

University Occupational Health and Safety Information Sheet

SAFETY CONDITIONS REQUIRED FOR EXCEEDING SENSORY EFFECT EXPOSURE LIMIT VALUES

1. Exceeding the Sensory Effect Exposure Limit Values

Whilst ELVs are legal maximum limits, there are certain situations where the sensory effect ELVs may be exceeded, provided that the applicable safety conditions (as stated in the schedule to the CEMFAW Regulations) are met. These safety conditions are as follows:

1.1 For exposure to an EMF ranging from 0 to 1 Hz

- They are only exceeded temporarily;
- Control measures have been adopted which minimise, so far as is reasonably practicable, the sensory effects related to movement in static magnetic fields, including nausea and vertigo;
- Adequate information is provided to personnel on the possibility of those sensory effects; and
- Where any of those sensory effects are reported to the employer, the EMF Exposure Assessment and the risk assessment are updated.

1.2 For exposure to an EMF ranging from 1 to 400 Hz

- They are only exceeded temporarily;
- Hazardous spark discharges, and contact currents are prevented through the provision of information and training and the use of suitable technical and personal protection measures;
- Adequate information is provided to personnel on the possibility of sensory effects related to time-varying magnetic fields, including retinal phosphenes; and
- Where any of those sensory effects are reported to the employer, the EMF Exposure Assessment and the risk assessment must be updated.

1.3 Sensory effect ELV for exposure to electromagnetic fields from 300 MHz to 6 GHz

- They are only exceeded temporarily;
- Adequate information is provided to personnel on the possibility of sensory effects related to pulsed microwave radiation, including auditory sensations; and
- Where any of those sensory effects are reported to the employer, the EMF Exposure Assessment and the risk assessment must be updated.

PLEASE NOTE: Health Effect ELVs must not be breached. Where it is believed that a health effect ELV has been exceeded the URPO must be informed immediately.