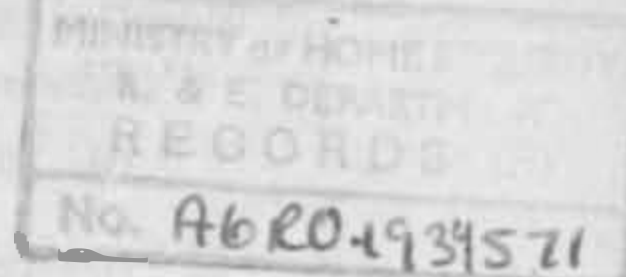


STATUTORY RULES AND ORDERS

1939 No. 571

FACTORIES



THE CINEMATOGRAPH FILM STRIPPING REGULATIONS, 1939, DATED MAY 17, 1939, MADE BY THE SECRETARY OF STATE UNDER SECTIONS 35 AND 60 OF THE FACTORIES ACT, 1937 (I EDW. 8 & I GEO. 6. C. 67).

In pursuance of Section 60 of the Factories Act, 1937, and, as respects Part II of these Regulations, in pursuance of Section 35 of the said Act, I hereby make the following Regulations and direct that they shall apply to all factories or parts thereof in which stripping or drying of cinematograph film (as defined below) is done.

These Regulations, which may be cited as the Cinematograph Film Stripping Regulations, 1939, shall come into force on the 1st June, 1939, from which date the Cinematograph Film Stripping Regulations, 1928^(a), shall be revoked; and notwithstanding such revocation the Regulations dated 28th November, 1921^(b), for the manufacture, manipulation and storage of celluloid or any article wholly or partly made of celluloid shall not be deemed to apply to the processes (as defined below) of stripping and drying of cinematograph film.

Definitions.

In these Regulations, unless the context otherwise requires:—

“ *Cinematograph film* ” means any film containing nitro-cellulose or other nitrated product which was intended for use or has been used in a cinematograph or sound recording or other similar apparatus.

“ *Stripping* ” means the removal of emulsion from *cinematograph film* and includes all unpacking, sorting, unwinding, winding, decolouring, washing, grading and packing of *cinematograph film* incidental thereto.

“ *Drying* ” means the drying of *cinematograph film* from which the emulsion has been removed.

“ *Sorting* ” includes the removal of extraneous material and any other preliminary sorting of *cinematograph film* before washing, and also the preparation of reeled pieces for rewinding.

(a) S.R. & O. 1928 (No. 84) p. 528. (b) S.R. & O. 1921 (No. 1825) p. 240.

" *Grading* " means the separation of different grades of material after washing.

" *Fire-resisting material* " means

- (a) properly constructed brickwork not less than four and one-half inches in thickness; or
- (b) concrete not less than three inches in thickness; or
- (c) efficiently jointed breeze slabbing not less than three inches in thickness; or
- (d) oak or teak not less than two inches in thickness; or
- (e) glass not less than one-quarter of an inch in thickness in the centre of which wire mesh is embedded; or
- (f) other *approved* material.

" *Storeroom* " means a room or chamber or similar enclosure in which *cinematograph film* is kept or stored, and which satisfies the requirements hereinafter laid down in regard to storerooms.

" *Approved* " means approved in writing by the Chief Inspector of Factories.

Duties.

It shall be the duty of the occupier to observe Parts I and II of these Regulations. It shall be the duty of all persons employed to observe Part III of these Regulations.

Exception.

Where the Chief Inspector of Factories is satisfied that in any particular circumstances all or any of the provisions in these Regulations are not necessary for the protection of the persons employed or, in the case of factories constructed before the coming into force of these Regulations, are not reasonably practicable, he may by certificate in writing (which he may in his discretion revoke) grant an exemption from all or any of such provisions in such cases and to such extent and subject to such conditions as he may specify in the certificate.

PART I.

Duties of Occupiers.

1. All *cinematograph film* which is not in process of *stripping* or *drying* shall be kept in a *storeroom*.

2. The maximum quantity of *cinematograph film* in any room other than a *storeroom* shall not exceed one hundred pounds in weight or such other quantity as may be *approved*.

3.—(a) All scrap *cinematograph film* arising from *stripping* or *drying* shall be collected at frequent intervals during each day and be placed in a strong metal receptacle fitted with a self-closing lid, and clearly marked with the words "Film scrap."

