



Contact:	Sarah Kenny	Sales & Marketing Manager:	07789 713776
		Switchboard:	0870 078 4400
Date:	January 2012	Publication:	Immediate

Advice for Contractors on Procuring competent Contractors, Sub-contractors and Designers

The procurement of contractors, Sub-contractors and designers is without doubt one of the most important elements of managing a construction project as both legal and practical elements come together to create a demanding situation. Advice and guidance on this issue is now included in the industry recognised Construction Health and Safety Manual.

The revised section explains the legal obligations under CDM 2007 including how to assess competence using the CDM Core criteria and a project specific assessment using industry initiatives such as Safety Schemes in Procurement (SSIP) and the Builders Profile to improve the process. . In addition the manual outlines the aspirations of the Major Contractors with respect to H&S, Environmental Protection and Occupational Health and can be used as the basis of a company document or procedure.

Suzannah Nichol, Chief Executive of NSCC and a member of the Manual’s Editorial Panel said *“selecting competent contractors and designers at all levels is crucial to the effective delivery of a safe construction project. Reducing the bureaucracy traditionally associated with the competence assessment of supply chain members, by accepting data from the Builders Profile and using schemes registered with SSIP, enables resources to be used to more efficiently to deliver construction projects and protect the health and safety of the workforce”*

Also new to the Manual is a section on Managing Catastrophic Risk, an updated section on working at height which includes references to the SG4:10 and changes to the accident reporting procedure under RIDDOR.

The Construction Health and Safety Manual provides accurate, current and comprehensive information on all health, safety and environmental issues throughout the construction process. The Manual is written by a panel of fourteen leading H&S professionals working hands-on in the construction industry, who give of their time and expertise voluntarily. A senior inspector of the Health and Safety Executive also sits on the panel and all material published is channeled through the HSE to ensure accuracy.

Copies of the '*Construction Health and Safety Manual*' are available to order from Construction Industry Publications (CIP). The hard copy and CD-Rom cost £240 each and the six-monthly updates, £48.50 each. Tel: 0870 078 4400 Email: sales@cip-books.com Web: www.cip-books.com.

Notes to editors:

1. Construction Industry Publications are the Construction Publication Specialist, as well as publishing several important Health & Safety and Environmental Manuals they are a mailorder bookseller.
2. Construction Industry Publications (CIP) can be contacted:
 - Tel: 0870 078 4400
 - Fax: 0870 078 4401
 - Email: sales@cip-books.com
 - c/o BTB Mailflight Ltd, 2B Viking Industrial Estate, Hudson Rd, Bedford, MK41 0QB
3. Main contractors can sign up to the Builder's Profile free of charge to satisfy their pre-qualification requirements at www.buildersprofile.co.uk.
4. The Builder's Profile is available to sub-contractors in two versions: the Basic service allows the completion of a new profile for each contractor free of charge, whereas the Premium version enables the creation of one profile which can be used for all contractors and clients. The Premium service costs £275 + VAT per year (£199 + VAT to members of NSCC and The Builders' Conference).
5. The Safety Schemes in Procurement Forum acts as an umbrella organisation to facilitate mutual recognition between health and safety pre-qualifications schemes wherever it is practicable to do so. www.SSIP.org.uk