Introduction
This briefing gives guidance on the programme of Public/Bank holidays and annual holidays, which apply in England, Wales and Scotland until the New Year 2021.

The holiday year and associated arrangements
1) The annual industry entitlement is 22 days each year. Plus 8 days of Public/Bank holidays making an annual total of 30 days.
2) The holiday year runs from 1st January to 31st December. Those days of the winter holiday that fall into the next calendar year will normally be taken from holidays earned in the previous year.
3) The concept of Easter (spring) and Summer holidays has been discontinued in favour of “Other Holidays” WR.18.2 now states:-
   The remaining 15 days of Industry holidays may be taken at any time by agreement with the employer. An operative requesting to take paid holiday must give the employer reasonable written notice and, as a minimum, equivalent to twice the duration of holiday requested (ie. two weeks written notice to take a one week holiday) and the employer can either accept or reject the request, not later than the period equivalent to the period of holiday requested.”

Calculation of holiday pay
Following the decision of the Employment Appeal Tribunal (EAT) in the case of Bear Scotland & Ors –v– Fulton & Ors relating to the calculation of holiday pay under the provisions of the EU Working Time Directive the CIJC has changed the way holiday pay is calculated for the 22 days of annual Industry holidays. The method of calculating pay for the 8 days of annual Bank and Public holidays remains unchanged.

Payment for annual holidays (22 days each full year)
Payment for annual holidays, which shall be made on the last payday preceding the commencement of each holiday period as follows:

Calculation of pay for annual holidays
A week’s pay is the average of the previous 12* complete weeks’ pay including overtime in accordance with WR.4, taxable travel allowance in accordance with WR5.1, Bonus in accordance with WR2 and regular allowances in accordance with WRs 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11 & 13. Weeks during which the operative is absent due to sickness are to be excluded.

One day’s pay is calculated by dividing a week’s pay, as defined above, by the contractual hours in the normal working week and multiplying by the contractual hours in the particular day.

Payment in respect of public/bank holidays
Pay for days of public/bank holiday shall be made by the employer to an operative in his employment at the time of each such holiday on the payday in respect of the pay week in which such holiday occurs, except that payment for Christmas, Boxing Day and New Year’s Day shall be made on the last pay day before the Winter Holiday. The amount of payment for each day of public/bank holiday shall be in accordance with either:

A - Where the operative’s pay does not vary with the amount of work done
A week’s pay is simply the normal weekly wage for the contractual weekly hours as defined by the contract of employment, including, where appropriate, any fixed bonus and regular payments and/or allowances made under WRs 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11 & 13 but excluding overtime in accordance with WR.4.

B - Where the operative’s pay varies with the amount of work done
Where earnings vary because of piecework or productivity bonus arrangements, then a week’s pay is arrived at by calculating the earnings during the normal working week as defined by the contract of employment, averaged over the 12* complete weeks worked immediately prior to the holiday week, including, where appropriate, any fixed bonus and regular payments and/or allowances made under WRs 2, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11 & 13 but excluding overtime in accordance with WR.4. Weeks during which the operative is absent due to sickness are to be excluded.

One day’s pay is calculated by dividing a week’s pay as defined by either A or B above by the contractual hours in the normal working week and multiplying by the contractual hours in the particular day.

Calculation of holiday entitlement for an operative who either leaves or joins during the year
Total paid holiday entitlement accrues at the rate of 0.577 days per week of service. Viz. 30 days in a complete year.

The “Industry” element of this accrues at the rate of 0.423 days per week of service. