



Using UN Approved Petrol Storage Containers as Part of a Work Activity

(Advice to employers and self-employed)

The Petroleum (Consolidation) Regulations 2014 do not apply at workplaces which do not dispense petrol; dispensing petrol means the manual or electrical pumping of petrol from a fixed storage tank into the fuel tank of a vehicle with an internal combustion engine, i.e. retail and non-retail petrol filling stations.

The Dangerous Substances and Explosive Atmospheres Regulations 2002 (DSEAR) apply to all workplaces which use and store dangerous substances such as petrol. The regulations require employers to control the risks to safety from fire, explosions and substances corrosive to metals, this is usually done by carrying out a risk assessment in relation to DSEAR.

Where a dangerous substance is, or is liable to be, present in the workplace the employer should assess the risk of harm this poses to people in the event of a fire, explosion or similar event.

Ideally, you should carry out a risk assessment in relation to DSEAR as part of the overall workplace risk assessment required under the Management of Health and Safety at Work Regulations 1999.

You may also find it convenient to carry out the risk assessment in combination with that required under the general fire precautions legislation in the workplace – the Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order 2005.

If you use petrol as part of your work activities UN Approved Containers can be filled at a Petrol Filling Station subject to the conditions below:

- The containers are UN Approved for petrol; and
- Comply with the Carriage of Dangerous Goods and Use of Transportable Pressure Equipment Regulations 2009 for transportation by road
- The risk assessment for the use of these containers includes the filling activity and prior to filling the containers this risk assessment is shared with and agreed by the Petrol Filling Station including any additional site specific requirements (*there is no requirement for the Petrol Filling Station to agree to the filling of UN Approved Containers*).

This information is not intended to fully detail all the specific requirements for the use of UN Approved containers connected to work activity, and therefore should you require further information or advice please contact your local trading standards office as detailed below.