

# New Fire Safety Regulations

October 2006 saw the introduction of the Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order 2006 which was the first major review of fire safety in the UK for several years.

It's aim is to simplify, rationalise and consolidate existing fire safety legislation and places a burden on businesses to carry out their own fire risk assessments.

- Fire certificates are abolished and cease to have legal status
- Responsibility for complying with the Fire Safety Order rests with the "responsible person"
- If there is more than one "responsible person" - for example in multiple occupancy premises - then all such persons must take reasonable steps to work together
- The fire risk assessment must identify risks that can be removed or reduced and show the nature and extent of fire precautions needed to protect people against the fire risks that remain
- If a business employs 5 or more people, the risk assessment must be documented

## What do you need to do?

- Appoint a designated "responsible person" who must accept full corporate responsibility for the fire regulations
- Appoint a "competent person" who has the appropriate skills and ability for carrying out the risk assessments
- Decide whether any external assistance is required to assist the "competent person"
- Ensure that your documentation is complete and available for inspection by the Fire and Rescue Service, which is the agency responsible for enforcing this legislation

## How can TL Risk Solutions help?

- Specialist consultants are permitted, and may be necessary, to assist your "competent person". We can help you identify suitable consultants.
- The implementation of this legislation within your business will be part of your Health and Safety programme which in turn should be linked to the management of risk within your business. We can assist you in reviewing your risk management process.

Please contact TL Risk Solutions if you wish to discuss the contents of this bulletin further.

November 2006