STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

1983 No. 1026

HEALTH AND SAFETY
MINES AND QUARRIES

The Quarries (Metrication) Regulations 1983

Made - - - -	18*th July* 1983
Laid before Parliament	27*th July* 1983
Coming into Operation	17*th August* 1983

The Secretary of State, in exercise of the powers conferred on him by sections 49(1), (2) and (4) and 82(3)(*a*) of the Health and Safety at Work etc. Act 1974 (**a**) ("the 1974 Act") and of all other powers enabling him in that behalf and for the purpose of giving effect without modification to proposals submitted to him by the Health and Safety Commission under section 11(2)(*d*) of the 1974 Act after the carrying out by the said Commission of consultations in accordance with section 50(3) of that Act, hereby makes the following Regulations:—

Citation, commencement and interpretation

1.—(1) These Regulations may be cited as the Quarries (Metrication) Regulations 1983 and shall come into operation on 17th August 1983.

(2) In these Regulations "the principal Regulations" means the Regulations amended by these Regulations, that is to say—

The Quarries (General) Regulations 1956 (**b**);

The Quarries (Electricity) Regulations 1956 (**c**);

The Quarries (Ropeways and Vehicles) Regulations 1958 (**d**); and

The Quarries (Explosives) Regulations 1959 (**e**).

Amendments to Regulations to substitute metric measurements for imperial measurements

2. The provisions of the Regulations specified in the Schedule to these Regulations in column 1 shall be amended by substituting for the measurements set out opposite thereto in column 3 the measurements set out in the corresponding entry in column 4.

(**a**) 1974 c.37; section 49 was amended by the Employment Protection Act 1975 (c.71), Schedule 15, paragraph 15.
(**b**) S.I. 1956/1780, to which there are amendments not relevant to these Regulations.
(**c**) S.I. 1956/1781, to which there are amendments not relevant to these Regulations.
(**d**) S.I. 1958/2110, to which there are amendments not relevant to these Regulations.
(**e**) S.I. 1959/2259, to which there are amendments not relevant to these Regulations.

Application to existing premises and plant or premises and plant under construction

3. Where any premises or plant in existence or under construction immediately before the coming into operation of these Regulations complied with the requirements of the principal Regulations as then in force, then those premises or that plant shall be deemed to comply with the principal Regulations as amended by these Regulations.

Signed by order of the Secretary of State.

John Selwyn Gummer,
Joint Parliamentary Under Secretary of State,
Department of Employment.

18th July 1983.

SCHEDULE

Regulation 2

AMENDMENTS TO REGULATIONS

Column 1 Regulations to be amended	Column 2 Subject-matter of measurement(s)	Column 3 Present measurement	Column 4 Substituted measurement
The Quarries (General) Regulations 1956			
1. Regulation 4(2)	*(a)* Maximum interval allowed between platforms on a ladder	*(a)* Thirty feet	*(a)* 10 metres
	(b) Length of ladder at or below which the requirement at *(a)* above does not apply	*(b)* Thirty feet	*(b)* 10 metres
	(c) Minimum distance a ladder must project above a platform	*(c)* Three feet	*(c)* 920 millimetres
2. Regulation 6	*(a)* Minimum height of skirting board on the open side of any gantry or platform forming a bridge	*(a)* Nine inches	*(a)* 230 millimetres
	(b) Minimum height of skirting board on the open side of any gantry or platform other than one forming a bridge	*(b)* Six inches	*(a)* 150 millimetres
3. Regulation 23	Minimum gauge of railway line to which certain Regulations apply	Four feet eight and one half inches	1.432 metres
4. Regulation 25*(b)*	Maximum length of pointed wooden sprags required to be provided	Three feet	920 millimetres
5. Regulation 32	Minimum width of space required to be left between two vehicles stationary on one track of rails	Fifteen feet	5 metres
6. Regulation 35	Distance from railway line within which, if material is stacked, certain precautions must be taken	Three feet	920 millimetres

