Are you aware of the changes in the CDM Regulations ?

**AMENDMENT TO THE CDM REGULATIONS 2015**

Consultation of the existing CDM Regulations 2007 has taken place and the amendment to the CDM Regulations 2015 which come into force on the 6th April 2015. One area of particular concern is the NEW **PRINCIPAL DESIGNER** role which will replace the existing CDM Coordinator Position. The **PRINCIPAL DESIGNER** is to be a **CLIENT** appointment and this can be from within the existing design team or a competent individual.

The **PRINCIPAL DESIGNER** will be responsible for

* Eliminating or controlling risk throughout the design phase
* Ensuring that the Principal Contractor (PC) is kept updated with information regarding the project
* Ensuring that a Construction Phase Health and Safety Plan (CPP) is prepared and complies with the requirements of the project
* Assisting the Client with the preparation of information, instructions and development of the CPP
* Make certain that designers appointed comply with their duties
* Prepare the Health and Safety File on completion of the project

Training existing design staff is one option of fulfilling the requirements of the **PRINCIPAL DESIGNER** although it is expected that the **PRINCIPAL DESIGNER** role will be subcontracted out to a specialist (similar to that of the CDMC). Where a **PRINCIPAL DESIGNER** is appointed within an existing design team **SSS** can offer the role assistance of a PDC (Principal Design Consultant) to ensure **PRINCIPAL DESIGNER‘s** comply with their duties under the new legislation.

**REMOVAL OF THE DOMESTIC CLIENT EXEMPTION**

Domestic Clients have **NO** responsibilities currently under CDM 2007. The new regulations are to remove the exemption. Therefore contractors who fell into that category when working on Domestic projects will now be subject to the new complex regulations which they will have to familiarize themselves with in a short space of time. SSS can assist contractors to ensure they comply with their duties under the new legislation.

**THRESHOLD FOR NOTIFICATION**

The requirement to notify the HSE about projects expected to last more than 30 days or involve more than 500 person days of labour is to be **REPLACED** by a requirement to notify projects involving “more than 30 working days and more than 20 workers simultaneously”. However this will not trigger for the appointment of a **PRINCIPAL CONTRACTOR** or **PRINCIPAL DESIGNER** which has been the case to date, a project which more than ONE contractor will initiate the allocation of a **PRINCIPAL CONTRACTOR** and **PRINCIPAL DESIGNER**.

**MAKING THE TRANSISTION**

The HSE has allowed a “crossover” period of 6 months for projects under construction when the revised Regulations come into effect. For the majority of projects it will subsequently be possible to continue with a CDMC until their co-ordination function is no longer required, subject to a **6 MONTH LIMIT**. This will significantly reduce transitional costs for these projects.

Managing the transition from CDM 2007 to CDM 2015 will obviously cause slight confusion and present a number of challenges for construction companies and designers, who will need to ensure that the new regulations are enforced to guarantee compliance.

**SSS** can assist where required to make the transition process less daunting by the provision of training courses which are aimed directly at the new regulations and the role of the **PRINCIPAL DESIGNERs** and **PRINCIPAL CONTRACTORs.**

If you are unsure as to how the regulations will affect you and your company, then please contact us to discuss 01623 600830