(b) No material liable to ignite spontaneously nor anything likely to ignite or decompose *cinematograph film* shall be placed in the receptacle.

(c) At the end of each day's work the scrap shall be either transferred to a *storeroom* or removed from the premises.

4. *Stripping* or *drying* of *cinematograph film* shall not be done in any room unless—

(a) the room is a single-storey building or part of a single-storey building;

(b) all walls and windows of the room, including partitions by which the room is separated from any other room or passage way, but not including windows in a roof, are constructed of *fire-resisting material*;

(c) all the doors of the room are constructed of *fire-resisting material* and are self-closing;

(d) the fittings are, as far as practicable, constructed of material that is not readily combustible;

(e) the fittings and other contents of the room are so arranged or disposed as to afford unimpeded egress for every person in the room in the event of fire; and

(f) the room is adequately equipped with fire-extinguishing appliances.

5. In the case of every factory constructed or reconstructed or taken into use for the process of *cinematograph film stripping* after the 1st December, 1938—

(a) no process other than *sorting* or rewinding for washing purposes shall be carried on in any room in which either or both of the said processes is carried on;

(b) no process other than washing without the aid of mechanical power shall be carried on in any room in which the said process is carried on;

(c) no process other than *drying* without the aid of mechanical power shall be carried on in any room in which the said process is carried on;

(d) no process other than packing or *grading* shall be carried on in any room in which either or both of the said processes is carried on.

6. No loose unwound *cinematograph film* shall be placed on the floor or ground in any room or other part of the factory.

7. The process of sorting of cuttings shall not be carried on unless the *cinematograph film* being sorted is on a bench or in a trough.

8. Loose unwound *cinematograph film* shall not be carried from one part of the factory to another except in a suitable tray or container.

Cinematograph film (including reeled *cinematograph film*) carried on power trucks shall be enclosed in covered containers.

9.—(a) *Drying* of *cinematograph film* shall not be done except under such conditions as will prevent the *cinematograph film* from coming into contact or proximity with any source of heat or heated surface in such a manner as would render the *cinematograph film* liable to be ignited or decomposed.

(b) Loose unwound *cinematograph film* shall not be hung up to dry whether in a room or enclosed space or in the open air.

(c) Loose unwound *cinematograph film* shall be enclosed during *drying* in such a manner that a person in the room will be protected as far as practicable from an outburst of flame.

(d) The temperature in any part of a drying enclosure for loose unwound *cinematograph film*, shall not at any time exceed 110° Fahrenheit. A thermometer shall be kept available in every room in which such *drying* is done.

10. The following are the requirements prescribed in regard to *storerooms*:—

(a) Every *storeroom* shall be—

- (i) a single-storey building or part of a single-storey building in an *approved* situation, and in the case of a factory constructed or reconstructed or taken into use for the process of *cinematograph film stripping* after the 1st December, 1938, shall be a separate single-storey building at least 20 feet from any building in which persons are regularly present;
- (ii) constructed entirely of *fire-resisting material* except as regards the gas relief space required by Regulation II;
- (iii) fitted with a self-closing door or doors which shall be, as far as practicable, kept locked, except when any person is in the *storeroom*, and such door or doors shall be capable of being readily opened from the inside;
- (iv) clearly marked with the words "Film Store";
- (v) provided with adequate ventilation; and
- (vi) separated from any adjacent *storeroom* by a wall built up to 3 feet above the roof.

(b) No storeroom shall—

(i) be used for any purpose other than the storage or keeping of *cinematograph film*; or

(ii) contain more than one ton of *cinematograph film*, or such other quantity as may be *approved*.

11.—(a) In every storeroom there shall be provided a gas relief space of *approved* design for the relief of pressure in the event of an explosion or fire occurring in the *storeroom*. The area of the gas relief space shall be not less than one square foot for every fifty cubic feet of space in the *storeroom*.

(b) The gas relief space shall be so constructed as to protect any glass from external breakage and to prevent the projection of articles from within the *storeroom*.

(c) The position of the gas relief space shall be such that an outburst of flame through the space would not be likely to endanger the safety of the building or other premises.

