

## **B. PERFORMANCE STANDARDS**

---

### **B8. LEGIONNAIRES DISEASE**

---

#### **1.0 Scope**

This Standard applies to Legionnaires disease in the workplace. It covers *Legionella* hazard evaluation, control programme design and control programme evaluation, to ensure that employees, contractors and third parties will not suffer adverse health effects.

#### **2.0 Programme Design**

- 2.1 All equipment with the potential for generating *Legionella* (cooling towers and associated equipment, air-handling systems and hot water services) must be identified and the risks of contamination and aerosol generation assessed.
- 2.2 Where there is an assessed risk that *Legionella* could grow in the system and cause harm, a programme must be in place such that:
  - (a) All such equipment is identified on a register. The register must contain details of the regular maintenance, cleaning and checking programmes;
  - (b) Control measures are in place to minimise aerosol emissions;
  - (c) There must be a documented water treatment programme; and
  - (d) New equipment is designed and constructed to minimise the risk of *Legionella* growth.

#### **3.0 Monitoring**

- 3.1 Where available, the *Legionella* plate count test should be used if more effective methods are not available.

#### **4.0 Controls**

- 4.1 Good maintenance procedures must be followed to minimise the risk of significant contamination of equipment with other bacteria and microbial organisms.
- 4.2 Adequate procedures must be available for disinfecting systems if significant concentrations of *Legionella* bacteria are present. Once disinfected, systems must be retested to confirm effectiveness of treatment.
- 4.3 There must be documented procedures for inspection, assessment and maintenance of the controls.