

*Radiation Protection
Adviser Services for
users of X-ray NDT
enclosures/compounds*



RPA Recognition

The Ionising Radiations Regulations 1999 (IRR99) require that RPA advice must be provided by an individual, or a body, that meets the criteria of competence specified by the Health and Safety Executive (HSE). Michael O'Mahony is a certificated Radiation Protection Adviser (RPA), and has been recognised by HSE as meeting the criteria of competence to provide advice as an RPA. He is also a certificated Radioactive Waste Adviser.

Radiation Protection Advice and Services offers to provide RPA advice and consultancy services to radiation employers, to assist them comply with the requirements of the Ionising Radiations Regulations 1999, the Environmental Permitting Regulations 2011 (and other relevant legislation); including the provision supporting statutory technical services required by the IRR99 (e.g. statutory leak tests).

When an employer must consult with an RPA

Although the primary role of the RPA is to provide expert advice with respect to compliance with IRR99, in practice the RPA will advise on general radiation safety issues. As such, discussion and consultation between RPA and employer would be reasonably expected on a wide range of issues. However, the employer must consult on four key topics:

- the prior examination of plans for the installation and acceptance into service of new or modified X-ray equipment/facilities.
- the designation and implementation of controlled and supervised areas.

- the regular use and calibration of radiation monitoring equipment; and
- the periodic examination and testing of engineering controls, design features, safety features and warning devices and regular checking of systems of work provided to restrict radiation exposure.

NB

The use of X-rays for NDT work will require employers to consult and appoint an RPA for advice and guidance on the requirements of the IRR 99, and several other important radiation related regulations and guidance.

Outline of basic services provided by Radiation Protection Advice and Services

- Assist prospective radiation employers in the drawing up of health and safety documents. Advise them on the legal aspects for the use of radiation sources and equipment at work.
- Provide RPA advice and other services to existing radiation employers using X-ray equipment.
- Arrange the calibration of radiation monitors.
- Carry out radiation surveys of the X-ray facilities and equipment.
- Assist the employer (user) to ensure that critical examinations of new X-ray equipment and facilities are carried out before first use.
- Assist the radiation employer with the drafting of risk assessments and local rules.
- Advise the employer on the Health and Safety at Work Act 1974 and the Management of Health & Safety at Work Regulations 1999.

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Other elements of the RPA service

- At least 2 RPA visit per year to the company site to discuss the requirements of the relevant legislation. This will include a radiation survey of the X-ray facilities/equipment.
- Following the RPA visit, a written report will be issued containing advice and recommendations. An electronic version of the report can also be provided.
- A physical radiation health and safety file is provided.
- Telephone/email advice and technical support throughout the term of the contract. Tele-conferencing or video-conferencing can also be arranged.

Do you need to appoint, consult or use the services of a Radiation Protection Adviser?

Please check our website for further information www.rapas.co.uk and get in touch by email or telephone.

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