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WORKPLACE SAFETY AND HEALTH ACT 2006

WORKPLACE SAFETY AND HEALTH (GENERAL PROVISIONS) (AMENDMENT NO. 3) REGULATIONS 2024

In exercise of the powers conferred by section 65 of the Workplace Safety and Health Act 2006, the Minister for Manpower makes the following Regulations:

Citation and commencement

1. These Regulations are the Workplace Safety and Health (General Provisions) (Amendment No. 3) Regulations 2024 and come into operation on 1 January 2025.

Amendment of regulation 2

2. In the Workplace Safety and Health (General Provisions) Regulations (Rg 1) (called in these Regulations the principal Regulations), in regulation 2 —

(a) before the definition of “competent person”, insert —

““combustible dust” means any finely divided combustible particulate solid that may present a flash fire hazard or an explosion hazard, when suspended either in air or in a process-specific oxidising medium, and includes any Fourth Schedule dust;”;

(b) after the definition of “electrical equipment”, insert —

““Fourth Schedule dust” means combustible dust derived from any substance specified in the first column of Part 1, 2, 3 or 4 of the Fourth Schedule;”;

(c) after the definition of “hazardous substance”, insert —

““organic combustible dust” means combustible dust derived from any organic substance, including but not limited to any substance specified in the first column of Part 1 of the Fourth Schedule;” and

(d) after the definition of “tank”, insert —

““threshold quantity”, in relation to any combustible dust derived from a substance specified in the first column of Part 1, 2, 3 or 4 of the Fourth Schedule, means the quantity of such combustible dust specified in the second column of that Part;”.

Amendment of regulation 41

3. In the principal Regulations, in regulation 41 —

- (a) in paragraphs (1) and (4), replace “All hazardous substances” with “Subject to regulation 44, all hazardous substances”;
- (b) in paragraph (2), replace “Adequate warning notices” with “Subject to regulation 44, adequate warning notices”;
- (c) in paragraph (3), replace “Persons at work” with “Subject to regulation 44, persons at work”; and
- (d) in paragraph (6), replace “A person at work” with “Subject to regulation 44, a person at work”.

Amendment of regulation 42

4. In the principal Regulations, in regulation 42 —

- (a) in paragraph (1), replace “It is the duty” with “Subject to regulation 44, it is the duty”; and
- (b) in paragraph (2)(b), after “every precautionary measure”, insert “, as far as is reasonably practicable,”.

Amendment of regulation 43

5. In the principal Regulations, in regulation 43(1) and (2), replace “Where any hazardous substance” with “Subject to regulation 44, where any hazardous substance”.

Amendment of regulation 44

6. In the principal Regulations, in regulation 44, after paragraph (1), insert —

“(1A) Regulation 42 does not apply to any container of a hazardous substance if that container —

- (a) only contains organic combustible dust; and
- (b) contains less than 25 kilograms of organic combustible dust.”.

New regulation 44AA

7. In the principal Regulations, after regulation 44, insert —

“Notifications relating to Fourth Schedule dust

44AA.—(1) It is the duty of the occupier of a factory to notify the Commissioner in writing —

- (a) if the handling, sorting, packing, storing, processing, manufacturing or use of Fourth Schedule dust derived from a particular substance has not started at a factory and the occupier has reason to believe that the quantity of that Fourth Schedule dust to be handled, sorted, packed, stored, processed, manufactured or used at the factory is at any time likely to reach the threshold quantity for that Fourth Schedule dust — at least one month before starting to handle, sort, pack, store, process, manufacture or use that Fourth Schedule dust at the factory; and
- (b) if the handling, sorting, packing, storing, processing, manufacturing or use of Fourth Schedule dust derived from a particular substance has started at the factory and the occupier has reason to believe that the

quantity of that Fourth Schedule dust to be handled, sorted, packed, stored, processed, manufactured or used at the factory is at any time likely to reach the threshold quantity for that Fourth Schedule dust — as soon as the occupier has reason to so believe.

(2) Where the Commissioner has been notified under paragraph (1), the occupier of the factory must notify the Commissioner in writing not later than one month after the handling, sorting, packing, storing, processing, manufacturing and use of all Fourth Schedule dust at the factory has ceased.

(3) The notifications mentioned in paragraphs (1) and (2) must be made in the form and manner that the Commissioner requires.

(4) The occupier of a factory must notify the owner of the factory —

(a) before starting to handle, sort, pack, store, process, manufacture or use any Fourth Schedule dust derived from a particular substance at the factory if the quantity of that Fourth Schedule dust to be handled, sorted, packed, stored, processed, manufactured or used at the factory is at any time likely to reach the threshold quantity for that Fourth Schedule dust; and

(b) after the handling, sorting, packing, storing, processing, manufacturing and use of all Fourth Schedule dust at the factory has ceased.

(5) An occupier of a factory who, without reasonable excuse, contravenes paragraph (1) shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding \$5,000.