12. No premises shall be used for the *stripping* or *drying* of *cinematograph film*, (a) unless and until plans of the premises accompanied by particulars as to the number of persons to be employed and as to the arrangements for carrying on the processes and complying with the requirements of Regulations 4 (other than paragraph (e)), 5, 7, 9 (c), 10 (a) and 11, have been submitted and *approved*, nor (b) otherwise than in accordance with the arrangements so *approved*; and no material addition shall be subsequently made to such premises or to the number of persons employed or alteration made in the arrangements unless such addition or alteration has been first *approved*.

13.—(a) No open fire or light, nor any smoking materials or matches nor anything likely to ignite or decompose *cinematograph film*, shall be allowed in any part of the premises.

(b) Suitable arrangements shall be provided for the temporary reception outside the premises of smoking materials, matches and similar articles.

14. In any *storeroom*, or in any room in which *stripping* or *drying* of *cinematograph film* is done, the following provisions shall apply:—

(i) There shall be no electric supply fuses or other main service apparatus.

(ii) No generating plant, switchboard, transformer, motor-generator, convertor, fuseboard, fuse, portable resistance, portable radiator or portable heater, shall be placed therein: excepting fuses for individual

circuits if of cartridge type and enclosed in a metal box having the door interlocked with a switch to break circuit on each pole and connected on the live side so that the door can be open only when the switch is " off " and the fuses are dead.

- (iii) All bare conductors such as terminals and commutators of motors shall be effectively guarded with wire mesh or other suitable protection. All electric wiring shall be protected throughout by screwed metal conduit or other *approved* method.
- (iv) All lighting fittings shall be of substantial construction and shall provide for the effective enclosure of the lamp and lamp-holder and for the secure attachment of the conductors thereto.
- (v) The covers of switches, including motor starters and regulators shall be so constructed that the switch handle does not work through an open aperture. Tumbler type switches and connector sockets shall be mounted on metal bases, or on hard wood blocks, or on compressed fibre, affording adequate protection of the back connections. All switches for lights in *storerooms* shall be outside the *storerooms*.
- (vi) Lamp holder adaptors shall not be used as connectors. Every connector socket shall be protected by an enclosed switch to break circuit on each pole, and if installed after the 29th February, 1928, shall be so interlocked with the switch that the plug cannot be inserted or withdrawn whilst the switch is " on "; and no plug connector shall be so connected that the movable portion can remain live after withdrawal.
- (vii) Resistances, including the heating elements of electric heaters and radiators, shall be so guarded or enclosed as to prevent ignition or decomposition of *cinematograph film*. The top of the enclosure or guard shall be sloped at an angle of not less than 45°.
- (viii) All metal work liable to become accidentally electrically charged shall be efficiently earthed.

Provided that nothing in this Regulation shall be deemed to relieve the occupier of any obligation imposed by the Regulations dated 23rd December, 1908, for the generation, transformation, distribution and use of electrical energy or any regulations amending the same.

15. A competent person shall be appointed in writing to exercise supervision with regard to the requirements of these Regulations and to enforce the observance of them and of any directions given to him in writing by the occupier with a view to carrying out the Regulations.

16. A printed copy of these Regulations shall be kept posted up in each room in which *stripping* or *drying* of *cinematograph film* is done.

PART II.

17. There shall be provided adequate means of escape in case of fire from the factory and from every building and every room being a building or room in which *stripping* or *drying* of *cinematograph film* is done and from every *storeroom* and from every building of which a *storeroom* forms part; and the means of escape shall not be deemed adequate unless:—

- (i) there are at least two safe ways of escape from the factory available for all persons employed in the factory;
- (ii) there are at least two separate safe exits from every building and every room being a building or room in which *stripping* or *drying* of *cinematograph film* is done; and
- (iii) all doors and windows provided in connection with the means of escape are so arranged as to open outwards readily.

Provided that the foregoing provisions of this regulation shall not apply where the factory forms part of a building from all parts of which means of escape can be required under the London Building Act, 1930.

18. Regulation 17 shall be in addition to and not in substitution for or diminution of any other requirements as to the means of escape in case of fire imposed in pursuance of Section 34 or Section 35 of the Act.

PART III.

Duties of persons Employed.

19. No person shall take any open light or flame, or any smoking materials or matches, or anything likely to ignite or decompose *cinematograph film* into any part of any premises in which *stripping* or *drying* of *cinematograph film* is done.

20. Every person shall observe such directions as may be given to him with a view to carrying out these Regulations.

Samuel Hoare,

One of His Majesty's Principal
Secretaries of State.

Whitehall.

17th May, 1939.

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