



## ☼ Work with Ionising Radiation

### Regulation 11(1)

*\*The Regulations and Approved Code of Practice (ACOP) are accompanied by guidance.*

### Maintenance & Examination of Engineering Controls

An employer who provides any engineering control, design feature, safety feature or warning device to meet the requirements of regulation 9(2)(a) must ensure – (a) that any such control, feature or device is properly maintained; and (b) where appropriate, that thorough examinations and tests of such controls, features or devices are carried out at suitable intervals.

### Guidance 11(1)

*\*Following the guidance is not compulsory and you are free to take other action. But if you do follow the guidance you will normally be doing enough to comply with the law. Health and safety inspectors seek to secure compliance with the law and may refer to this guidance as illustrating good practice.*

### Nature of Inspections & Tests

[196] Employers should carry out a visual check of all active control measures used to prevent or restrict exposure, provided carrying out such checks does not present undue risk to employees. Where appropriate, these checks should be carried out at frequent intervals, for example during every shift for safety-critical features.

[197] For the examination to be sufficient employers must make sure that the person carrying out the examination or test is competent.

### Frequency of Tests & Inspections

[199] In addition to the visual checks already mentioned, active control measures such as exhaust ventilation systems, electromechanical or other types of interlocks and warning devices should be examined and tested at suitable intervals.

[200] Typically, a suitable interval for the examination and test of active control measures is about once a year, depending on the circumstances of the work. If failure of control measures could result in an acute exposure above the investigation level established under regulation 9(8), the frequency of examination and test of that control measure should be more than once a year.



## Consultation on Procedures for Maintenance

**[201]** Regulation 14 and Schedule 4 require employers to consult a suitable RPA on the periodic examination and testing of engineering controls etc., appropriate to the equipment they use (see regulation 14).

Employers should: (a) obtain RPA advice to develop a programme of examination and testing for appropriate control measures; (b) consult the appointed safety representative(s) or established safety committee; (c) follow the recommendations of the manufacturer or supplier on the programme for the inspection and test of the different control measures.

### **ACOP 11(1)**

*\*This Code has been approved by the Health and Safety Executive, with the consent of the Secretary of State. It gives practical advice on how to comply with the law.*

## Recording the Results

**[202]** Sufficient records should be kept of these examinations and tests to enable employers to identify: (a) which controls, features or devices have been examined or tested; (b) what action is required to maintain them; and (c) when the next examination or test is due.

**[203]** Employers need to keep suitable records of monitoring and tests carried out and retain details such as the date and nature of the test, where it was carried out and by whom, as well as the information in paragraph 202. The details must be held in paper or electronic records and should be available for inspection if required. Records should be kept for two years after the subsequent test.

(Health and Safety Executive, 2018)