



LEGIONELLA RISK ASSESSMENT AND DISINFECTION SCHEME

A Legionella Risk Assessment and Disinfection Scheme has been set up by the Plumbing and Heating Contractors' Alliance (PHCA)* following the introduction by the HSE of an Approved Code of Practice (ACoP L8) and guidance entitled "*Legionnaires' disease: The control of Legionella bacteria in water systems*".

The HSE ACoP applies to all residential accommodation (e.g. social housing, student accommodation, hotels and guest houses etc) and states that persons in control of premises need to take the right precautions to reduce the risk of exposure to Legionella. The ACoP contains practical guidance on how those who own and maintain residential accommodation should manage and control the risks in hot and cold water systems.

It is the responsibility of the persons in control of the premises to carry out a risk assessment, however they need to be sure that they are competent to carry out such an assessment themselves or, if not, they should call on help and advice from either within their own organisation or from outside sources. This is when the PHCA Legionella Risk Assessment and Disinfection Scheme could be used.

Business Criteria

Businesses which wish to join the scheme will be required amongst other things to:

- Employ at least one Operative who has met the scheme criteria;
- Hold Professional Indemnity insurance of at least £250,000 for the scope of work contained in the ACoP (if they propose to carry out Risk Assessments);
- Hold Public Liability insurance to a value of at least £2m and, where appropriate, Employers' Liability insurance;
- Be a member of the WaterSafe Scheme; and
- Undertake to abide by the Scheme Code of Conduct.

Operative Criteria

Individual membership of the Scheme is open to persons who hold:

- A Plumber, Advanced or Technician Plumber or Heating Engineer or Heating Technician JIB Registration card or such other Registration card as specified; and
- A qualification in Water Byelaws/Regulations; and
- A BPEC *Disinfection and Risk Assessment of Domestic Hot Water Storage Systems* qualification or equivalent and/ or a BPEC *Risk Assessment of Water Systems* qualification or equivalent.



Application process and costs

Application forms for the Legionella Risk Assessment and Disinfection Scheme (Approved Business and Approved Operative) can be downloaded from the SNIPPEF website.

Approved Businesses will pay an annual fee of £100 plus VAT if they are a SNIPPEF member (£350 plus VAT if a non-member) and Approved Operatives will pay an annual fee of £50 plus VAT.

For more information or assistance call our Membership Services team on **0131 556 0600**.

**The Plumbing and Heating Contractors' Alliance (PHCA) consists of the Association of Plumbing and Heating Contractors' (APHC) and the Scottish and Northern Ireland Plumbing Employers' Federation (SNIPPEF).*