Transfer of responsibility for producing Dangerous Goods Emergency Action Code Lists

Issued by:
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Office of the Chief Fire and Rescue Adviser

Addressed to:
The Chair of the Fire and Rescue Authority
The Chief Executive of the County Council
The Clerk to the Fire and Rescue Authority
The Clerk to the Combined Fire and Rescue Authority
The Commissioner of the London Fire and Emergency Planning Authority
The Chief Fire Officer

Summary
To inform the FRS that CLG will no longer have responsibility for producing Dangerous Goods Emergency Action Code (Hazchem) Lists and, as from 2009, these lists will be produced by the National Chemical Emergency Centre (Harwell).

For further information, contact:
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1.0 Dangerous Goods Emergency Action Code Lists

1.1 In recent years Her Majesty’s Fire Service Inspectorate had responsibility for the production of the Dangerous Goods Emergency Action Code lists, commonly known as Hazchem Lists. This responsibility subsequently moved to the Office of the Chief Fire and Rescue Adviser.

1.2 It has now been agreed that responsibility for producing these lists will be transferred to the National Chemical Emergency Centre (NCEC) at Harwell. This fits better with NCEC’s provision of expert telephone advice and their Chemdata support system to most of the UK Fire and Rescue Service in the event of an incident involving dangerous goods.

1.3 NCEC will be producing a new List to supplement the revised Dangerous Goods and Use of Transportable Pressure Equipment Regulations, which will implement the 2009 European rail and road regulations (RID and ADR), coming into force from July 2009.

1.4 NCEC will be providing both hard copies and free downloads of the list and will inform fire and rescue services, the Department for Business, Enterprise and Regulatory Reform and the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs when the new list becomes available.

1.5 Any queries on the Emergency Action Code lists should be directed to Bill Atkinson (NCEC) Bill.Atkinson@aeat.co.uk.

Sean Ruth

Office of the Chief Fire and Rescue Adviser