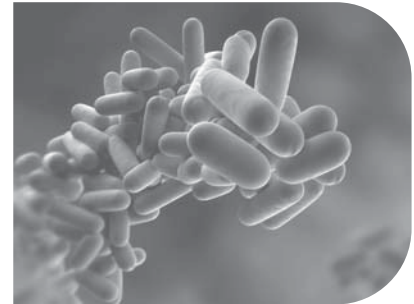
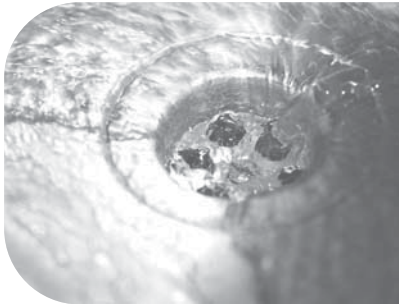


Water Hygiene Risk Management

In Partnership with Managed Water Services



The facts

- 200 – 250 reported cases of Legionnaires' Disease each year in the UK and it is on the increase
- Legionella bacteria can be fatal in 40% of reported cases

What you need to know about Legionnaires Disease

Legionella bacteria was first identified following a large outbreak of pneumonia among people at an American convention in Philadelphia, 1976.

Legionella bacteria is commonly found in natural water courses such as rivers and ponds. Since Legionella are widespread in the environment; they may contaminate and grow in other water systems such as cooling towers and hot and cold water systems, showers, sprinkler systems, water features and spa baths. The bacteria survive at low temperatures between 20-45 degrees. Other factors including the presence of a supply of nutrients such as rust, sludge and scale, can provide conditions suitable for multiplication of the bacteria.

Your duties by law

Under general Health and Safety law, you have to consider the risk from Legionella, which must be recorded in a suitable format of a risk assessment, as specifically detailed by The Management of Health and Safety at Work regulations. This risk assessment will look at the effect it would have on your staff, visitors, contractors or the public and require you to;

- Identify and assess sources of risk
- Prepare a scheme (or course of action for preventing or controlling the risk)
- Implement and manage the scheme – appointing a person to be managerially responsible
- Keep records and check that what has been done is effective
- If appropriate, notify the local authority that you have a cooling tower(s) on site



Case Studies

DIY giant B&Q were ordered to pay around £90,000 after it exposed more than half a million customers to deadly Legionnaires' disease.

Health officials found traces of the bug in an £8,000 spa pool on display in a store for two months.

The tub created an 'aerosol' of contaminated airborne water particles, which could have been inhaled by 510,000 shoppers in Longwell Green, Bristol.

The chain was fined the maximum £20,000 by North Avon Magistrates and ordered to pay £68,000 costs. B&Q admitted failing to ensure the safety of shoppers.

The worst outbreak of Legionnaires' disease in the UK was recorded in Barrow in Furness in 2002. Six women and one man died with 172 others contracting Legionnaires' disease. The cause of the outbreak was traced back to a contaminated cooling tower at the town's Arts Centre.

The council and Ms Beckingham were cleared of manslaughter charges but the council was fined £125,000 and Ms Beckingham £15,000 on health and safety charges.

The Oval Service

In partnership with Managed Water Services, a comprehensive, specialist Water Hygiene Risk Management approach is available to you. This includes:

- Legionella/Water Hygiene Risk Assessment
- Technical support on production of a report
- On going monitoring and water treatment programs
- Microbiological analyses
- Legionella analyses
- Water system plumbing remedial works
- Cleaning and disinfection
- Pre-commission cleaning and disinfection
- Installation and service of water treatment equipment
- Legionella Control Association approved contractors who operate to ISO 9001:2000

Contact Us

To find out more about what you need to know about this potentially fatal disease, please contact your usual Risk Services contact or email riskservices@theovalgroup.com

www.theovalgroup.com