

COURSE CONTENT OVERVIEW

Control of Substances Hazardous to Health (COSHH)

This Control of Substances Hazardous to Health (COSHH) course teaches learners how to identify, assess and understand how to control hazardous substances. It has been designed to help businesses comply with the COSHH Regulations 2002.

The course details both the employee and employer responsibilities when working with hazardous substances. It covers the ill health effects that can occur when working with hazardous substances, and what control measures the employer should implement to minimise the risks people face when working with or are near these substances.

Module 1: Introduction to Hazardous Substances and COSHH

This module introduces what hazardous substances are and who can be affected by them. It explains what the COSHH Regulations are and why they are important to follow.

- What is a substance hazardous to health?
- Who's affected by hazardous substances at work?
- What is COSHH and who has duties under it?
- Other duties under the COSHH regulations
- The COSHH approved code of practice
- Where does COSHH apply?
- Other specific regulations for hazardous and dangerous substances
- Why is COSHH important?
- Common hazardous substances
- Where are hazardous substances used?
- Ill-health effects from hazardous substances
- Statistics on ill health and hazardous substances
- Benefits of COSHH

Module 2: Ill-Health Effects from Hazardous Substances at Work

This module covers what harmful health effects hazardous substances can cause, such as respiratory illnesses and skin problems and diseases. It details the occupations most at risk and the different routes of entry.

- The main health effects at work
- Routes of entry
- Respiratory illnesses
- Occupational cancer
- Skin problems and diseases
- Occupational dermatitis
- Occupational asthma
- Biological agents
- Toxic or asphyxiant substances
- Effects of hazardous substances to health

Module 3: COSHH Requirements for Risk Assessment

This module outlines what a risk assessment is and how it is used in relation to COSHH. It discusses who should carry out a risk assessment and what the steps involved in it require.

- Key definitions
- Legal requirements and risk assessments
- What is a risk assessment?
- Risk assessments and COSHH
- Who should carry out a risk assessment?
- Identifying the hazards
- Determining who may be harmed and how
- Evaluating the risks and implementing controls
- Recording risk assessment findings
- Reviewing and updating the assessment

Module 4: Control Measures for Hazardous Substances: Part 1

This module covers a range of control measures that can be used to minimise the risks of hazardous substances. It looks at measures including substitution, changing the process, engineering controls, and PPE and RPE.

- Substitution and changing the process
- Engineering controls
- Safe system of work
- Storage, transport, handling, and use
- Personal protective equipment (PPE)
- Respiratory protective equipment (RPE)
- Hazard warning labelling and packaging
- Safety data sheets
- COVID-19 and RPE

Module 5: Control Measures for Hazardous Substances: Part 2

This module follows on from the previous module, outlining further control measures such as maintenance, examination, and testing, and health surveillance and training. The requirements for PPE and RPE, as well as WELs, are covered in this module.

- Maintenance, examinations, and testing
- Pre-use checks
- Requirements for PPE and RPE
- Monitoring exposure in the workplace and WELs
- Health surveillance
- Information, instruction, and training
- Accidents, incidents, and emergencies

Aims of the training

By the end of this course learners will:

- Know how to identify hazardous substances in their workplace.
- Understand the ill-health effects that hazardous substances can cause.
- Understand COSHH legal requirements.
- Know how a COSHH risk assessment is carried out.
- Understand what control measures will be put in place by employers to manage the risks posed by hazardous substances.
- Know what employees should do to follow safety procedures.
- Understand the importance of health surveillance for employees who work with certain hazardous substances.