

STATUTORY RULES AND ORDERS,
1928, No. 82.

For records
MINISTRY OF HOME SECURITY
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FACTORY AND WORKSHOP.
Dangerous and Unhealthy Industries.

THE MANUFACTURE OF CINEMATOGRAPH FILM REGULATIONS, 1928,
DATED FEBRUARY 8, 1928. MADE BY THE SECRETARY OF
STATE UNDER SECTION 79 OF THE FACTORY AND WORKSHOP
ACT, 1901 (1 EDW. 7. C. 22.)

In pursuance of Section 79 of the Factory and Workshop Act, 1901, I hereby make the following Regulations and direct that they shall apply to all factories and workshops or parts thereof in which cinematograph film (as defined below) is manufactured, repaired, manipulated, used or stored.

These Regulations, which may be cited as the Manufacture of Cinematograph Film Regulations, 1928, shall come into force on the 1st March, 1928, from which date so much of the Regulations dated 28th November, 1921,^(a) for the manufacture, manipulation and storage of celluloid or any article wholly or partly made of celluloid, as relates to the manufacture, repair, manipulation, use or storage of such cinematograph film, shall be revoked.

*Definitions.**

"Cinematograph film" means any film, including uncoated raw base, containing nitro-cellulose or other nitrated product which is intended for use in a cinematograph or other similar apparatus.

"Manufacture of cinematograph film" includes the production of negative and positive pictures on the film and also the operations incidental thereto, including the cutting and perforating and the projection of the pictures upon a screen for the purpose of examination.

"Darkroom" means a room from which ordinary light has to be excluded.

* Terms to which defined meanings are given are printed throughout in italics.

(a) S.R. & O. 1921 (No. 1825) p. 240.

" *Fire-resisting material* " means—

- (a) properly constructed brickwork not less than four and one-half inches in thickness; or
- (b) concrete not less than three inches in thickness; or
- (c) efficiently jointed breeze slabbing not less than three inches in thickness; or
- (d) oak or teak not less than two inches in thickness; or
- (e) glass not less than one quarter of an inch in thickness in the centre of which wire mesh is embedded; or
- (f) other *approved* material.

" *Storeroom* " means a room or chamber or similar enclosure in which *cinematograph film* is kept or stored, other than a room in which a quantity not exceeding twenty reels or eighty pounds in weight, whichever is the greater, is kept in accordance with the exception to No. 2 of these Regulations.

" *Approved* " means approved in writing by the Chief Inspector of Factories.

Duties.

It shall be the duty of the occupier to observe Part I of these Regulations. It shall be the duty of all persons employed to observe Part II of these Regulations.

Exception.

Where the Chief Inspector of Factories is satisfied that, by reason of the small quantity of *cinematograph film* manufactured, repaired, manipulated, used or stored in a factory or workshop or for any other reason, all or any of the provisions in these Regulations are not necessary for the protection of the persons employed, he may by certificate in writing (which he may in his discretion revoke) exempt such factory or workshop from all or any of such provisions, subject to such conditions as he may prescribe.

PART I.

Duties of Occupiers.

1. Each reel of *cinematograph film* shall, except when required to be exposed for the purposes of the work carried on, be kept in a separate box, properly closed and constructed of metal or of other *approved* material.

2. All *cinematograph film* not being actually used, or manipulated, or in the course of manufacture or repair, shall be kept in a room or chamber or similar enclosure satisfying the requirements of these Regulations, with regard to *storerooms*, except that a quantity not exceeding twenty reels or eighty pounds in weight, whichever is the greater, may be kept in any room provided it is contained in a properly closed receptacle constructed of metal or of other *approved* material.

3.—(a) All waste and scrap *cinematograph film* shall be collected at frequent intervals during each day and be placed in a strong metal receptacle fitted with self-closing lid, and clearly marked with the words "Film waste."

(b) No material liable to ignite spontaneously nor anything likely to ignite or decompose *cinematograph film* shall be placed in the receptacle.

(c) At the end of each day's work the waste and scrap shall be either transferred to a storeroom or removed from the premises.

