

# Manufacturing Commercial Insurance Profile

## Second Quarter 2019

### Inspections are Integral: Here's Why

Even if your organisation possesses the proper equipment and machinery for successful work, these resources could cause a range of serious risks without appropriate inspection and maintenance practices in place. Especially in the manufacturing industry—where reliance on workplace equipment is high—a machinery malfunction or accident could have costly consequences. Between injured employees, lost or damaged resources, reputational downfall and hefty non-compliance fines, your organisation can't afford to ignore necessary inspection and maintenance practices. Use this guidance to ensure safe and effective equipment:

- **Know when to inspect**—HSE regulations require workplace equipment to be inspected when there is a significant risk to the operator of the equipment or others due to incorrect installation or re-installation, damage or misuse of safety features, wear and tear of the equipment or under exceptional circumstances.
- **Establish a routine**—The frequency of equipment inspections and any necessary maintenance depends on the type, location and use of the equipment. However, inspections should typically take place when equipment is installed, moved or reinstalled; after an accident that has the potential to impact safety features; or at determined intervals throughout the time the equipment is in use.
- **Know how to inspect**—During equipment inspections, it's important to utilise resources such as the manufacturer or supplier handbook, HSE [guidelines](#) or professional guidance. Important elements to check include safety guards, structural supports, safety signage or warning indicators, braking devices and emergency stops.

More than anything, you need robust insurance. Contact Blackfriars Insurance Brokers Ltd today to discuss machinery breakdown cover.

### Tips to Attract Millennial Workers

In the midst of an ageing workforce issue across the country, the manufacturing sector is having even greater difficulty securing skilled workers as younger generations have shown a lack of interest in the industry. Indeed, the British Chambers of Commerce found that over 80 per cent of manufacturers had trouble finding staff within the right qualifications in the final months of 2018. Ensure the success of your future workforce during this skills shortage with these tips:

- **Highlight career opportunities**—A common myth in manufacturing is that there are no chances for career advancement. Debunk this by discussing professional growth potential in the application process.
- **Talk about technology**—Given that younger generations grew up in a digital world, it's important to showcase the innovative technology involved within the industry when discussing career opportunities.
- **Offer apprenticeships**—One of the best ways to attract young workers is to invest in programmes that allow employees to gain experience early in their career path, such as apprenticeships.

#### How the Ageing Workforce Is Impacting the Manufacturing Sector



**60%** of UK manufacturers put skills shortages at the top of their agenda.

**19%** reported that recruiting skilled staff is their main barrier to growth this year.



**63%** plan to hire apprentices this year.

Source: The Institution of Mechanical Engineers

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