highways england

INFORMATION

Safety Alert

Change in HSE Enforcement Expectations for Mild Steel Welding Fume

15th February 2019

Background information

The International Agency for Research on Cancer have discovered evidence that exposure to mild steel welding fume can cause lung cancer and possibly kidney cancer in humans. The Workplace Health Expert Committee has endorsed the reclassification of mild steel welding fume as a human carcinogen.

In response to this research the Health and Safety Executive have issued a safety alert relating to their enforcement approach with respect to mild steel welding fume. This alert is targeted at all workers, employers, self-employed, contractors' and any others who undertake welding activities, including mild steel, in any industry.

With immediate effect, there is a strengthening of HSE's enforcement expectation for all welding fume, including mild steel welding.

Any organisations impacted by this change in enforcement approach should refer to the HSE website below for more information on the actions required:-

http://www.hse.gov.uk/safetybulletins/mild-steel-welding-fume.htm#utm_source=govdelivery&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=welding-alert&utm_content=ebul-link-1

If you have any queries about this safety alert information announcement or any other safety announcement then please contact **NH&ST@highwaysengland.co.uk**

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