

COSVR826

Inspect and report on the condition of chimneys and appliances



Overview

This standard is about the inspection and reporting of chimneys and solid fuel **appliances, services and systems** up to 50kW output that operate under negative flue pressure and those without internal electronic control systems. It covers the inspection of all flue systems that are not made from plastic.

This will include the interpretation of **documentation and specifications** and adopting safe, healthy, and environmentally responsible work practices and outcomes. This will be done in accordance with **organisational procedures** which are equal to or exceed the current statutory and legislative **documentation and specifications**

Commented [JM1]: Procedures?

This standard is for people working in the occupational area of Chimney Occupations and can be used by operatives, supervisors and managers

A description of terms in bold font in this National Occupational Standard can be found in the Glossary which should be used as a reference point

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Plan and prepare work activities	
Performance criteria <i>You must be able to:</i>	P1 identify, record, and agree the client's job requirements in accordance with organisational procedures, documentation and specifications
	P2 survey the work site and consult the documents and specifications for any key structural features and existing defects that could affect the safe use or performance of the installation and record them to allow all interested parties to be notified of these findings
	P3 check that the condition, size, location and availability of all services and systems meet the documentation and specifications for the requirements of the installation
	P4 work to a risk assessment and method statement and amend as needed, to include, but not limited to the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • working at height • slips, trips and falls • hit by falling or moving objects • manual handling • health issues • overhead hazards • power sources • hazardous substances • trapped by something collapsing or overturning • confined spaces • fire • obstructions • moving vehicles • water • on-site security • protection of client property • protection of the working area • other occupations and clients affected by the work • welfare facilities • 3rd party protection
	P5 protect the work site and the building fabric against possible damage being caused during the inspection
	P6 check and confirm that all materials, tools and equipment that may be necessary for the agreed inspection are available as required, within calibration and in working order

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Performance criteria You must be able to:	P7	carry out the inspection minimising damage to the building and its surroundings
	P8	check the positioning of the flue system and appliance to confirm that it meets the location and clearances required by the documentation and specifications
	P9	check that the ventilation is adequate to ensure that sufficient combustion air is available to meet performance and environmental outcomes required by the documentation and specifications
	P10	use the correct procedures to confirm that the integrity of the flue system and appliance meet the documentation and specifications
	P11	carry out the following tests to ensure the performance of the flue system and appliance meet current documentation and specifications <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • smoke test I • smoke test II • spillage test • internal flue inspection • external inspection
	P12	check the compliance of the complete installation to the documentation and specifications and confirm that manufacturers' written approvals have been given if needed
	P13	check that sufficient data is permanently available with the installation and that it is up to date and correctly located
	P14	check that the flue system and appliance operate as intended in terms of combustion and environmental performance as required by the documentation and specifications
	P15	check that a means of detection of Carbon Monoxide (CO) release has been provided which meets the documentation and specifications including the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • location and expiry date • test it to manufacturer's instructions
Use and communicate data and information		
	P16	liaise with the property occupier and other parties who will be affected by the work during the planning and inspection processes
	P17	use the documentation and specification to ensure that the inspection is done to meet the contract requirements

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Performance criteria You must be able to:	P18	advise of any delays to the work, unsafe situations and required remedial actions to those who require the information
	P19	complete all records and documentation to meet organisational procedures
	P20	check if the installation has been correctly notified to the relevant registration body and if sufficient information is available on site about the flue system and appliance as required by the documentation and specifications
	P21	produce a report to document the inspection process, the results of the inspection, tests and any recommendations for remedial work, to meet organisational procedures and the documentation and specifications

