

Rochdale Occupational Health Service Ltd

NEW

**WORKPLACE
FIRST AID KITS
Compliant to BS8599-1**



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The new BS8599-1 Workplace First Aid Kits have been designed by industry experts to meet the needs of the modern workplace. They make selection much easier and safer for all employers and are now truly fit for purpose.

The BSi (British Standard Institute) have recently published the very first national standard for first aid kits. The new BS8599-1 British Standard Workplace First Aid Kits offers a new comprehensive product to cover employees in most workplace situations. This standard replaces the BHTA-HSE kits 10, 20 and 50, that are currently universally used in the UK, and are based on the HSE guidelines. The Current BHTA standard was published in 1997, and is long overdue a review. **The BHTA standard will be withdrawn from 31st December 2011.**

The new BS8599-1 Workplace First Aid Kits have been designed by industry experts to meet the needs of the modern workplace. They make selection much easier and safer for all employers and are now truly fit for purpose. This national standard brings the UK in line with most European member states and removes the risk that the UK could be ‘carried along without a voice’, should any attempt at European normalisation be introduced in the future.

The new workplace kits mark a real improvement in provision, they are professionally designed by industry experts. They now incorporate a wider range of products that are typically used, including the items that the HSE suggests should be part of a first aid kit.

BHTA, and the HSE all stress the importance of risk assessment to decide on first aid kit needs, the new kits have a useful guide to give employers the tools to match their risk assessment to the kits provided, in a similar way to the guidance given by the HSE to decide on how many, and what level of first aiders are needed.

Basic staples such as plasters and wipes have been increased in quantity, in line with consistent customer feedback.

New additions include finger dressings, previously the smallest dressing was 12cm²; foil survival blanket(s) to keep patients warm, a recommended treatment for clinical shock; paramedic shears, to remove clothing from a wound site and allow the wound to be dressed; gel soaked burns dressing, allowing burns to be covered and cooled en route to casualty; resuscitation devices to protect first aiders from infection and increased quantities of gloves. Whilst the new kits are more costly than the outgoing ones, the items contained are those that are actually used, reducing the expenditure needed on additional materials.

WHAT KITS ARE AVAILABLE?

There are four sizes of first aid kits, workplace small, medium, large and a travel kit.

WHAT SIZE IS REQUIRED?

Employers are required to make a risk assessment to decide what the hazard levels are and how many employees are involved in the area to be covered. There is a useful guide provided to help match this risk assessment to an appropriate size kit.

Category of hazard	Number of Employees	Size of First Aid Kit
<p>LOW HAZARD e.g. shops, offices, libraries etc.</p>	<p>Less than 25 25 – 100 more than 100</p>	<p>Small size kit Medium size kit 1 Large kit per 100 employees</p>
<p>HIGH HAZARD e.g. light engineering and assembly work, food processing, warehousing, extensive work with dangerous machinery or sharp instruments, construction, chemical manufacture etc.</p>	<p>Less than 5 5 – 25 more than 25</p>	<p>Small size kit Medium size kit 1 large kit per 25 employees</p>

NEW CONTENTS EXPLAINED

GLOVES & PLASTERS

More quantity reflecting the need, and Nitrile type in line with NHS and St. John Ambulance guidelines. Plasters- sensible quantities, reflecting consumer demand.

WIPES

Increased quantities, reflecting consumer demand. New specification is sterile and now must meet the European CE marking rules.

MEDIUM AND LARGE DRESSINGS

Fewer quantities, reflecting consumer demand.

TRIANGULAR BANDAGES

Quantities are reduced reflecting the change in training first aid protocol, where immobilisation of lower limbs using triangular bandages is no longer indicated.

FINGER DRESSINGS

A smaller finger dressing is introduced specifically for finger injuries that are too large for first aid plasters, dressing complete with an easy-fix adhesive tab.

BURNS GEL DRESSING

Every employer with as much as a kettle, must have a risk from burns. A modern burns gel dressing is added to meet this risk, together with a conforming bandage to attach and retain it.

ADHESIVE TAPE

Many first aiders prefer not to use safety pins, where additional injury could potentially be caused, adhesive tape is an easy and inexpensive way to secure dressings and bandages. Safety pins are retained, allowing users a choice of application.

SHEARS

Clothing around wound sites needs to be removed to allow first aid treatment. Shears, capable of cutting fabric and leather enable this removal.

FOIL EMERGENCY BLANKET

Clinical shock presents one of the most serious life threatening risks to a casualty, treatment includes keeping the casualty warm. The introduction of the foil survival blanket enables this.

MOUTH TO MOUTH RESUSCITATION DEVICE

The introduction of a mouth to mouth resuscitation device, incorporating a one way valve, protects the first aider from infection from body fluid pathogens.

EYE WASH

Incorporated into the travel kit since fixed eye wash stations are unlikely to be available. The environment of a travelling worker is unpredictable and could include a risk to eyes.

FIRST AID GUIDANCE LEAFLET

Conforming to the latest HSE guidance.



PRICES FOR GENERAL & BLUE CATERING FIRST AID KITS

BSi Small First Aid Kit £19.50 + vat	BSi Medium First Aid Kit £27.00 + vat	BSi Large First Aid Kit £36.50 + vat	BSi Travel First Aid Kit £15.00 + vat
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SPECIFICATION FOR THE CONTENTS OF WORKPLACE FIRST AID KITS

CONTENT	SMALL	MEDIUM	LARGE	TRAVEL
Burn Relief Dressing 10cm x 10cm	1	2	2	1
Dependaplast Washproof Assorted Plasters	40	60	100	10
Eye Pad Sterile Dressing	2	3	4	1
Finger Dressing with Adhesive Fixing	2	3	4	0
First Aid Guidance Leaflet	1	1	1	1
Foil Blanket	1	2	3	1
Large Sterile Dressing	1	2	2	1
Medium Sterile Dressing	4	6	8	1
Microporous Tape 2.5cm x 10m	1	1	1	1
Nitrile Gloves (pairs)	6	9	12	1
Reliform Conforming Bandage	1	2	2	1
Reliwipe Moist Cleansing Wipe	20	30	40	4
Resuscitation Face Shield with valve	1	1	2	1
Safety Pins	6	12	24	2
Sterile Eyewash (250ml)	0	0	0	1
Triangular Sterile Bandage	2	3	4	1
Universal Shears - small 6"	1	1	1	1

Price List for Individual Items for New Workplace First Aid Kits (compliant to BS8599-1)

Item Description	Quantity	Cost
Burn Relief Dressing 10cm x 10cm	each	£1.80
Dependaplast Washproof Assorted Plasters	Box 40	£1.20
	Box 60	£1.80
	Box 100	£2.58
Eye Pad Sterile Dressing (No 16)	each	.42p
Finger Dressing with Adhesive Fixing	each	.36p
First Aid Guidance Leaflet	each	.60p
Foil Blanket	each	£3.60
Large Sterile Dressing (No 9)	each	.60p
Medium Sterile Dressing (No 8)	each	.48p
Microporous Tape 2.5cm x 10m	each	£2.40
Nitrile Gloves	Box 6	£1.44
	Box 9	£2.10
Reliform Conforming Bandage 7.5cm	each	.96p
Reliwipe Moist Cleansing Wipe	Box 20	£1.56
	Box 30	£2.10
Resuscitation Face Shield with Filter valve	each	£1.80
Safety Pins	Pk 6	.22p
Triangular Sterile Bandage	each	.42p
Universal Shears - small 6"	each	£1.80

All prices include VAT @ 20%