



HEALTH, SAFETY AND EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

Promoting a safer place to work and study

HSEM BULLETIN

Plant and Equipment Selection - Safety Considerations

Who needs to read this?

All Curtin University Staff and Students

Background

If you are planning on purchasing plant or equipment for general use or research purposes, there are a number of key safety considerations that need to be addressed prior to purchase and installation on campus; including:

- Is the proposed space suitable to hold the instrumentation or equipment - e.g.: approvals required to use the space, ventilation, lighting, floor strength, or building structural requirements?
- Is the instrumentation/equipment fit for purpose? Are modifications required including to programming, electrics, fittings, or to local power, gas, air conditioning, non-interruptible power supplies, etc.?
- Are there any inspection, testing or registration processes required before installation and use - e.g. registration with regulators including Worksafe, Radiological Council, Therapeutic Goods Administration, etc.?
- Are any adjoining areas/research projects likely to be affected by the introduction of this instrumentation/equipment - e.g. introduction of vibration, radiation, noise), etc.?

Information

As a minimum, plant or equipment should:

- be purchased from reputable Australian manufacturers *
- meet relevant Australian Standards
- include operations manuals written in English



- be purchased with an agreement to provide competency training in the safe use and maintenance of the equipment

* Where plant or equipment is not purchased from an Australian manufacturer, equipment specifications are required to be supplied prior to purchase to ensure that it meets the relevant Australian Standards and is fit for purpose. These specifications may include engineer's drawings, electrical requirements, inspection, testing and maintenance requirements, environmental impacts, waste disposal and end of life processes.

Recommendations

- complete a [Plant & Equipment Pre-purchase Checklist](#) during project planning, to assist to identify the key safety considerations that need to be addressed.
- contact Curtin Properties, Facilities and Development to discuss the requirements of the equipment and project.
- consult and communicate with adjoining areas that may be affected.

Who do we call with questions?

If you have any queries, please contact Health, Safety and Emergency Management on 9266 4900 or email healthandsafety@curtin.edu.au.

References

[Occupational Safety and Health Regulations 1996](#) – Part 4

[Radiological Council](#)

[Therapeutic Goods Administration – Conformity Assessment](#)

Worksafe WA – [Plant Registration](#)

Date of Issue

14/03/2019