UK rules and standards for event technical teams

The law, the codes of practice and the technical standards, one line each

VIRTUAL STUDIO EVENTS

> This is a map, not legal advice. Your employer, the venue and the event organiser each have duties under these rules. When in doubt, ask the competent person named in the event's safety plan.

Safety law

Rule	What it means on an event
Health and Safety at Work etc. Act 1974	The base duty: employers, the self-employed and organisers must keep people safe as far as reasonably practicable
Management of Health and Safety at Work Regulations 1999	Risk assessments, and working together where several employers share a site
Construction (Design and Management) Regulations 2015	HSE says CDM applies to building, fitting out and taking down temporary structures for live events, proportionately. Stages, LED walls and truss count
Work at Height Regulations 2005	Plan and supervise any work where someone could fall; ladders for short, low-risk jobs only
LOLER 1998	Lifting operations and equipment: hoists, motors, slings and shackles need planning, marked working loads and thorough examination
PUWER 1998	Work equipment must be suitable for the job, maintained and inspected
Electricity at Work Regulations 1989	Electrical systems and equipment must be safe, maintained and worked on by competent people. This is the duty behind in-service inspection and testing of portable kit (often called PAT)
Control of Noise at Work Regulations 2005	Crew exposure action values of 80 and 85 dB(A) daily, limit 87 dB(A); applies to crew at loud shows

Codes of practice and guidance

Document	What it covers
BS 7909:2023+A1:2024	Temporary electrical systems for entertainment and related purposes: design, installation, inspection and documentation of temporary power
BS 7671:2018+A4:2026	The IET Wiring Regulations (18th Edition). Amendment 4 was published in April 2026
The Purple Guide	Events Industry Forum guidance on health, safety and welfare at events
HSE L153	Guidance on CDM 2015, read alongside HSE's entertainment industry pages

Spectrum and broadcasting

- **Ofcom PMSE licences:** Channel 38 and co-ordinated radio mic channels need a licence; some bands are licence-exempt (see our audio and radio mic sheet).
- **Ofcom Broadcasting Code:** applies to licensed TV and radio services, not to a private corporate stream; platforms' own rules apply instead.

People, data and access

- **UK GDPR and the Data Protection Act 2018:** filming and streaming people, and registration data, need a lawful basis and a clear notice.
- **Equality Act 2010:** reasonable adjustments for disabled delegates, including captions and accessible venues.

Technical standards you will hear quoted

- **ITU-R BT.709:** HD colour. BT.2020 and BT.2100: UHD and HDR (PQ, HLG).
- **SMPTE ST 292, 424, 2081, 2082:** HD, 3G, 6G and 12G SDI.
- **SMPTE ST 2110 and ST 2022-7:** video over IP and seamless stream protection.
- **SMPTE ST 12:** timecode.
- **EBU R 128, EBU R 68, SMPTE RP 155:** loudness and line-up.
- **AES67:** audio over IP interoperability. **EBU R 95:** safe areas.

Sources. HSE: CDM 2015 for entertainment · BSI: BS 7909 · IET: BS 7671 Amendment 4 · The Purple Guide · Work at Height Regulations 2005. Checked 9 November 2026.

Watermarked preview. Get the clean file free at www.virtualstudio.events/tech-uk-event-rules-standards.html