Section 2(2) (a-e) Without prejudice to the above, the matters to which the duty extends include:

(a) Provision and maintenance of safe plant and safe systems of work.

(b) Arrangements for ensuring safe means of handling, use, storage and transport of articles and substances.

(c) Provision of information, instruction, training and supervision

(d) Provision of a safe place of work and provision and maintenance of safe access and egress to that workplace.

(e) Provision and maintenance of a safe working environment and adequate welfare facilities.

(Note: The above duties are all qualified by the term "so far as is reasonably practicable".)

Employees

Section 7 (a-b) It shall be the duty of every employee while at work:

(a) To take reasonable care for the health and safety of himself and others who may be affected by his acts or omissions at work.

(b) To co-operate with his employer or any other person, so far as is necessary, to enable his employer or other person to perform or comply with any requirement or duty imposed under a relevant statutory provision.

(Note: These duties have been extended by duties contained in the Management of Health and Safety at Work Regulations 1999.)

Other Key Regulations

As mentioned above the Health and Safety at Work Act 1974 places a general duty on employers to ensure, so far as is reasonably practicable, the health, safety and welfare at work of all their employees. This duty has been reinforced by more recent legislation which places a much more explicit duty on employers to assess and remove risks in their workplace.

The European Framework Directive and the five sibling (daughter) directives which were adopted at the same time were implemented in the UK at the beginning of 1993 as the set of regulations commonly known as the "six-pack".

The key lies in the Management of Health and Safety at Work Regulations (sometimes referred to as the mother and the five siblings as the daughters). As their title suggests, health and safety must be managed and health and safety risks must be managed out of the workplace.

The Management of Health and Safety at Work Regulations