

WORKING PRESSURE

Pressure System Safety Compliance in the coffee trades - Issue 2

April 2016

This publication is produced by Espress Test, the leading independent supplier of compliance solutions for the coffee trade.

A Risk Too Far?

On the 1st of February 2016, The Sentencing Council issued their very first [definitive sentencing guidelines](#) for use in courts to incorporate all health and safety offences committed by organisations and individuals, including offences causing a risk of harm, up to those causing death.

The Pressure System Safety Regulations (2000) are a point of Health and Safety Law. If pressure equipment, like an espresso machine, fails in use, it can seriously injure or kill people nearby and cause serious damage to property.

The new Sentencing Guidelines could have a hefty impact on those not complying with the Regulations, even where no actual harm has been caused, as the offence is in creating a 'risk of harm'. Culpability of the duty holder would be considered very high where there is a "breach of, or flagrant disregard for the law".

Sentencing and Fines

Through consultation, fines were criticised as too low relative to the harm caused, the culpability of the offender and, on occasions, to the means of the offender.

Fines are therefore now based on **turnover** rather than profit.

For Health and Safety and Corporate Manslaughter Offences, courts now have the power to issue the duty holder:

- * a custodial sentence of up to 26 months.
- * fines of up to & beyond £20m.

For businesses with a large profit margin, upward adjustment could be considered.

When tried on indictment or summarily, the maximum fine is unlimited.



"Health and safety offences are concerned with failures to manage risks to health & safety and do not require proof that the offence caused any actual harm."

The offence is in creating a risk of harm."

The Sentencing Council



The guidelines state:

"The fine must be sufficiently substantial to have a real economic impact which will bring home to both management and shareholders the need to comply with Health and Safety Legislation."

"Whether the fine will have the effect of putting the offender out of business will be relevant; in some bad cases this may be an acceptable consequence."

Enough of all that serious stuff....

National Advertising

Since day one, Espresso Test have not advertised; business has built from recommendations and word of mouth. This month, we buck that trend and start a national advertising campaign in Boughton's Coffee House.

Boughton's Coffee House has been relaunched by Newhall Publishing with a new look and feel but with the same concept of being informative yet light hearted, with the up-to-date issues being addressed.

Boughton's was the only trade publication to attempt to address the knowledge void and lack of compliance surrounding Pressure System Safety within the coffee trade. Their pursuit of The HSE in relation to the infamous 'Sainsbury's explosion' was the only trade voice attempting to receive clarification on the issues. Look out for the 'new look' Boughton's in coffee shops and anywhere connected to the trade.



PRESSURE SYSTEM COMPLIANCE FOR COFFEE TRADES

THEY ARE A LEGAL REQUIREMENT

Most espresso machines contain a pressurised vessel. The **Pressure System Safety Regulations (2000)** are in place to reduce the risk of catastrophic failure. Vessel failure has the potential to cause property damage, injury or death.

The **duty holder** is responsible for compliance & may be held personally liable for damage claims. The user must have the equipment examined. Ensure you choose a fully compliant solution not just a simple safety check.

Call (01209) 216847
Email: info@espresstest.co.uk
www.espresstest.co.uk



OPPORTUNITIES FOR AREA REPRESENTATIVES NATIONWIDE
For more details on PSSR (2000) visit: www.hse.gov.uk/pressure-systems



The good, the bad and the foamy - Update

"My 'art' has been improving since the last issue, but I am inconsistent and know I still haven't got the technique quite right.

So, we've finally organised Barista training next month! Hopefully, there will follow some MUCH better pictures to share with you!"



Gill Swift, UK Operations Coordinator

Guess the machine

Can you guess the espresso machine just by the picture?



We only received a few correct answers to the last picture, (which was the symbol for hot water on an Astoria Gloria) so we thought we would make it a bit easier this time!

Contact Us

Espresso Test
7a Cardrew Industrial Estate, Redruth, Cornwall, TR15 1SS

(01209) 216847

admin@espresstest.co.uk

www.espresstest.co.uk