

# NEW RULES ON CONTRACTOR STOP HAVE ENTERED INTO FORCE

NJORD has previously informed about these new rules. They are now in force. From 1 January 2026, the Danish Working Environment Authority (Arbejdstilsynet) may halt all work on a construction site if the Authority identifies serious breaches of the Working Environment Act. A contractor stop affects both contractors and subcontractors and may have significant financial consequences for the entire project.



## New rules tighten requirements for the working environment

With the new rules, the Danish Working Environment Authority can react more quickly and consistently if safety is lacking on a construction site. If a construction site receives several orders for serious violations, the Authority will initiate intensive supervision. This means frequent visits over approximately four weeks, during which they follow up to ensure that the rules are being complied with.

If the problems persist, the Danish Working Environment Authority may issue a warning of a contractor stop. If the company does not remedy the conditions, the Authority may issue a formal order to stop work. The order requires the contractor and all subcontractors to suspend work until they have brought the working environment into compliance.

## How the company resumes work

To resume work, the contractor must document to the Danish Working Environment Authority that the company has complied with all orders and implemented measures to prevent future working environment problems. The Authority then inspects the construction site and assesses whether the company may resume work. Only after the Authority has approved the conditions does the contractor resume work.

## What should companies be aware of?

- Increased focus on the working environment and accident prevention is crucial.
- Close dialogue and cooperation between the client, contractor, and subcontractors is necessary to

ensure compliance with the rules.

- It is important to follow up on orders and ensure that all working environment conditions are rectified quickly.

The new rules are intended to create a safer working environment on construction sites. Frequent accidents and serious violations have made it necessary to strengthen the Authority's ability to intervene. Even a short contractor stop can have major financial and practical consequences, so it is important that all links in the contract chain are in order.

Do you have questions about the new changes or need advice? At NJORD Law Firm, both our specialists in labour & employment law and our experts in construction law are ready to help.



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