

People & Social Responsibility

PSR/HSE/MS Division

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Objet / Subject : Deployment of company rule CR-GR-HSE-419	

Dear all,

The company rule CR-GR-HSE-419 *Safety of excavation works* was published on REFLEX on the 24/06/2019 and will be effective on the 24/09/2019. This company rule replaces chapter 12 of company rule CR-MS-HSEQ-202.

A summary listing the main requirements is available on the first page of the company rule. To help you deploy this rule on the field, we offer in addition:

- A synthetic gap analysis (additions, modifications and deletions) between the old and the new rule, specific for M&S;
- A support file intended to list the requirements of this rule and enabling their compliance follow-up.

The purpose of this company rule is to improve the management of risks during excavation works that could affect personnel and the integrity of any nearby underground networks. It covers in particular the following aspects:

- Preparation: identification of any underground structures, excavation certificate and risk assessment,
- Excavation phase: respecting safety distances, marking the area and installing protective measures,
- Activities inside an excavation: inspection, monitoring of works and cases of excavation works suspension,
- Excavation close-out: signaling buried structures and updating underground plans.

The major changes involve:

- Systematic identification of any underground structures,
- Definition of a maximum approach distance (1 m) using aggressive methods in relation to existing networks and structures,
- Daily inspection of the excavation before personnel enter it,
- Mandatory presence of a monitoring assistant if personnel are present in the excavation, or if the excavation machine operator does not have sufficient visibility, or on approach of an underground network.

☞ **I remind you that each affiliate must:**

- **Identify the gaps between its referential and the new requirements,**
- **Implement the associated action plans to correct the differences,**
- **Comply with the rule on the target date.**

Hans-Christian Gützkow