

Statutory basis: COSHH 2002 requires every fire-stopping foam, sealant, mastic and coating to be assessed, using its safety data sheet, and exposure prevented or adequately controlled, with the workplace exposure limits in EH40/2005 (4th edition, 2020) and health surveillance under reg 11 where a sensitiser such as an isocyanate can be inhaled. Flammable aerosols, solvents and cleaners are dangerous substances under DSEAR 2002. A product may only be exchanged for a less hazardous one where the replacement is tested for that configuration: Building Regulations 2010 reg 7 requires materials adequate and proper and applied so as adequately to perform the functions for which they are designed. This document is the recorded safe system of work required by HSWA 1974 s.2(2)(a) and MHSWR 1999 regs 3 and 5.

1 DOCUMENT AND PROJECT IDENTIFICATION

RAMS REFERENCE	PROJECT / SITE REF	SITE NAME AND ADDRESS	DATE PREPARED	NEXT REVIEW DATE
CLIENT / PRINCIPAL CONTRACTOR	PLANNED START	DURATION	OPERATIVES	SUPERVISING THE WORK

2 SCOPE OF WORKS

Controlling exposure to the substances in hand-applied fire-stopping products — fire-rated polyurethane foams, intumescent and acrylic mastics, silicone sealants, batt coatings and their cleaners — when they are used in risers, ceiling voids, small rooms and occupied buildings: product assessment, ventilation, skin and eye protection, flammable aerosols, storage and waste.

This document does not cover: selection and installation of the tested detail (KD-RAMS-FP-001), spray-applied and plural-component systems (KD-RA-FP-002), intumescent coatings to structural steel (KD-RAMS-PD-005), and hot works near fire-stopping (KD-PTW-HW-001).

SITE-SPECIFIC SCOPE, LOCATIONS AND LIMITATIONS

3 RISK ASSESSMENT — SCORE EACH RISK FOR THIS SITE, THEN ADD WHAT IS MISSING

The hazards and controls below are the starting point for this activity, written by a working main contractor. They are not complete for your site until a competent person has scored each risk, added the site-specific hazards, and struck out anything that does not apply. Rate risks High / Medium / Low before and after controls.

1. Inhaling isocyanate from polyurethane foam — occupational asthma

At risk: Installers, others in the space

Controls: Each foam is assessed, using its safety data sheet, for isocyanate (MDI) content before it comes to site. Where the manufacturer's tested details offer a non-isocyanate product for the same configuration, that product is used. Otherwise foam is used only with ventilation moving air away from the installer, never in an unventilated void, and RPE to the COSHH assessment; health surveillance where the assessment identifies inhalation exposure.

INITIAL (H/M/L)	RESIDUAL (H/M/L)	SITE-SPECIFIC ADDITIONAL CONTROLS, OR N/A	ACTION OWNER	BY WHEN

2. Solvent vapour building up in risers, ceiling voids and small rooms

At risk: Installers

Controls: Ventilation established before work starts — doors and riser hatches open, or a fan extracting to outside; only the cartridges in use taken into the space; breaks taken outside. Dizziness or headache means leave the space at once.

INITIAL (H/M/L)	RESIDUAL (H/M/L)	SITE-SPECIFIC ADDITIONAL CONTROLS, OR N/A	ACTION OWNER	BY WHEN

3. Fire from flammable aerosol foam cans, solvents and cleaners; hazardous waste mishandled

At risk: Installers, the building

Controls: No hot works, smoking or naked flames in the area; aerosol cans stored in a ventilated cage away from heat and out of vehicles; cans never punctured or burnt. Part-used foam cans and uncured isocyanate foam are hazardous waste — kept apart from general waste and removed by the waste contractor.

INITIAL (H/M/L)	RESIDUAL (H/M/L)	SITE-SPECIFIC ADDITIONAL CONTROLS, OR N/A	ACTION OWNER	BY WHEN

4. Skin sensitisation and dermatitis from uncured foam, mastics and sealants

At risk: Installers

Controls: Gloves of the material the safety data sheet specifies, changed when contaminated; no cleaning of skin with solvent; uncured product removed with the manufacturer's cleaner; washing facilities close to the work; skin problems reported early.

INITIAL (H/M/L)	RESIDUAL (H/M/L)	SITE-SPECIFIC ADDITIONAL CONTROLS, OR N/A	ACTION OWNER	BY WHEN

5. Splashes to the eyes — expanding foam, acid-cure silicone, solvent cleaners

At risk: Installers

Controls: Eye protection for all foam and overhead sealant work; eyewash at the workplace in risers and voids where water is not close.

INITIAL (H/M/L)	RESIDUAL (H/M/L)	SITE-SPECIFIC ADDITIONAL CONTROLS, OR N/A	ACTION OWNER	BY WHEN

6. Fume and odour reaching occupants through ventilation and openings

At risk: Occupants, patients, staff

Controls: Product choice and work times agreed with the occupier; supply air to the area adjusted where the building manager agrees; adjoining openings sealed; low-odour products in healthcare and occupied residential buildings where the tested detail allows.

INITIAL (H/M/L)	RESIDUAL (H/M/L)	SITE-SPECIFIC ADDITIONAL CONTROLS, OR N/A	ACTION OWNER	BY WHEN

7. Replacing a product with a "safer" one that is not tested for the configuration

At risk: Building occupants

Controls: Substitution only to a product the manufacturer's test evidence covers for that exact seal; the change and its evidence recorded. A less hazardous product that will not perform in a fire is not a control.

