

Health and Safety

Health and safety refers to any rule, regulation or design specification that is designed to help reduce the possibility of an accident occurring in the technology room or in industry.

Safety, Health and Welfare at Work Act 2005

This act is implemented in every workplace around the country. All companies must adhere to it or face penalties.

The act states:

1. All employers must prepare a statement of safety for the workplace. This statement must be made readily available to all employees and outline any hazards and detail how to deal with any incident that may arise.
2. Employers have a responsible, as far as reasonably possible, to try and discourage and stop and inappropriate behaviour that may result in the a member of staff being put at risk.
3. Employees have a responsibility not to be under the influence of alcohol or drugs in the workplace.
4. The employer has to right to request any employee to undergo any reasonable medical assessment or other assessment.
5. Employers are required to appoint a competent and responsible safety officer whose role it is to enforce the act.

Safety Signs

All standardised signs are prepared by the Health and Safety Authority. All signs are colour coded and designed in certain shapes.

These colours and shapes each have an important meaning:

- Yellow for caution
- Red for prohibition
- Green for a positive action
- Blue for a mandatory action

- Triangular shaped for a warning
- Square or rectangular shaped for emergency and information
- Disc shaped for instructions and prohibitions

CE Marking

The CE marking found on items purchased in the shops and online indicate that the product has been tested to certain EU safety standards before sale and has passed all the necessary tests. CE stands for *Conformité Européenne* which is French for “European Conformity”. All products sold within the European Union must meet the relevant health and safety and environmental requirements.

WEEE Directive

The WEEE Directive stands for the Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment Directive. It is a directive by the EU to help and reduce any waste from electrical and electronic devices. These devices by nature are hard to recycle and dispose of correctly. Most local authorities and large companies organise WEEE collections.

Producer Recycling Fund Contribution (PRFC)

This is an additional contribution that has been added to the retail price of any new electrical appliance purchased. The fee is included to help pay for the future recycling and disposal of the appliance purchased or old appliances being recycled or disposed of. This fund was introduced to the market in 2005.