ComplianceEHS

Environmental Health & Safety Audit Protocol
New Zealand 2020

release notes

STP ComplianceEHS (STP) announces the release of its recently updated EHS audit protocol for New Zealand. This audit protocol, which covers relevant national EHS requirements, was previously updated in June 2018. The regulatory date for the current release is June 2020. The table below shows the extent of regulatory changes that have occurred since the previous update.

Number of Legislative Instruments and their Status

(since June 2018)

Protocol Section	No Change	New	Amended	Repealed
General Environmental	1	0	1	0
Air Emissions	3	0	6	0
Solid and Hazardous Waste	3	0	2	0
Water Resources	1	0	2	0
Above and Below Ground Tank Management	1	0	1	0
Community Noise	0	0	1	0
PCBs	1	0	1	0
Asbestos	0	1	1	0
General Health and Safety	2	0	0	0
Equipment, Machine and Electrical Safety	1	0	2	0
Material Handling and General In-Plant Safety	3	0	0	0
Fire Safety	2	0	3	0
Transport of Dangerous Goods	2	0	1	0
Industrial Hygiene	7	0	2	0
Chemical Management	8	0	4	0
Construction Work Site Safety	3	0	0	0

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release notes
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highlights of selected new legislation

- **The *Ozone Layer Protection Regulations 1996* were amended** to add a conditional prohibition on importation or exportation of bulk hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs).

- **Amendments to the *Climate Change Response Act 2002* revised** the description of certain activities that are included in the list of stationary energy activities that are participants in the New Zealand greenhouse gas emissions trading scheme.

- **The *Geothermal Energy Regulations* have been removed,** as geothermal energy activities are not within the scope of this protocol.

- **The *Imports and Exports (Asbestos-containing Products) Prohibition Order 2016* has been** added to the protocol. This order prohibits the importation into New Zealand of goods that contain asbestos unless the importation is authorized by a permit.

- **The *Fire and Emergency New Zealand (Fire Safety, Evacuation Procedures, and Evacuation Schemes) Regulations 2018* were amended** effective May 22, 2020, in order to temporarily suspend requirements for owners of buildings to conduct trial evacuations, notify Fire and Emergency New Zealand (FENZ), and implement evacuation training programs at 6-month intervals during the period when New Zealand's *Epidemic Preparedness (COVID-19) Notice 2020* is in force. The principal *COVID-19 Notice* came into force on 25 March 2020 and was renewed on 24 June 2020. The notice can be further extended if required. Based on the recent renewal the principal notice will not expire until 24 September 2020, unless an earlier date is declared by the Prime Minister by notice in the New Zealand Gazette.

- **The *Hazardous Substances (Importers and Manufacturers) Notice 2015* was amended** by Notices issued in 2017 and 2018. The 2017 Amendment required importers of Class 1 explosive substances to apply for an import certificate. As a result of the 2018 Amendment, an import certificate is only required for explosives that require a controlled substance license under the *Health and Safety at Work (Hazardous Substances) Regulations 2017* and for retail fireworks, except certain novelty and noise-maker fireworks.

- **The *Hazardous Substances (Health and Safety Reform Revocations) Regulations 2017* revoked** portions of the *Hazardous Substances and New Organisms (Personnel Qualifications) Regulations 2001* relating to approved handlers, and also revoked requirements related to assessment of risks, costs, and benefits under the *Hazardous Substances (Forms and Information) Regulations 2001*.

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