

# The Control of Major Accident Hazard Regulations 1999 (COMAH)

Control of Major Accident Hazards (COMAH) [Click here to view the COMAH regulations](#)

The COMAH Regulations came into force on the 1 April 1999 and replace the previous Control of Industrial Major Accident Hazards (CIMAH) Regulations.

COMAH Regulations apply mostly to the chemical industry, but are also applied to some storage activities (explosives and nuclear sites), and other industries where threshold quantities of dangerous substances, as identified in the Regulations, are kept or used.

The Health and Safety Executive and the Environment Agency are responsible for the enforcement of the COMAH Regulations. These authorities are known as the 'Competent Authority'.

There are two classifications under the Regulations:

Upper Tier Sites  
Lower Tier Sites

Upper Tier Sites have an off-site plan which is prepared by the Local Authority and tested every three years. We currently have no Upper Tier Sites on the Island.

Lower Tier Sites have a duty to prepare and hold a Major Accident Prevention Policy otherwise known as a MAPP.



[Click here](#) to download a copy of the Health and Safety Executive information Sheet for Major accident prevention policies for lower-tier COMAH establishments. (70kb pdf)

More detailed information and guidance is available from the [Health and Safety Executive site](#)