(6) An occupier of a factory who, without reasonable excuse, contravenes paragraph (2) shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding \$2,000.”.

New Fourth Schedule

8. In the principal Regulations, after the Third Schedule, insert —

“FOURTH SCHEDULE

Regulation 2

THRESHOLD QUANTITY OF COMBUSTIBLE DUST

PART 1

ORGANIC SUBSTANCES

<i>First column</i> <i>Substance</i>	<i>Second column</i> <i>Threshold quantity of combustible dust derived from substance</i>
1. Alfalfa	100 kilograms
2. Apple	
3. Beetroot	
4. Carbon black	
5. Carrageenan	
6. Carrot	
7. Cereals (for example, barley, corn, oat, rice, rye and wheat) and their derivatives	
8. Charcoal	
9. Coal	
10. Cocoa	
11. Coconut and its derivatives	
12. Coffee	
13. Coke	
14. Cotton and its derivatives	
15. Egg white	
16. Garlic	
17. Grains (malted)	
18. Grains (spent)	
19. Grass	

20. Hops	100 kilograms
21. Lemon peel or pulp	
22. Linseed	
23. Locust bean gum	
24. Milk and its derivatives	
25. Olive pellet	
26. Onion	
27. Parsley	
28. Peach	
29. Peanut	
30. Peat	
31. Potato and its derivatives	
32. Soot	
33. Soybean and its derivatives	
34. Spice	
35. Sugar	
36. Sunflower seeds	
37. Tapioca	
38. Tea	
39. Tobacco	
40. Walnut	
41. Xanthan gum	
42. Yucca seeds	
43. Cellulose	25 kilograms
44. Cork	
45. Wood	

PART 2

PLASTIC SUBSTANCES

<i>First column</i> <i>Substance</i>	<i>Second column</i> <i>Threshold quantity of combustible dust derived from substance</i>
1. Epoxy resin	100 kilograms
2. Ethylene-vinyl acetate copolymer	
3. Melamine	
4. Polyacrylamide	
5. Polyacrylonitrile	
6. Polyethylene	
7. Polypropylene	
8. Polyvinyl acetate	
9. Polyvinyl alcohol	
10. Polyvinyl butyral	
11. Polyvinyl chloride	
12. Terpene-phenol resin	
13. Urea-formaldehyde-cellulose	
14. Phenolic resin	25 kilograms
15. Polymethyl acrylate	

PART 3
CHEMICAL SUBSTANCES

<i>First column</i> <i>Substance</i>	<i>Second column</i> <i>Threshold quantity of combustible dust derived from substance</i>
1. Adipic acid	100 kilograms
2. Ascorbic acid	
3. Calcium acetate	
4. Calcium stearate	
5. Carboxy methyl cellulose	
6. Dextrin	
7. Lactose	
8. Lead stearate	
9. Methyl-cellulose	
10. Paraformaldehyde	
11. Sodium ascorbate	
12. Sodium stearate	
13. Sulphur	
14. Anthraquinone	Any quantity

PART 4
METAL SUBSTANCES

<i>First column</i> <i>Substance</i>	<i>Second column</i> <i>Threshold quantity of combustible dust derived from substance</i>
1. Bronze	100 kilograms
2. Copper	
3. Iron	
4. Iron carbonyl	
5. Manganese	
6. Silicon	
7. Tantalum	
8. Titanium	
9. Zinc	
10. Aluminium	Any quantity
11. Magnesium	
12. Niobium	

Saving and transitional provisions

9.—(1) This regulation applies where —

- (a) the handling, sorting, packing, storing, processing, manufacturing or use of any Fourth Schedule dust derived from a particular substance had already started at a factory before 1 January 2025; and
- (b) on 1 January 2025, the occupier of the factory knows or has reason to believe that the quantity of that Fourth Schedule dust handled, sorted, packed, stored, processed, manufactured or used at the factory has reached or is likely to reach the threshold quantity for that Fourth Schedule dust on or after that date.

(2) Despite regulation 7, an occupier mentioned in paragraph (1)(b) must notify the Commissioner in writing under

regulation 44AA(1)(b) of the amended Regulations of the matters in paragraph (1)(b) on or before 1 February 2025.

(3) In this regulation, “amended Regulations” means the principal Regulations as amended by these Regulations.

*[G.N. Nos. S 463/2009; S 609/2009; S 517/2011;
S 277/2014; S 989/2022; S 119/2024; S 434/2024;
S 471/2024]*

Made on 20 November 2024.

JEFFREY SIOW CHEN SIANG
*Second Permanent Secretary,
Ministry of Manpower,
Singapore.*

[HQ/Legis/WSHA/SL/Jan2025_2; AG/LEGIS/SL/354A/2020/5]

(To be presented to Parliament under section 65(8) of the Workplace Safety and Health Act 2006).