



Preparing for an Enforcement Visit

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Key Points:

- The Cast Metals Federation is the UK foundry industry's trade association.
- Foundries, one of the oldest industries— along with woodworking and building – are an essential part of modern life and with around 400 foundries in the UK today, and about 21,000 workers.
- The HSE website shows that for the financial year 2016-17, 82 notices were served to 42 foundries with 168 individual breaches of regulations across all notices.
- The Woodworking Sector is another high risk occupation with 668 notices recorded for the financial year to end 2016. Over a five year period 3325 notices were served, compared with 874 served over a 16 year period to the foundry industry.
- So, in the likelihood of a visit from the HSE how should you prepare?

Sarah first outlined the HSE powers of inspectors – HSWA S20 - and the three types of notice – HSWA S.21, 22 & 23.

- Some visits may be planned and will often occur following a RIDDOR report. The majority, however, will be unplanned. The HSE must provide a valid and specific reason for every visit and you have the right to ask them why they are there.
- For a planned visit, ensure all documentation, relevant personnel and a suitable place for discussion are available. Make sure that everyone who will be involved is properly briefed.
- Ideally, have a robust plan in place with identified (senior) personnel to deal with unexpected visits.
- Bear in mind that companies will come under ever greater scrutiny if they regularly breach legislation.