SCHEDULE

AMENDMENTS TO REGULATIONS

Column 1 Regulations to be amended	Column 2 Subject-matter of measurement(s)	Column 3 Present measurement	Column 4 Substituted measurement
7. Regulation 35*(b)*	*(a)* Maximum length of material which may be stacked alongside a railway line without the provision of adequate spaces or recesses	*(a)* Sixty feet	*(a)* 20 metres
	(b) Maximum permitted distances between spaces or recesses in stacks of material	*(b)* Sixty feet	*(b)* 20 metres
The Quarries (Electricity) Regulations 1956			
8. Regulation 3(2)	Minimum permitted cross-sectional area of earthing conductors	0.022 square inches	14 square millimetres
9. Regulation 5	Minimum permitted cross-sectional area of a conductor connecting two or more earthplates with resistances exceeding 2 ohms between them	0.022 square inches	14 square millimetres
10. Regulation 7(3)	Minimum permitted cross-sectional area of an earthing conductor	0.022 square inches	14 square millimetres
11. Regulation 9(3)*(a)*	Cross-sectional area of a copper conductor which has a conductivity equivalent to the minimum required conductivity for a metallic covering containing all the conductors in the relevant circuit	0.022 square inches	14 square millimetres

SCHEDULE

AMENDMENTS TO REGULATIONS

Column 1 Regulations to be amended	Column 2 Subject-matter of measurement(s)	Column 3 Present measurement	Column 4 Substituted measurement
12. Regulation 9(3)*(b)*	Cross-sectional area of a copper conductor which has a conductivity equivalent to the minimum required conductivity of a screen of wires containing more or less completely all the conductors forming part of the relevant circuit	0.022 square inches	14 square millimetres
13. Regulation 10(2)*(a)*	Rating of at least one motor in apparatus above which electricity at a voltage exceeding two hundred and fifty direct current or one hundred and ten alternating current may be supplied	Four horse power	3 kilowatts
14. Regulation 16	Minimum height of fencing to be provided around transformers or switchgear installed otherwise than in a building	Eight feet	2.4 metres
The Quarries (Ropeways and Vehicles) Regulations 1958			
15. Regulation 4(1)*(a)*	Minimum height of enclosure on a conveyance used for carrying persons by means of a ropeway	Four feet	1.2 metres
16. Regulation 9(1)	Minimum length of rope to be cut when that rope re-capped if used in certain haulage apparatus	Six feet	2 metres
17. Regulation 15(2)	Maximum intervals of length at which certain ropes must be cleaned and thoroughly examined for wear	One hundred and fifty feet	45 metres

Column 1 Regulations to be amended	Column 2 Subject-matter of measurement(s)	Column 3 Present measurement	Column 4 Substituted measurement
The Quarries (Explosives) Regulations 1959			
18. Regulation 2(1)	Length of safety fuse to be used in calculation of rate of burning	Three feet	900 millimetres
19. Regulation 19	*(a)* Nearest point to any explosive, detonator or explosives store at which a person may smoke or carry or ignite a naked light	*(a)* Twenty feet	*(a)* 6 metres
	(b) Nearest point to a naked light to which a person may take any explosive or detonator	*(b)* Twenty feet	*(b)* 6 metres
20. Regulation 39(1)	Minimum permitted difference between the diameter of a shothole and the diameter of a cartridge	One eighth of an inch	3 millimetres
21. Regulation 39(2)	Depth of a shothole beyond which a wooden tool with non-ferrous joints may be used in certain circumstances	Nine feet	3 metres
22. Regulation 41	Depth beyond which in certain circumstances a shothole shall only be charged with explosive in a cartridge or container	Nine feet	3 metres
23. Regulation 53(1)*(b)*	Minimum thickness of stemming between charge and charging or stemming apparatus made wholly or partly of iron or steel	One foot	300 millimetres

EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This Note is not part of the Regulations.)

These Regulations amend the Quarries (General) Regulations 1956, the Quarries (Electricity) Regulations 1956, the Quarries (Ropeways and Vehicles) Regulations 1958 and the Quarries (Explosives) Regulations 1959 by substituting measurements expressed in metric units for measurements not so expressed. The substituted measurements preserve the effect of the original provisions except to the extent necessary to obtain amounts expressed in convenient and suitable terms.

Regulation 3 provides that the amendments do not affect premises or plant in existence or under construction immediately before the coming into operation of these Regulations if those premises or that plant complied with the then existing Regulations.

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