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	P1 Plan and prepare work activities	
Knowledge and understanding <i>You need to know and understand:</i>	K1	the regulations and guidance governing health and safety in the workplace, environmental protection and the use of risk assessments
	K2	how to access and correctly interpret the required information to ensure the inspection meets the requirements of the documentation and specifications
	K3	the limits of your own autonomy, competency, and responsibility and when co-operation and liaison with others is required
	K4	why it is important and how to inspect and test existing installations with reference to the work area, appliances and flue systems
	K5	why it is important and how to include health, safety and environmental factors in the risk assessment and method statement for the inspection and reporting of flue systems and appliances
	K6	the methods of working which protect the building décor, customer property and existing systems and components
	K7	the tools and equipment necessary to provide safe access to work at heights, or in confined spaces
	K8	the care and maintenance requirements of tools and equipment, and checks for safe condition
	K9	the ordering, supplying, advising, checking and delivery procedures for the tools, equipment, materials and components required to perform the inspection
	K10	how to access and interpret the documentation and specifications to ensure that the inspection is carried out to meet the following requirements: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • organisational • company • contract
		K11

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Knowledge and understanding <i>You need to know and understand:</i>	K12	the importance of safe isolation methods, tests, and procedures to inspect the work area, appliances, systems or components
	K13	why it is important and how to appropriately label defective installations or systems to raise awareness of their defects to potential users and responsible persons
	P2 Use and communicate data and information	
	K14	the need to liaise with others whose activities or routines may be affected and where co-operation and other services, may be required
	K15	the industry practices and work standards for the inspection of and reporting on flue systems and appliances to the documentation and specifications
	K16	the positioning and fixing requirements for flue systems and appliances to comply with the documentation and specifications
	K17	<p>the procedures and work methods to inspect and test flue systems and appliances against the documentation and specifications to check the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ventilation can provide sufficient combustion air to the appliance • efficient and effective combustion performance can be achieved • adequate flue system performance to remove the products of combustion • spillage from a closed appliance when the door is open is not excessive • combustible material will not experience sufficient temperature to produce deterioration • effective alerts to the release of CO are correctly positioned and function as intended • installation documentation and adequate data relating to the flue system and appliance are permanently available on site

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Knowledge and understanding <i>You need to know and understand:</i>	K18 the principles of chimney flue draft and design including but not limited to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • mechanical ventilation • natural flue draft • forced flue draft • adequate chimney draft to evacuate the products of combustion • effective flue height • effective flue area • impact of bends and restrictions • impact of flue outlet position • interaction with the building envelope and topography • meteorological effects
	K19 the principles of combustion including but not limited to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • adequate fuel quality • combustion temperature • sufficient combustion air • combustion performance effects on emissions

Glossary	<p>Organisational procedures</p> <p>Organisational Insurances – public, product and employers liability, professional indemnity</p> <p>Company documents contract for the work, safety management plan, Construction Design and Management regulations, environmental policy, complaints procedure, information privacy and security policy, management structure</p> <p>Work site</p> <p>The area where the equipment will be installed and all areas affected by the work extending to topographical features and meteorological conditions</p> <p>Services and systems</p> <p>Chimney and flue systems, appliances, ventilation systems and appropriate utilities</p>
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	<p>Documentation and specifications</p> <p>Manufacturers' instructions for all equipment that forms part of the work architect's plans and site-specific documentation local building rules and regulations Party Wall legislation Clean Air Act Environment Act Smoke Control Zones Permitted Development Conservation Areas Heritage status Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty Sites of Special Scientific Interest specific requirements of insurance underwriters Building regulations in England and Wales, particularly ADJ but also ADA, ADB, ADF, ADL and AD7 Building Standards Technical Handbook in Scotland Technical Booklets in Northern Ireland, particularly B, D, E, F1, F2, K and L BSEN's particularly 8303, 15287, 1856, 16510, 1251, 3376, 4834, 12815, 13229, 13240, 15250</p> <p>Note: Technical and BSEN documents may be withdrawn or superseded during review programmes, it is therefore important to check the currency and validity of all such documents to ensure the correct version is being referenced.</p> <p>Appliances</p> <p>Solid fuel burning appliances up to 50kW output including but not limited to the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• open fires• free standing room heaters• inset room heaters• free standing cookers• independent boilers• slow heat release stoves
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