

FL8

COSHH essentials for craft bakers



This information will help employers, the self-employed and franchisees comply with the Control of

Substances Hazardous to Health Regulations 2002 (COSHH), as amended, to control exposure to flour dusts, etc, and protect workers health.

It is also useful for trade union and employee safety representatives.

This sheet describes good practice using a stand-alone dust collector where there is no room to install fixed dust extraction equipment.

Main points

- Make sure the dust collector works.

Stand-alone dust collector

Control approach 2 Engineering control

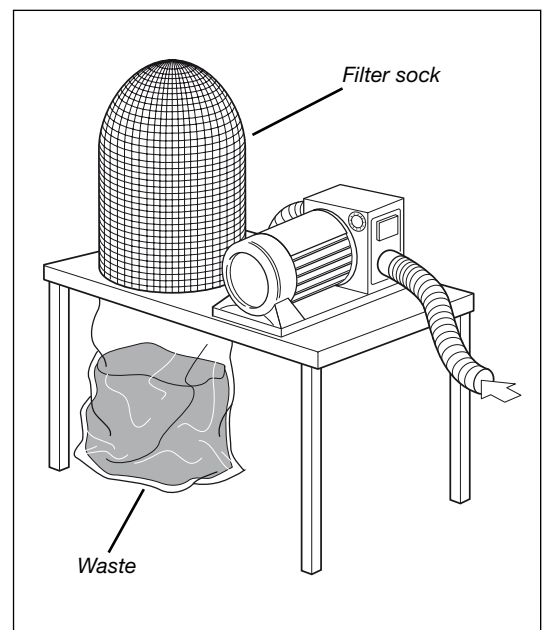
Equipment

- ✓ Provide permanent dust extraction equipment wherever possible - see sheet G204.
- ✓ Locate the unit as close to the dust extraction point as possible. Avoid long sections of flexible duct.
- ✓ Fit a manometer or pressure gauge near the extraction point, to show that the extraction is working properly.
- ✓ Stand away from the unit for a short while after turning it on - avoid the dust cloud as the filter bag inflates.
- ✓ Replace damaged fabric filters or holed waste bags immediately. Keep enough spares.

Caution: Don't let the waste bag over-fill.

Maintenance, examination and testing

- ✓ Keep equipment in effective and efficient working order - follow instructions in suppliers' manuals.
- ✓ Every day, look for signs of damage. Noisy or vibrating fans can indicate a problem.
- ✓ At least once a week, check that the extraction system and gauge work properly.
- ✓ You need to know the manufacturer's specifications to check the extraction's performance.
- ✓ If this information isn't available, hire a competent ventilation engineer to determine the performance needed for adequate control.
- ✓ The engineer's report must show the target air speeds.
- ✓ Keep this information in your testing logbook.
- ✓ Get a competent ventilation engineer to examine the extraction thoroughly and test its performance at least once every 14 months. See the HSE publication HSG54 - see 'Further information'.
- ✓ Keep records of all examinations and tests for at least five years.



Further information

- *Maintenance, examination and testing of local exhaust ventilation* HSG54 (Second edition) HSE Books 1998 ISBN 0 7176 1485 9
- G204 *Removing waste from a dust extraction unit* Guidance sheet Website: www.coshh-essentials.org.uk/assets/live/G204.pdf
- For environmental guidelines see sheet FLO

Useful links

- Your trade association may advise on health and safety consultants and training providers.
- HSE priced and free publications are available from HSE Books Tel: 01787 881165 Website: www.hsebooks.co.uk.
- For information about health and safety ring HSE's Infoline Tel: 0845 345 0055 Textphone: 0845 408 9577 e-mail: hse.infoline@natbrit.com.
- Contact the British Occupational Hygiene Society (BOHS) on 01332 298101 or at www.bohs.org for lists of qualified hygienists who can help you.

Employee checklist

- Is the extraction switched on and working properly? Check the gauge.
- Look for signs of leaks, wear and damage.
- If you find any problems, tell your supervisor. Don't just carry on working.

This guidance is issued by the Health and Safety Executive. Following the guidance is not compulsory and you are free to take other action. But if you do follow the guidance you will normally be doing enough to comply with the law. Health and safety inspectors seek to secure compliance with the law and may refer to this guidance as illustrating good practice.