

## Statutory Inspections or Thorough Examinations Guidance

At Alan Boswell Risk Management (ABRM) we recognise that all companies have been facing, and continue to face, incredibly complex challenges. More than ever, the importance of applying sensible risk management principles is essential and our series of fact-sheets aim to provide relevant guidance in light of the current COVID-19 situation.

Further, we would like to extend access to our risk management helpline to all our insured clients during this period to, hopefully, provide additional support during these difficult times.

**Please do not hesitate to get in touch if you require any assistance.**

### Statutory Inspections or Thorough Examinations

The Health & Safety Executive (HSE) have now released a statement in relation to statutory inspections or thorough examinations;

*Following the Government's recent announcement of measures designed to contain the outbreak of COVID-19, HSE is aware of concerns relating to the examination of equipment that is subject to statutory inspection time limits. The Health and Safety Executive enforces several pieces of legislation that contain requirements for time-bound statutory inspections, including the Pressure Systems Safety Regulations 2000 and the Lifting Operations and Lifting Equipment Regulations 1998.*

*Duty-holders have a legal responsibility to maintain work equipment and carry out thorough examinations, written schemes and statutory inspections. These legal duties exist to help manage the significant hazard that the failure of such equipment can pose, not complying with these duties can significantly increase the risk of harm to workers and members of the public.*

*Under certain circumstances with the agreement of a suitable competent person, some legislation does allow thorough examinations/statutory inspections to be postponed to a later date. Even if such options are taken, it remains the duty-holders responsibility to ensure that the equipment is safe to use.*

*If engineering companies are suffering shortages in their own resources, they should consider focusing this resource/expertise on equipment in premises where the most vulnerable are located such as hospitals, care homes and infrastructure which is essential to the running of the country.*

### What this means?

- In essence, it's business as usual. While there is some legislation to allow for postponement, ultimately every business continues to have a legal obligation to ensure equipment is maintained and inspected.
- ABRM will continue to support all our clients with their mandatory inspections requirements. If you have upcoming inspections due then we will be in touch to discuss your individual circumstances.
- However, if for any reason we experience shortages to our own resource we will adopt the approach detailed and prioritise key sectors and high-risk equipment that presents a significant hazard due to failure.
- It is important to be aware that during this period, individual employers are responsible for the ongoing safety of the equipment in absence of inspection visits.
- If you have any concerns or questions please call us and a member of our engineering team will assist.



For further advice or support please contact ABRM on 01603 967900, email [riskmanagement@alanboswell.com](mailto:riskmanagement@alanboswell.com) or speak to your usual account executive