4. *Cinematograph film* shall not be manufactured, repaired, manipulated or used in any room unless:—

(a) the top of the room is constructed of *fire resisting material*: provided that this requirement shall not apply to any room on the top floor of a building nor to any room of a single-storey building;

(b) the room is separated from any other room or passage by walls and floor constructed of *fire-resisting material*.

(c) all the doors of the room are constructed of *fire-resisting material* and are self-closing;

(d) the fittings are, as far as practicable, constructed of *fire-resisting material*;

(e) the furniture and apparatus are so arranged as to afford unimpeded egress for every person in the room in the event of fire; and

(f) the room is adequately equipped with fire-extinguishing appliances.

5.—(a) Adequate means of escape in case of fire shall be provided for every building and for every room in which *cinematograph film* is manufactured, repaired, manipulated or used, and the means of escape shall not be deemed adequate unless:—

(i) at least two separate safe exits are provided from every such room and two safe ways of escape from the building are available for all persons employed in the factory or workshop; and

(ii) all doors and windows provided in connection with the means of escape are so arranged as to open outward readily.

Provided that the foregoing provisions shall not apply where the factory or workshop forms part of a building from all parts of which means of escape can be required under the London Building Acts (Amendment) Act, 1905,^(a) or the London County Council (Celluloid &c.) Act, 1915.^(b)

(b) Intercommunicating fire alarm signals shall be arranged for every room.

(a) 5 E. 7. c. cccix.

(b) 5-6 G. 5. c. cviii.

(c) A notice shall be affixed in every room other than a *darkroom* and immediately outside each *darkroom* and in such other parts of the building as may be named in writing by the District Inspector of Factories, clearly specifying the means of escape provided for the persons employed therein.

6. All hatchways, lifts or similar openings between any rooms, or between any rooms and other parts of the premises, shall be so fitted, constructed and arranged that fire or products of combustion or decomposition of *cinematograph film* will not be likely to pass.

7.—(a) Every *storeroom* shall be either—

- (i) a single-storey building in an *approved* situation; or
- (ii) situated on the roof or top floor of a building; or
- (iii) situated in some other *approved* position; or
- (iv) fitted with an efficient automatic water-sprinkling system.

(b) Every *storeroom* constructed or adapted for use as a *storeroom* on or after the 1st March, 1928, shall comply with part (i), (ii) or (iii) of paragraph (a) of this Regulation and shall, in addition, comply with part (iv).

8.—(a) In every *storeroom* situated in accordance with Regulation 7 (a) (i) or 7 (a) (ii) and in any other *storeroom* if so required by notice in writing from the Chief Inspector of Factories, there shall be a part of a wall or a part of the roof constructed of ordinary sheet glass lightly fixed in position, so as to provide a gas relief space in the event of an explosion or fire occurring within the *storeroom*. The area of the gas relief space shall not be less than 70 square inches and not more than 90 square inches for every 500 pounds of *cinematograph film* that may be stored in the *storeroom*.

(b) The gas relief space shall be protected against external breakage by a strong wire mesh guard fitted on the outside of the glass.

(c) The position of the gas relief space shall be such that an outburst of flame through the space would not be likely to endanger the safety of the building or other premises.

9.—(a) Every *storeroom* shall be—

- (i) constructed entirely of *fire-resisting material* except as regards the gas relief space;
- (ii) fitted with a self-closing door or doors which shall be, as far as practicable, kept locked, except when any person is in the *storeroom*;
- (iii) clearly marked with the words " Film Store "; and
- (iv) provided with adequate ventilation.

(b) No *storeroom* shall—

- (i) be used for any purpose other than the storage or keeping of *cinematograph film* or film waste; or
- (ii) contain more than one ton or five hundred and sixty reels of *cinematograph film*, whichever is the greater.

10.—(a) No open fire or light, nor any smoking materials or matches, nor anything likely to ignite or decompose cinematograph film, shall be allowed in any storeroom or in any room in which cinematograph film is manufactured, repaired, manipulated or used.

