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January 2017

In this month's update...

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Legislation Updates



Regulation (EU) No 517/2014 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 16 April 2014 on fluorinated greenhouse gases

From 1 January 2017, equipment that contains less than 3 kg of f-gas (or if hermetically sealed contains less than 6kg of f-gas) will have to be leak tested if the equipment charge in tonnes CO₂ equivalent is greater than 5 tonnes. There was previously a derogation from this requirement.

Came into force: 01 January 2017

For more details view the f-gas guidance on the NetRegs website:

[NetRegs - Stationary refrigeration, air conditioning and heat pumps: F-gas controls](#)

Consultations



SEPA and Scottish Government Consultation on Proposals for an Integrated Authorisation Framework

The single authorisation framework will bring together all the permissioning arrangements for SEPA's four main regulatory (water, waste, radioactive substances and Pollution Prevention and Control) into an integrated permissioning structure and under a single standardised procedure (subject to the requirements of European and national legislation).

This consultation sets out proposals for how this framework will be implemented.

The closing date for responses is 12 April 2017.

For more details and to view the consultation documents visit the [Scottish Government Consultation Hub](#)

Consultation on proposed changes to the packaging recycling business targets for paper, steel, aluminum, wood and overall recovery and recycling for 2018-2020

The UK government has published a consultation paper to amend the business targets for paper, aluminum, steel and wood and for overall recovery and recycling in the Producer Responsibility Obligations (Packaging Waste) (Amendment) Regulations 2007 (as amended)

Who will the proposals be of greatest interest to?

- Packaging 'producers', as defined in the Packaging Regulations
- Packaging compliance schemes
- Reprocessors and exporters of waste packaging
- Waste management companies and local authorities involved in the collection of packaging
- Any research institutions, groups or individuals with a particular interest in packaging waste.

The closing date for responses is 12pm on 06 January 2017.

[For more details and to view the consultation documents – see the guidance on NetRegs](#)

Consultation: Proposals to ban the use of microbeads in cosmetics and personal care products

The purpose of the consultation is to seek views on the Government's proposals for a UK-wide ban on the sale and manufacture of cosmetics and personal care products containing microbeads which may harm the marine environment.

The ban would apply to solid microplastic ingredients <5mm in size in every dimension that are used as an ingredient in rinse-off cosmetics and personal care products including but not limited to exfoliating scrubs, shower gels and toothpastes. The consultation also seeks to gather evidence on the extent of the environmental impacts of microbeads found in other products, to inform future UK actions to protect the marine environment.

The closing date for responses is 28 February 2017.

For more details and to view the consultation documents [see the guidance on NetRegs](#)

Scottish Government Consultation: On implementation of the Medium Combustion Plant Directive in Scotland

The consultation is seeking views on the implementation of the Medium Combustion Plant Directive and also how to control nitrogen dioxide emissions from high emitting diesel generators. This is not part of the Directive requirements, but there are plans to introduce these controls in England and Wales as part of the transposing legislation.

The issue is not so significant in Scotland but Scottish Government are using this opportunity to gather views, with the aim of introducing controls at some future date.

The closing date for responses is 10 March 2017.

For more details and to view the consultation documents visit the [Scottish Government Consultation Hub](#)

Updates

New SEPA guidance on reuse activities and waste regulation

SEPA has published new guidance on [Reuse Activities and Waste Regulation](#).

The guidance aims to provide clarity on when waste legislation applies to reuse activities and is relevant for anyone who undertakes activities which involves the reuse of products – for instance local authorities, charity shops, community reuse organisations, remanufacturing companies, repair shops / services, logistics companies that transport used goods, retailers that take back used goods, online reuse organisations, auction houses, pawnbroker etc.



You can view the guidance here: [Reuse Activities and Waste Regulation](#)

Scottish Government report: Scotland The Hydro Nation (3rd Annual Report)

Progress report recording the evolution of the Scottish Government's Hydro Nation policy agenda and reporting on progress since the publication of the second annual report in 2015. The Report focusses on key thematic areas of activity being delivered under the Hydro Nation strategy including 'National', 'International', 'Innovation' and 'Knowledge'.



You can view the report here: [Scotland The Hydro Nation \(3rd Annual Report\)](#)

The Scotland Food & Drink Excellence Awards 2017 Are Officially Open!

Entries are encouraged from small, medium and large food and drink producers and the awards recognise those businesses and individuals in Scotland who are leading the way with innovation, enterprise and quality.

The awards are run by Scotland Food & Drink in partnership with RHASS and the title sponsor is Asda.

Applications for members of SF&D and RHASS are £25+VAT and £45+VAT for non-members per entry, there is no limit to the number of categories or products businesses can enter. **Deadline for applications is Friday 24th February 2017** and a full list of the categories for entry are listed [here](#).

The Environmental Sustainability award will be presented to the company that demonstrates the most significant all round achievements in energy, water and material efficiency, which led to a reduction in the environmental impacts of their production and distribution.

SCOS National Health, Safety and Environment Performance Improvement Awards 2016 - *Closes 24 February 2017*

The [Scottish Chamber of Safety \(SCOS\)](#) is the co-ordinating body for 10 occupational health and Safety Groups in Scotland.

The SCOS Awards recognise and reward businesses in Scotland who have demonstrated improvements in health, safety and environmental performance. The Award Scheme has been in place for around 40 years and has been exclusively for member companies of local safety groups. A management Committee decision has been made to open up the awards to non-members, with the ultimate aim to share health, safety and environmental best practice with everyone that could benefit.

The scheme is FREE to enter.

For further details or to request your application pack contact e. J.Redmond07@btinternet.com t. 01563 852220 m. 07588662212

Events / Workshops



Free workshops will help staff save money and be greener

You could help your staff save up to £460 a year - as well as do their bit for the environment - with these free, interactive workshops.

The Energy Saving Trust and Home Energy Scotland - in partnership with Zero Waste Scotland - are delivering workplace-based workshops to help employees understand how best to reduce food waste, as well as how to re-use and up-cycle at home.

The Love Food Hate Waste and Re-use workshops motivate and engage your workforce – and help them save money too. They'll also empower staff to reduce waste at work as they become more attuned to sustainable behaviour.

The Scottish Government-funded courses are free, and tailored to fit in with your organisation's needs – and they're run at a venue, time and length that suit you and your staff.

To find out more or to book a workshop, get in touch with the Energy Saving Trust's Employee Engagement team - email EmployeeEngagement@est.org.uk

Edinburgh Sustainable Innovation Conference (ESIC)

When: 20 February 2017

Where: Dynamic Earth, Edinburgh, EH8 8AS

The Edinburgh Sustainable Innovation Conference is brought to you by The Buchanan Institute, Scotland's first and only student-led think tank. The conference provides an opportunity to engage and forge lasting connections with, leaders in sustainability from the UK and beyond.

The tickets (early bird and normal price respectively) cost **£9/ £10 for students** and **£22/£30 for general admission**. Get them quick so as not to miss out!

For full information on speakers and workshops follow the links to the event pages:

<https://www.facebook.com/events/1147922805268129/>

<http://buchanan-esic.eventbrite.co.uk/>

Or contact The Buchanan Institute via email: bigthink@buchananinst.org

Missed last month's update?

Visit the [updates archive on NetRegs](#) to view any of the previous updates.

To view last months email update click the link below:

[NetRegs update - December 2016](#)



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