STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

1961 No. 1711

FACTORIES

The Ionising Radiations (Sealed Sources) (Leakage Test) Order, 1961

Made - - - - 7th *September*, 1961
Coming into Operation 1st *February*, 1962

The Minister of Labour in pursuance of Regulation 15 of the Ionising Radiations (Sealed Sources) Regulations, 1961(a), hereby makes the following Order:—

1. This Order may be cited as the Ionising Radiations (Sealed Sources) (Leakage Test) Order, 1961, and shall come into operation on the first day of February, 1962.

2. The Interpretation Act, 1889(b), shall apply to the interpretation of this Order as it applies to the interpretation of an Act of Parliament.

3. Unless the context otherwise requires, expressions used in this Order shall have the same respective meanings as in the Ionising Radiations (Sealed Sources) Regulations, 1961.

4.—(1) The test for leakage of radioactive substance required under paragraph (3) of the said Regulation 15 to be made of (*a*) every immediate container or bonding which forms part of a sealed source not being a sealed source permanently installed in a leak-proof container which does not form part of the sealed source and (*b*) every leak-proof container not forming part of the sealed source in which a sealed source is permanently installed, shall, as respects a sealed source in which the radioactive substance is non-gaseous, be—

(i) the test set out in Part I of the Schedule to this Order; or

(ii) such other test as may, by certificate of the Chief Inspector, be approved for the time being for the purposes of this Order as respects any such sealed source or any class or description of such sealed sources.

(2) The register required under paragraph (5) of the said Regulation 15 to be kept of every test carried out in pursuance of the said paragraph (3) of Regulation 15 shall contain the particulars of every such test specified in Part II of the Schedule to this Order.

(3) For the purposes of paragraph (4) of the said Regulation 15 (which provides for the case where there are reasonable grounds to believe that any radioactive substance is leaking, or is likely to leak, beyond the prescribed extent from the immediate container or the bonding which forms part of a sealed source) the said prescribed extent shall be—

(*a*) in any case where the radioactive substance is a radioactive gas, total activity throughout any period of 24 hours of 0·5 microcurie;

(*b*) in any other case, total activity, determined by the method set out in Part I of the Schedule to this Order, of 0·5 microcurie.

Dated this 7th day of September, 1961.

John Hare,
Minister of Labour.

(a) S.I. 1961/1470 (Pt. II, p. 2975). (b) 52 & 53 Vict. c. 63.

SCHEDULE

Article 4 (1)

PART I

Test for leakage of radioactive substance in pursuance of Regulation 15 (3) of a sealed source in which the radioactive substance is non-gaseous.

Wipe thoroughly all external surfaces of the sealed source or of the leak-proof container in which it is permanently installed with a piece of filter paper or other suitable material of high wet strength and absorptive capacity, moistened with a liquid which will not attack the material of which the bonding or container is made and which is known to be effective in removing the radioactive substance involved. Measure the radioactivity on the filter paper or other material.

The extent of leakage from the sealed source or leak-proof container (as the case may be) shall be calculated by multiplying by ten the total activity so measured.

Article 4 (2)

PART II

Particulars to be contained in the register required to be kept of every test carried out in pursuance of Regulation 15 (3):—

(1) the name and address of the occupier;

(2) the address of the factory where the sealed source is normally kept;

(3) the distinguishing number or other identifying mark of the sealed source;

(4) the nature of the radioactive substance in the sealed source;

(5) whether or not the sealed source is permanently installed in a leak-proof container not forming part of the sealed source;

(6) the date of the test;

(7) the nature of the test;

(8) the amount of radioactivity measured;

(9) the calculated extent of leakage;

(10) the full names, address and description of the person who made the test;

(11) the signature of the person who made the test.

EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This Note is not part of the Order, but is intended to indicate its general purport.)

This Order prescribes the test for leakage of radioactive substance to be made of sealed sources and the particulars to be contained in registers of every such test, required under Regulation 15 of the Ionising Radiations (Sealed Sources) Regulations, 1961.

The Order also prescribes for the purposes of paragraph (4) of the said Regulation 15 the extent of leakage of radioactive substance from a sealed source beyond which the sealed source may not be brought into use until repairs have been effected.