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Topic:	Welfare

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Distribution	Х	Commercial		Finance	Х	Administration/MD
		Technical		Sales		Land
	х	Construction	х	Customer Care	х	PLC – HS&E Advisors

Description

During a recent visit from an HSE inspector, the business has received a Notice of Contravention for insufficient welfare facilities, these included:

- Insufficient number of toilets for the number of operatives on site
- Lack of tables and chairs in the canteen area
- No power to the canteen which led to no power available to heat food, boil water and the operatives were seen to be sitting in the dark.

The site team had not made any alternative provisions.

It is very seldom that a generator will be offline for a short period of time, due to the time it takes to call a fitter out and then for them to source replacement parts.

Action Required

Under the CDM regulations, all construction sites must have adequate welfare facilities in place, to allow operatives to use the toilet, heat food, boil water and they must have sufficient tables in chairs to allow workers to take breaks and consume meals. These facilities must also be kept clean and tidy.

Site teams must ensure the following:

- They have read and understand the Welfare Standards: <u>HSMS-STD-Welfare</u>
- That there is the correct ratio for toilets to workers (as set out in the standards)
- That suitable chairs and tables are provided in canteen areas

If there is a power outage and there is no immediate alternative, to enable workers to heat food, boil water and sit comfortably (not in the dark), then the site must be closed until the power is back on or suitable arrangements have been made.

Furthermore, if toilets are frozen and there is no alternative provision available which gives the correct ratio for toilets to workers, then the site must be closed.