



### Clients Obligations under L8

GES Ltd is a member of the “Legionella Control Association” (LCA). The code requires as part of a service provider’s commitments that GES Ltd “*explain in detail the client’s obligations under the legionellosis legislation.*”

The following information is provided in order that we meet this requirement.

Under the ‘Approved Code of Practice and Guidance’ entitled “Legionnaires Disease: The control of Legionella Bacteria in water systems” L8 owners and operators of water systems are required to: -

- Appoint a responsible person – who is responsible for ensuring the implementation of the control scheme and ensuring a suitable and complete record system is in operation.
- Record the name and position of each individual responsible for carrying out tasks and an indication of the lines of communication.
- Maintain an up to date risk assessment (regularly reviewed)
- Have plans or schematic drawings of the water systems.
- File confirmation of ‘Notification’ for any cooling towers with the local authority.
- A written scheme should be prepared for controlling any risks identified. The scheme should specify measures to be taken to ensure that the risk is minimised and actions to be taken in the event of poor results or evidence that the scheme is not remaining effective.
- Maintain a record of Results and certificates of testing, monitoring, inspection and cleaning activities.
- A corrective action register of remedial works required and completed.
- Conduct reviews of the effective delivery of the control scheme.
- If appropriate, notify the local authority that you have a cooling tower(s) on site (Notification of Cooling Towers and Evaporative Condensers Regulations).

#### **Responsible Person**

A manager, Director or have similar status and have sufficient authority, competence and knowledge of the installation to ensure that all operational procedures are carried out in a timely and effective manner.

It is the duty of the responsible person to make reasonable enquiries to ensure that organisations such as water treatment companies, consultants and suppliers as well as personnel from their organisation, are competent and suitably trained and have the necessary equipment to carry out their duties.

Others may be appointed to carry out the various control measures, all people who have responsibilities with respect to minimization of the risk both on site or suppliers should be identified in writing. The overall responsibility for the record system being suitable and sufficient remains with the responsible person.

#### Assessing the risk

The risk assessment is your responsibility as the employer or person in control of the premises. You may be able to carry out the assessment yourself but, if not, you should call on help and advice from outside sources, e.g. consultancies. You need to find out if your water systems (including the equipment associated with the system such as pumps, heat exchangers, showers etc) are likely to create a risk.

Are conditions present, which will encourage bacteria to multiply (water temperature between 20-45°C ). Is it possible that water droplets will be produced and, if so, could they be dispersed over a wide area (showers and aerosols from cooling towers).

If a risk is identified which cannot be prevented, you must introduce proper controls.



Risks from legionella in water systems can be controlled by careful planning, a successful management policy, competent staff and attention to proper control strategies.

You need to prepare a written scheme that sets out how you intend to control the risk from legionella. You should describe your system - an up-to-date plan or schematic diagrams are sufficient; who is responsible for carrying out the assessment and managing its implementation; the safe and correct operation of your system; what control methods and other precautions you will be using; and, the checks that will be carried out on the control scheme and how often these checks will be carried out. The key point is to design, maintain and operate your water services under conditions which prevent or control the growth and multiplication of legionella.

#### Managing the risk

You need to appoint someone to take responsibility for managing the control scheme that you have put in place. The 'responsible person' needs to be competent - that is, they need to have sufficient knowledge and experience of your system to enable them to manage and control the scheme effectively.

If there are several people responsible for managing the system and/or control scheme, for example because of shift work patterns, you need to make sure that everyone knows what they are responsible for and how they fit into the overall management of the system.

#### What records?

If you employ five or more people you must record the significant findings of your risk assessment. This means writing down the significant findings of the assessment and details of any monitoring or checking carried out.

You also need to keep records of your written scheme and who is responsible for managing that scheme. You should also keep the results of your routine monitoring. You need to keep these records for a minimum of five years.

#### Service providers

Whoever designs, manufactures, imports or supplies water systems that may create a risk of exposure to legionella bacteria should, so far as is reasonably practicable:

- (a) ensure that the water system is so designed and constructed that it will be safe and without risks to health when used at work; and
- (b) provide adequate information for the user about the risk and measures necessary to ensure that the water systems will be safe and without risks to health when used at work. This should be updated in the light of any new information about significant risks to health and safety that becomes available.

#### Suppliers of products and services,

- (a) ensure that measures intended to control the risk of exposure to legionella bacteria are so designed and implemented that they will be effective, safe and without risks to health when used at work;
- (b) provide adequate information on the correct and safe use of products, taking into account the circumstances and conditions of their use;
- (c) ensure that any limitations on their expertise or on the products or services they offer are clearly defined and made known to the person upon whom the statutory duty falls or the person(s) appointed to take managerial responsibility;
- (d) ensure that any deficiencies or limitations which they identify in the occupier's systems or written scheme to control the risk of exposure to legionella bacteria are made known to the person upon whom the statutory duty falls or the person(s) appointed to take managerial responsibility; and
- (e) ensure that their staff have the necessary ability, experience, instruction, information, training and resources to carry out their tasks competently and safely.