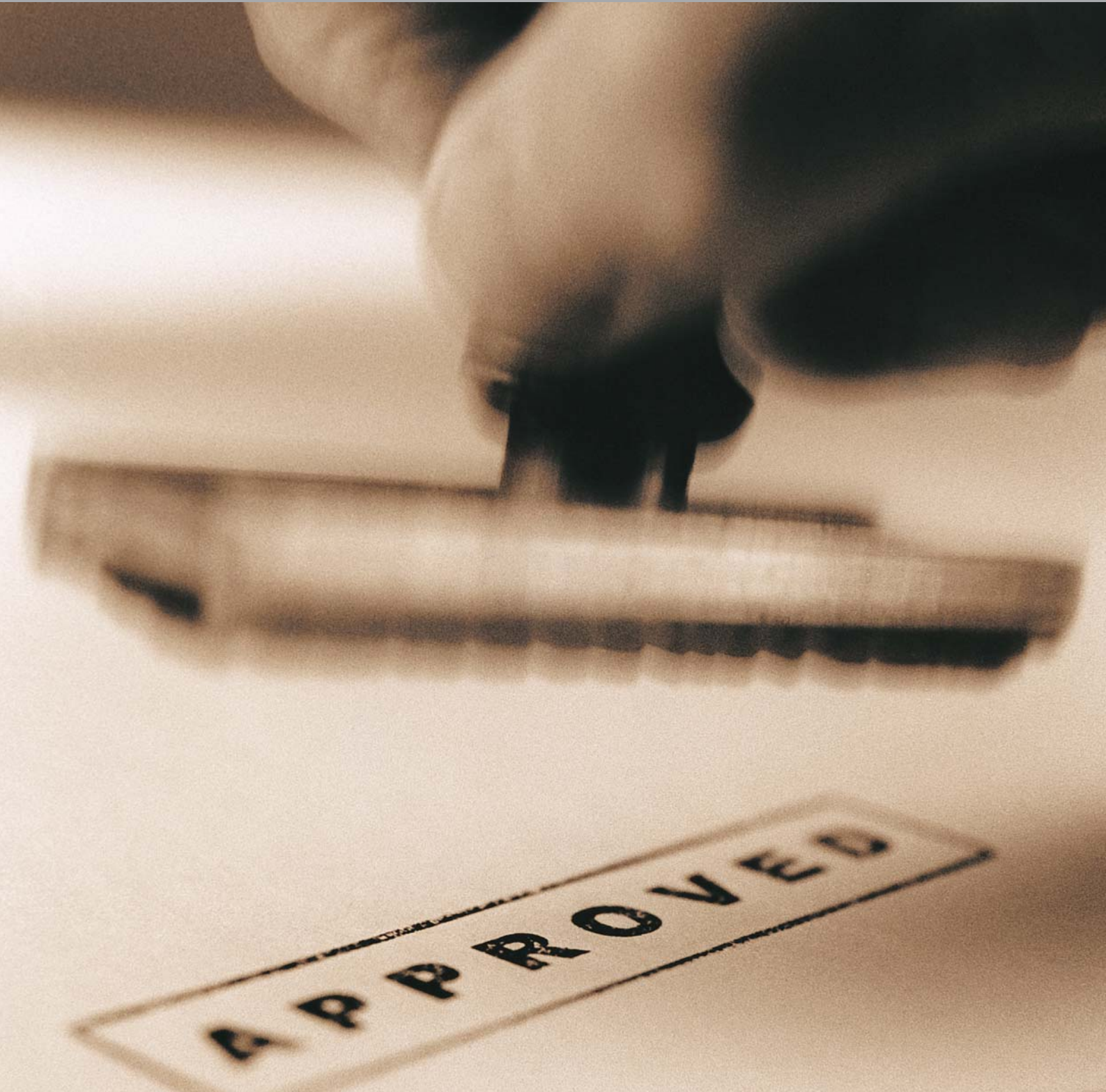


Health & Safety



Health & Safety

Duty of Care

Employers have a duty under the Health and Safety at Work Act to ensure, so far as is reasonably practicable, the health safety and welfare of their employees at work. For non-domestic premises this also applies to people who simply use the premises. The scope of health and safety issues, regulations and guidance continues to broaden into all aspects from pavements to complex machinery. Many issues are controlled by a common sense approach but regardless of the perceived level of risk, health and safety requires control and the consequences of failure can be severe.

Where to Start?

The starting point for any organisation should be the formulation and adoption of a good health and safety policy. Beyond this is the need for general and specific aspects under the policy to be identified and managed. Invariably this should be based on risk assessment to identify hazards and the potential for harm.

In simple situations this risk assessment can be a relatively straightforward exercise with many issues countered by a common sense approach. Specific assessment by specialists may often be required for example to consider working in confined spaces. In all cases the assessment findings should be documented and reviewed, both routinely and when changes occur.

Managing Risk

Managing risk is not only about designing equipment and premises so as to reduce hazards but also about managing people. Consultation, training and the provision of information should be included in all health and safety management regimes, supported by adequate records and documented control procedures.

The scope of appointment for First Environment can extend from full development of health and safety policy to support of in-house health and safety personnel with service specific elements. Either provided as part of a broader remit or as discrete modules for inclusion in existing company arrangements, the following are given as examples of commonly requested service support areas:

- Noise
- Control of Substances Hazardous to Health
- Asbestos
- Occupational Health Assessment

- Confined Space
- CDM Planning Supervision
- Food

First Environment has provided support to many organisations for specialist areas of health and safety. We have undertaken specific risk assessment to identify and resolve numerous issues presented. These have ranged from noise audits to policy preparation.

Our approach is pragmatic and our experience in this area enables appropriate health and safety management strategies to be devised commensurate with the hazards and risks identified.

First Environment Provides

First Environment provides the technical expertise to assist client organisations to manage health and safety. Including

- Consultation and advice.
- Preparation of procedures, policies and systems.
- Advice on health and safety risk management strategies.
- Solutions for occupational problems.
- Subject specific assessment and advice.
- Independent on-going review and audit.

As an independent company First Environment is able to consider all available options and assist our clients in implementing the most appropriate strategy for managing health and safety for their particular location.

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