contd.</i> 9. Regulation 20	Minimum height of fencing to be provided around transformers or switch-gear installed at the surface of a mine otherwise than in a building	Eight feet	2.5 metres
The Miscellaneous Mines (Explosives) Regulations 1959			
10. Regulation 2(1) Definition of "safety fuse"	Length of fuse to be used in calculations of rate of burning	Three feet	900 millimetres
11. Regulation 12(1)	Maximum amount of explosive permitted to be taken below ground, in certain circumstances	Twenty five pounds	10 kilogrammes
12. Regulation 19(1)	Minimum permitted difference between the diameter of a shot-hole and the diameter of a cartridge	One-eighth of an inch	3 millimetres
13. Regulation 19(2)	Depth of a shot-hole beyond which a wooden tool with non-ferrous joints may be used under certain conditions	Six feet	2 metres
14. Regulation 22(2)	Nearest point to which a naked light or person smoking may approach a shot-hole, explosive or detonator while any shot-hole is being charged	Four feet	1.2 metres
15. Regulation 26(2)	Minimum length of cable to be used when firing shots electrically	Ninety feet	28 metres
16. Regulation 27	(a) Minimum length of fuse to be used when single shots fired (b) Minimum length of safety fuse to be used when firing shots in a round	(a) Three feet (b) Four feet	(a) 1 metre (b) 1.2 metres

EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This Note is not part of the Regulations.)

These Regulations amend the Miscellaneous Mines (General) Regulations 1956, the Miscellaneous Mines (Electricity) Regulations 1956 and the Miscellaneous Mines (Explosives) Regulations 1959 by substituting measurements expressed in metric units for measurements not so expressed. The substituted measurements preserve the effect of the original provisions except to the extent necessary to obtain amounts expressed in convenient and suitable terms.

Regulation 3 provides that the amendments do not relate to premises or plant in existence or under construction immediately before the coming into operation of these Regulations if those premises or that plant complied with the then existing Regulations.