

*How
safe
are
you?*

Contact

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Plansafe Solutions also offers:

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ENGINEERING SERVICES





At Plansafe, we offer a tailor-made service for companies and individuals who have the responsibility for arranging statutory examination and testing of lifting equipment, pressure plant and local exhaust ventilation systems (LEV) under the UK regulations. Plansafe Engineering Services provides a professional facility throughout Dumfries and Galloway and Cumbria, offering a local service that is a cost-effective alternative to a large national inspection body.

Meeting the statutory requirements

At Plansafe Engineering Services, we undertake the statutory engineers' examinations, testing and reporting that are required for lifting equipment, lifting tackle and pressure vessels. These examinations cover such equipment as:

- cranes and lifting tackle
- garage lifting plant
- access platforms (cherry pickers)
- fork lift trucks and attachments
- passenger and goods lifts
- excavators and attachments
- minor pressure systems
- local exhaust systems
- proof of load testing

The basis for the examinations is contained mainly in these four pieces of legislation:

- The Control of Substances Hazardous to Health Regulations 2002 (COSHH)
- Lifting Operations and Lifting Equipment Regulations 1998 (LOLER)
- Provision and Use of Work Equipment Regulations 1998 (PUWER)
- Pressure Systems Safety Regulations 2000 (PSSR)

LOLER places duties on people and companies who own, operate or have control over lifting equipment. Lifting equipment will often be work equipment, so PUWER will also apply. Anyone who uses lifting equipment must have a statutory examination of that equipment and a report once every 12 months, or more frequently if necessary. That includes everything from goods and passenger lifts, to fork lift trucks and overhead and mobile cranes. Lifting tackle must undergo an examination every six months and so, too, must lifting equipment for people.

We undertake thorough examinations of small pressure systems such as workshop air receivers, commonly referred to as compressors, which fall under the duties imposed by the Pressure System Safety Regulations 2000. This includes the pressure vessel itself and the associated safety devices and local pipe work. This involves both internal and external examinations, bench testing of the safety valve and ensuring that the pressure relief valve works correctly as well as an ultrasonic wall thickness test. Many such items of equipment sit forgotten in the corner of the workshop and can fall into a dangerous condition if not regularly inspected in this manner.

*Health and safety law also stipulates that employers must assess the risks to workers from hazardous substances. This includes exposure to dust and fumes of a hazardous nature generated in the workplace. If you adopt a **local exhaust ventilation (LEV)** extraction system to remove the dusts (for example, in a joiner's workshop), fumes or vapours produced by your work (such as engineering or fabrication workshops, work places where chemicals are used or produced), then you must have a regular examination and test to confirm that the LEV is in efficient working order.*

*The specialised area of **proof load testing** is a form of stress test to demonstrate the fitness of a load-bearing structure, such as lifting eyes fitted to equipment to help you to lift it. Testing will generally involve the use of a calibrated load cell to verify that the lifting points are safe for use and this will include a detailed examination of the weld runs and materials used in fabrication. The result will be to identify a working load limit (WLL), and hence a safe working load (SWL) for the item of equipment manufactured.*

Local, independent, quality services

The Approved Code of Practice to LOLER advises on the competence of the person carrying out these examinations. It recognises that they must have the appropriate practical and theoretical knowledge and experience of lifting equipment to allow them to identify any defects and weaknesses, prioritising these in respect of the continuing safe use of the equipment. They should also be sufficiently independent and impartial as to allow objective decisions to be made.

Our qualified, experienced Engineer Surveyors meet this test of competence and will carry out the necessary examinations, inspections and proof testing to current UK and EU standards. They will provide easily read, clear and concise Reports of Examination on time and in line, as applicable, with the Safety Assessment Federation guidelines.

As a local, independent service, we provide cost savings and value for money, tailoring solutions to suit your individual requirements to minimise equipment down time.

Having called Plansafe to do a job for us at short notice, we found them to be efficient and professional. We will be using them in the future to carry out all the inspections of our equipment.
Michael Foster
(Owner)
J.E Foster @ Son Ltd