INITIAL (H/M/L)	RESIDUAL (H/M/L)	SITE-SPECIFIC ADDITIONAL CONTROLS, OR N/A	ACTION OWNER	BY WHEN

8. False fire alarms from aerosols and fume near detectors

At risk: Occupants, the business

Controls: Detectors near the work identified before starting; covered or isolated only under the site's detection isolation permit, and restored at the end of every shift.

INITIAL (H/M/L)	RESIDUAL (H/M/L)	SITE-SPECIFIC ADDITIONAL CONTROLS, OR N/A	ACTION OWNER	BY WHEN

9. Work at height from steps, podiums, towers or MEWPs

At risk: Operatives, and anyone below

Controls: Select access by the Work at Height hierarchy — podium or tower before steps; MEWPs by trained (IPAF) operators only. Inspect access equipment before use, establish an exclusion below overhead work, and secure tools and materials against dropping.

INITIAL (H/M/L)	RESIDUAL (H/M/L)	SITE-SPECIFIC ADDITIONAL CONTROLS, OR N/A	ACTION OWNER	BY WHEN

Site-specific hazards not listed above — every site has at least one:

HAZARD	WHO IS AT RISK	CONTROLS	INITIAL HI...	RESIDUAL...	ACTION OWNER	BY WHEN

4 METHOD — SEQUENCE OF WORK

- Collect the safety data sheet and COSHH assessment for every product in the fire-stopping schedule; mark those containing isocyanates or flammable propellants.
- Where the tested details allow, choose the least hazardous product for each configuration; record the choice and its test evidence.
- Agree with the occupier or principal contractor the areas, times and any ventilation changes; identify detectors near the work.
- Establish ventilation in the space before any product is opened; set up access so the installer is not working with their face above the application point.
- Bring into the space only the products for that session; keep aerosol cans in their cage until needed.
- Put on gloves, eye protection and RPE to the assessment; check washing and eyewash provision.
- Apply products to the tested detail. STOP and leave the space if vapour builds up, ventilation fails or anyone feels unwell.
- Clean tools and uncured product with the specified cleaner; bag contaminated wipes and gloves.
- Remove all products from the space at the end of the session; return aerosols to the cage; put part-used cans and uncured foam in the hazardous waste container.
- Restore any detector covers or isolations and record them; wash before eating or smoking.

SITE-SPECIFIC AMENDMENTS TO THE SEQUENCE

--

5 PLANT, EQUIPMENT AND MATERIALS

Extraction fan and ducting to outside	Hazardous waste container for cans and uncured foam
Foam guns and cartridge applicators	Eyewash bottles and manufacturer's cleaner
Ventilated aerosol storage cage	Podiums or towers
INSPECTION / THOROUGH EXAMINATION REFS	COSHH ASSESSMENT REFS

6 PPE — THE LAST LINE OF CONTROL, NOT THE FIRST

Head protection	Gloves — task-rated	Gloves of the material each safety data sheet specifies
Safety footwear	Eye protection	RPE to the COSHH assessment where isocyanate foam is used
High visibility	Hearing protection	

RPE TYPE, FACE-FIT STATUS, AND ANY OTHER PPE REQUIRED

--

7 PERMITS REQUIRED BEFORE THIS WORK STARTS

A permit authorises this work in that place, on that day. It extends the safe system of work in this document — it does not replace it (HSE HSG250). The site issues the permit; record its number before work starts.

KD-PTW-FI-023 — Fire Alarm and Detection Isolation Permit
Where detectors near the work are covered or isolated.

PERMIT NUMBER

KD-PTW-CS-004 — Confined Space Entry Permit
Where a riser, shaft or void qualifies as a confined space.

PERMIT NUMBER

8 EMERGENCY ARRANGEMENTS — COMPLETE FOR THIS SITE

FIRST AIDER AND LOCATION

NEAREST A&E

ASSEMBLY POINT

HOW THE ALARM IS RAISED

EMERGENCY ACCESS FOR THIS WORK AREA

SPILL / ENVIRONMENTAL RESPONSE

9 BRIEFING RECORD — EVERYONE WORKING UNDER THIS RAMS SIGNS BEFORE STARTING

By signing you confirm the contents of this RAMS have been explained to you, you understand the hazards and controls, and you will work to the sequence stated. Tell the supervisor if the work or the site does not match this document — work stops until it does.

NAME	COMPANY	SIGNATURE	DATE

10 PREPARED AND ACCEPTED

Prepared / adapted for this site by — I confirm I have adapted this document to the site, scored the risks, and that it describes how the work will actually be done.

PRINTED NAME	ROLE / COMPETENCE	COMPANY	SIGNATURE	DATE	TIME

Accepted for the site by — principal contractor or site manager review.

PRINTED NAME	ROLE	COMPANY	SIGNATURE	DATE	TIME

Review this RAMS if the work, the site or the law changes, and at least before each new phase of the works. Flatten the completed PDF before filing so the record cannot be silently edited.

R REVISION HISTORY

Every revision of this document, and every review that found nothing to change. The revision on the front of this sheet is the one you are holding — check kubitdocs.com for the current one before use.

Rev	Date	Class	What changed	Authorised by
D0	2026-09-11	first-issue	First issue.	— not yet approved —
A0	2026-09-11	review	Approved for issue by the author. Content unchanged from the reviewed draft; the draft status strip is removed. No independent third-party review has been carried out.	Author — director, UK principal contractor, SMSTS. Not an independent review.

Class: first-issue · material (the law, a control, a field or the scope changed — past buyers are notified) · editorial (wording or layout only) · review (checked, nothing changed) · withdrawal. Revision prefix D = draft, not approved and not for sale; A = approved for issue by the person named, on the date shown.