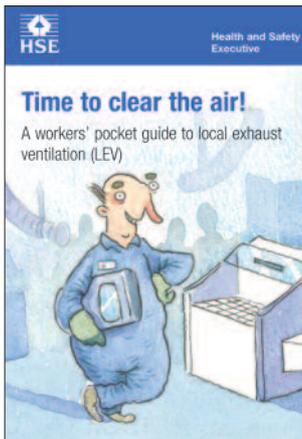


Time to clear the air!

A workers' pocket guide to local exhaust ventilation (LEV)



*This is a web-friendly
version of pocket card
INDG409*

Local exhaust ventilation (LEV) in your workplace should carry away any harmful dust, mist, fumes or gas in the air.

To protect your health:

- It needs to be the right type for the job.
- It needs installing properly in the first place.
- It needs regular checking and maintenance throughout the year.
- It needs testing thoroughly at least once every year.
- If you move LEV, make sure it still works.
- It needs an indicator to show it's working properly.
- You need to check that it works properly every time you use it.
- You need to use it properly.

Check for yourself to see how effective the LEV is where you work.

Daily checklist for LEV

- Does the indicator show the LEV is working properly?
- Is it taking away all the harmful dust, mist, fumes and gas? Remember, some of these may be invisible.
- Are you close enough to it so it can do its job properly?
- Are there any signs it is not working properly, like smells or settled dust?
- Are there any unusual noises or vibration coming from it?
- Has it been thoroughly tested, with a 'tested' label that is within date?
- Have you told your supervisor about anything you think may be wrong?

Further information

For information about health and safety, or to report inconsistencies or inaccuracies in this guidance, visit www.hse.gov.uk/. You can view HSE guidance online and order priced publications from the website. HSE priced publications are also available from bookshops.

This pocket card contains notes on good practice which are not compulsory but which you may find helpful in considering what you need to do.

This pocket card is available in priced packs of 25 from HSE Books, ISBN 978 0 7176 6300 2. Single copies are free and a web version can be found at: www.hse.gov.uk/pubns/indg409.pdf.

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