

LEGIONELLA AND DOMESTIC HOT WATER SYSTEMS TEMPERATURE MONITORING

What is legionnaires' disease?

Legionnaires' disease is a type of pneumonia. It was named after an outbreak of severe pneumonia which affected a meeting of the American Legion in 1976. It is an uncommon but serious disease. It usually affects people with a stressed immune system.

How do people get it?

The germ which causes legionnaires' disease is a bacterium called Legionella pneumophila. People catch legionnaires' disease by inhaling small droplets of water suspended in the air which contain the Legionella bacterium. Legionnaires' disease is not contagious.

Common source of such droplets of water include:

- Air conditioning systems
- Cooling towers
- Hot and cold water systems
- Spa pools
- Hydrotherapy pools
- Fire fighting equipment
- Showers or spray from taps

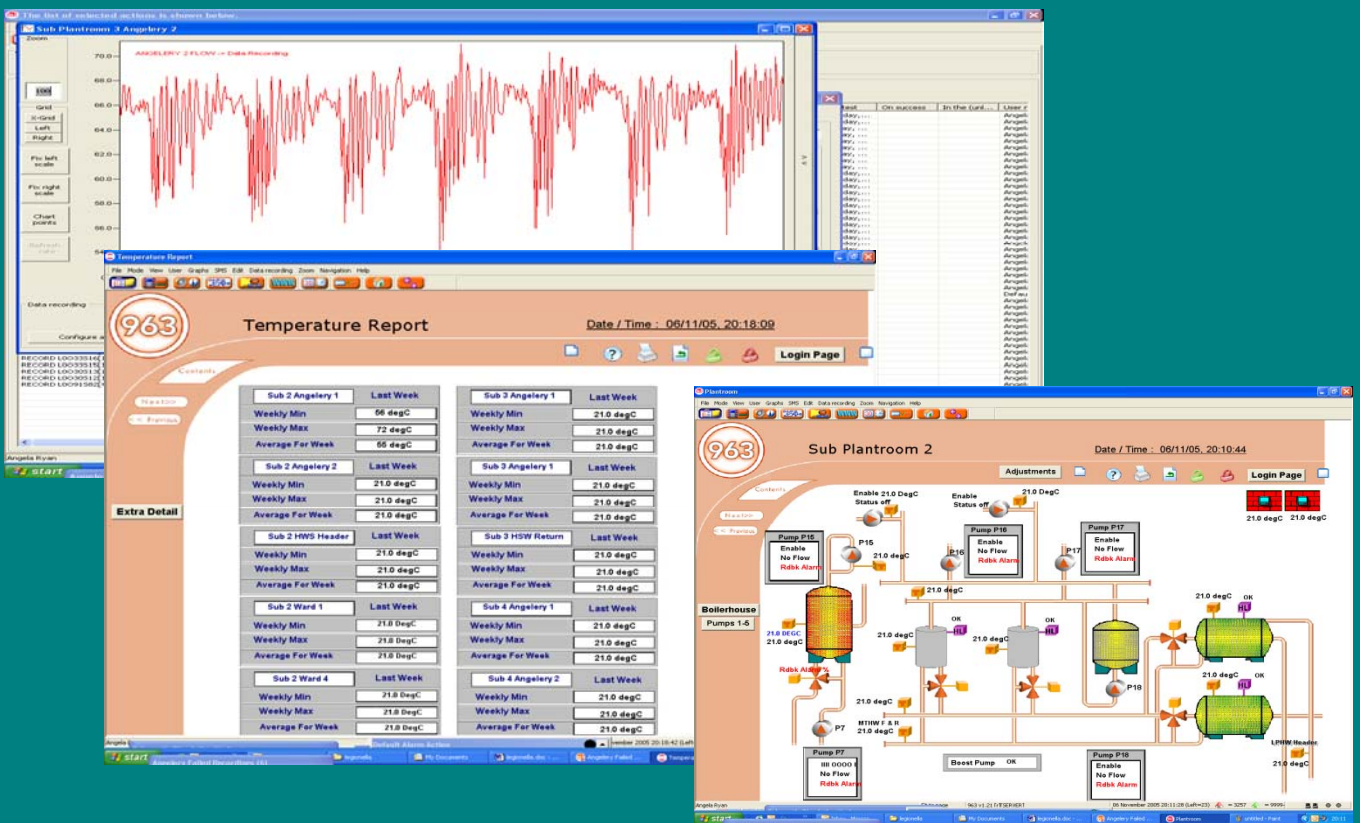
What are my duties under the law?

Under general health and safety law, you have to consider the risks from legionella that may affect your staff or members of the public and take suitable precautions.

As an employer or a person in control of the premises (e.g. a building services), you must:

- identify and assess sources of risk;
- prepare a scheme (or course of action) for preventing or controlling the risk;
- implement and manage the scheme -
- keep records and check that what has been done is effective.

Assessing the risk is your responsibility as the employer (usually Engineering Department). You need to find out if your water systems (including the equipment associated with the system such as pumps, heat exchangers, showers etc) are likely to create a risk.



What can Manutec offer?

We can offer a complete automatic controls and monitoring package with electronic records to the relevant codes and standards.

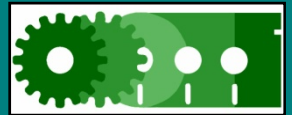
We offer a calibration service for temperature sensors.

We also offer a maintenance contract and maintain regular checks on systems remotely.

HSC publication L8 (UK) has been adopted by some HSE regions as their Approved Code of Practice and Guidance for the prevention of Legionnaires disease.

Article 169 states that:

- Hot water be stored at 60°C, flow temperature to be at least 60°C and return temperature to be at least 50°C
- Cold Water should be below 20°C after running the water for up to two minutes.
- Manutec have several monitoring systems installed throughout Irish Hospitals which log water temperature profiles and archive data to disk.
- Data retrieval and reports (weekly/monthly) are produced automatically for submission by utility departments to infection control committees etc.



Some existing sites currently using our Installed DHW (Legionella) Monitoring Systems:

- Mater Private Hospital, Dublin.
- Regional Hospital/Regional Maternity Hospital/Croom Orthopedic Hospital, Limerick.
- Tullamore General Hospital.
- Waterford Regional Hospital.

Manutec Limited can also offer a calibration service whereby certification of temperature sensors used in the monitoring of these systems would be carried out to agreed high accuracies.

More detailed guidance on your duties can be found in the Approved Code of Practice and guidance *Legionnaires' disease: The control of legionella bacteria in water systems Approved Code of Practice and guidance L8* (Third edition) HSE Books 2000 ISBN 0 7176 1772 6.

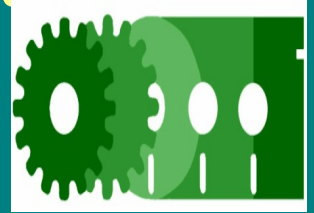
You may also find the following helpful: *Controlling legionella in nursing and residential care homes* INDG253 HSE Books 1997 (single copy free) *The control of legionellae in healthcare premises: A Code of Practice. Good practice guide* Health Technical Memorandum 2040 ISBN 0 11 321683 1 NHS Estates 1993.

The control of legionellosis: A recommended code of conduct for service providers. Water Management Society/British Association for Chemical Specialities, 1999 *Health and safety in care homes* HSG220 HSE Books 2001 ISBN 0 7176 2082 4.

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