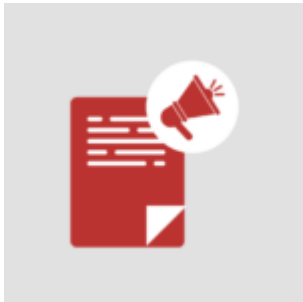


Revised Pre-Start Review Rules Take Effect in Ontario



PSR triggers haven't changed but there are new exemptions and a simplified Table

Notice to Ontario employers: Changes to OHS Pre-Start Review (PSR) rules took effect on January 1, 2022. Here's a quick briefing.

What Is a PSR'

In 2000, Ontario adopted a rule (contained in Section 7 of the *OHS Industrial Establishments Regulation*) requiring a PSR before beginning to use certain kinds of potentially hazardous machinery, structures and protective elements for the first time. Carrying out a PSR involves performing a detailed engineering review and making necessary corrections before putting the equipment or process into use.

Who Must Perform a PSR'

The duty to perform a PSR covers a 'factory,' which the *OHS Act* defines broadly as including manufacturing, repair, warehouse, retail, assembly, laundry and just about any other operation except a mine, construction project, logging operation or place where homework is carried out.

What Are the PSR Changes

The equipment and processes triggering the need for a PSR haven't changed. However, the Table that lists triggers for a PSR and the exemptions associated with that trigger has been simplified. There are also 2 new sets of exemptions (listed in items 1 and 8).

Item	PSR Trigger	Exemption(s)
1	<p>Either of the following applies:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. More than 235 litres of flammable liquids are located in a building or room 2. Flammable liquids are dispensed in a building, <u>room</u> or area 	<p><u>All</u> of the following requirements are met:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. No more than 235 litres of flammable liquids are stored per adequate cabinet 2. No more than 3 cabinets containing flammable liquids are in a group of cabinets 3. There's at least 30 metres between groups of cabinets containing flammable liquids
2	<p>Any of the following are used as protective elements for an apparatus:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Safeguarding devices signaling the apparatus to stop, including safety light curtains and screens, area scanning safeguarding systems, radio frequency systems and capacitance safeguarding systems, safety mat systems, two-hand control systems, two-hand tripping systems and single or multiple beam systems 2. Barrier guards that use interlocking mechanical or electrical safeguarding devices 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The protective element was installed when the apparatus was manufactured, and: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. the apparatus and protective element were manufactured in accordance with, or modified to meet, current applicable standards; and ii. the apparatus has been installed in accordance with current applicable standards, if any, and the manufacturer's instructions 2. The protective element wasn't installed when the apparatus was manufactured, and: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. the apparatus and protective element were manufactured in accordance with, or modified to meet, current applicable standards; and ii. the apparatus and protective element have been installed in accordance with current applicable standards, if any, and manufacturer's instructions
3	Material, <u>articles</u> or things are placed or stored on a structure that's a rack or stacking structure	The rack or stacking structure is designed and tested for use in accordance with current applicable standards
4	A process involves risk of ignition or explosion creating a condition of imminent hazard to a person's health or safety	The process is conducted inside a spray booth manufactured and installed in accordance with current applicable standards
5	The use of a dust collector involves a risk of ignition or explosion creating a condition of imminent hazard to a person's health or safety	None
6	A factory produces aluminum or steel or is a foundry that melts material or handles molten material	None
7	<p>Any of the following are used:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A travelling crane, overhead crane, monorail crane, gantry crane, jib crane or other lifting device suspended from or supported by a structure 2. A vehicle lift or hoist 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The supporting structure was originally designed for the travelling crane, overhead crane, monorail crane, gantry crane, jib crane or other lifting device that's being installed or used 2. The vehicle lift or hoist has been certified as meeting current applicable standards
8	A process uses or produces a hazardous biological or chemical agent and uses a ventilation system to limit worker exposure in accordance with any exposure limit set out in Regulation 833 of the Revised Regulations of Ontario, 1990 (<i>Control of Exposure to Biological or Chemical Agents</i>) made under the OHS Act	A portable device that extracts smoke, fumes or other substances and that doesn't exhaust to the outdoors is used