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STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

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**2012 No. 632**

**The Control of Asbestos Regulations 2012**

**PART 2**

**General requirements**

**Designated areas**

**18.**—(1) Every employer must ensure that any area in which work under the control of that employer is carried out is designated as—

- (a) an asbestos area, subject to regulation 3(2), where any employee would be liable to be exposed to asbestos in that area; and
- (b) a respirator zone where the risk assessment cannot clearly demonstrate that the control limit will not be exceeded.

(2) Asbestos areas and respirator zones must be clearly and separately demarcated and identified by notices indicating—

- (a) that the area is an asbestos area or a respirator zone or both, as the case may be; and
- (b) in the case of a respirator zone, that the exposure of an employee who enters it is liable to exceed the control limit and that respiratory protective equipment must be worn.

(3) The employer must not permit any employee, other than an employee who is required for work purposes to be in an area designated as an asbestos area or a respirator zone, to enter or remain in any such area and only employees who are so permitted shall enter or remain in any such area.

(4) Every employer must ensure that only competent employees—

- (a) enter a respirator zone; and
- (b) supervise any employees who enter a respirator zone,

and for the purposes of this paragraph, a competent employee means an employee who has received adequate information, instruction and training.

(5) Every employer must ensure that—

- (a) the employer's employees do not eat, drink or smoke in an area designated as an asbestos area or a respirator zone; and
- (b) arrangements are made for such employees to eat or drink in some other place.