



## Fire Safety Legislation - need a helping hand?

### Exclusive Offer

NMU is committed to helping policyholders to meet their risk management responsibilities, especially those involving legal obligations.

This document summarises your Fire Safety Risk Assessment responsibilities and provides a way to help you fulfil your legal obligations with an exclusive offer for NMU clients and supporting insurance brokers.

### Loss Prevention

To help you reduce other risks to which your business is exposed, we regularly publish risk control advice sheets.

Previous titles include:

- Winter loss prevention – burst pipes and portable space heaters
- Beating the hi-vis highwayman
- Avoiding cargo crime

For copies of these, or for more help with this or any other risk control or loss prevention topic, ask your insurance broker to contact your local NMU office or to call our Risk Control team on 0121 236 6550.

The Regulatory Reform Order (Fire Safety) 2005 came into force on 1 October 2006, replacing over 70 separate pieces of fire safety legislation. It places a responsibility on those who are best placed to address fire safety to ensure that risks - which necessarily change over time - are kept under review.

The Order places a duty on a "responsible person" (usually an employer or the owner or occupier of business or industrial premises) to carry out a fire risk assessment and to implement appropriate fire safety measures, to minimise the risk to life from fire, and to keep the assessment up to date.

There are five key steps in a fire safety risk assessment:

- ✓ **Identify fire hazards** - Identify sources of ignition and ways that fire might develop and spread?
- ✓ **Record, plan and train** - Keep a record of the risks identified and the actions taken to reduce or remove them; make a clear plan of how to prevent fires and how to evacuate occupants safely if a fire starts; ensure that all staff and visitors know what to do in the event of a fire.
- ✓ **Consider the people who may be at risk** - Employees, visitors, and anyone who may be particularly vulnerable, such as children, the elderly and disabled people.
- ✓ **Evaluate and act** - Consider what you have found in steps 1 and 2 and remove and reduce any risks to protect people and premises.
- ✓ **Review** - Regularly review the risk assessment to ensure that it remains up to date and reflects any changes that may have occurred.

### How We Can Help You

If you own or manage a business then it may be entirely appropriate that you should carry out your own risk assessments, audits and checklists, develop your own policies and procedures and manage your system log books.

So NMU have partnered with risk management specialist Collcom to provide you with a web-based solution to assist you in this process, reducing the risks associated with doing it yourself, and saving you money, time and worry.



To start your free three-month trial, go to [www.myriskmanager.co.uk](http://www.myriskmanager.co.uk), follow the link to the sign-up page, and enter voucher code 361492.