

## The EMF Directive

The Physical Agents Directive for Electromagnetic Fields 2004/40/EC - The EMF Directive specifies the minimum health and safety requirements regarding the exposure of workers to the risks arising from physical agents (electromagnetic fields).

- Seeks to protect workers from exposure to EMF.
- Sets out occupational limits for EMF exposure in the range 0Hz to 300GHz.
- Applies to all employers in the EU.
- Each employer must perform a risk assessment which:
  - Is performed by a competent person or services.
  - Is repeated at suitable intervals
  - Is filed using a suitable medium.
  - Demonstrates compliance with the EMF Directive.
  - Takes into account multiple EMF sources.
  - Covers indirect effects of EMF exposure.
  - Defines action taken in the event of an over-exposure.
- The employer assumes responsibility for workers health and safety.
- The employer shall provide workers with appropriate training, covering:
  - Measures taken to implement the EMF Directive and its concepts.
  - Results of the risk assessments.
  - Instructions on how to detect adverse health effects.
  - Instructions on health surveillance methods
  - Safe working practices.
- Where over exposure is identified the employee is entitled to a medical examination, the employer must:
  - Supply risk assessment details to the medical examiner.
  - Take steps to remove the risk.
  - Grant the employee access to their medical files.