(b) Suitable arrangements shall be provided for the temporary reception outside such rooms of smoking materials, matches and similar articles.

11. Soldering of cases or packages containing cinematograph film shall not be done except in a suitable place reserved for that purpose, and all due precautions shall be taken effectively to prevent the heat generated during the process from affecting the cinematograph film.

12. In any storeroom, or in any room in which cinematograph film is manufactured, repaired, manipulated or used, the following provisions shall apply :

Provided that nothing in this Regulation shall be deemed to relieve the occupier of any obligation imposed by the Regulations dated 23rd December, 1908,^(a) for the generation, transformation, distribution and use of electrical energy.

- (i) There shall be no electric supply fuses or other main service apparatus.
- (ii) No generating plant, switchboard, transformer, motor-generator, converter, fuseboard, fuse, portable resistance, portable radiator or portable heater, shall be placed therein; excepting fuses for individual circuits if of cartridge type and enclosed in a metal box having the door interlocked with a switch to break circuit on each pole and connected on the live side so that the door can be open only when the switch is " off " and the fuses are dead.
- (iii) All bare conductors such as terminals and commutators of motors shall be effectively guarded with wire mesh or other suitable protection. All electric wiring shall be protected throughout by screwed metal conduit except where slack wiring or flexible conductors are unavoidable.
- (iv) Unavoidable slack wiring shall be as short as possible and protected where necessary against damage or injury to the insulation. Flexible conductors shall be heavily insulated and either protected by tough rubber sheathing or enclosed in flexible metallic tubing, and proper mechanical fixing of the metallic tubing or rubber sheathing shall be provided at the point of entry into the fitting.

(a) S.B. & O. 1908 (No. 1312) p. 340.

- (v) All lighting fittings, including those for examination of *cinematograph film* on the benches and portable lamps, shall be of substantial construction and shall provide for the effective enclosure of the lamp and lamp holder and for the secure attachment of the conductors thereto.
- (vi) The covers of switches, including motor starters and regulators, shall be so constructed that the switch handle does not work through an open aperture. Tumbler type switches and connector sockets shall be mounted on metal bases, or on hard wood blocks, or on compressed fibre, affording adequate protection of the back connections. All switches for lights in *storerooms* shall be outside the *storerooms*.
- (vii) Lamp holder adaptors shall not be used as connectors. Every connector socket shall be protected by an enclosed switch to break circuit on each pole, and if installed after the 29th February, 1928, shall be so interlocked with the switch that the plug cannot be inserted or withdrawn whilst the switch is "on"; and no plug connector shall be so connected that the movable portion can remain live after withdrawal.
- (viii) Resistances, including the heating elements of electric heaters and radiators, shall be so guarded or enclosed as to prevent ignition or decomposition of *cinematograph film*. Such apparatus shall be so constructed that no external part of the enclosure or guard shall at any time exceed a temperature of 212°F. The top of the enclosure or guard shall be sloped at an angle of not less than 45°.
- (ix) All metal work liable to become accidentally electrically charged shall be efficiently earthed.
- (x) Electrical make-and-break contacts on *cinematograph film* printing machines shall be so enclosed or arranged as to render it impossible for them to cause ignition or decomposition of the *cinematograph film*.

13. A competent person shall be appointed in writing to exercise supervision with regard to the requirements of these Regulations and to enforce the observance of them and of any directions given to him in writing by the occupier with a view to carrying out the Regulations.

14. A printed copy of these Regulations shall be kept posted up in each room other than a *darkroom* and immediately outside each *darkroom* in a position where it can be easily read by all persons employed in the room.

PART II.

Duties of persons employed.

15. No person shall take any open light or flame, or any smoking materials or matches, or anything likely to ignite or decompose cinematograph film into any storeroom or into any room in which cinematograph film is manufactured, repaired, manipulated or used.

16. Every person shall observe such directions as may be given to him with a view to carrying out these Regulations.

W. Joynson-Hicks,

One of His Majesty's Principal
Secretaries of State.

Whitehall.

8th February, 1928.

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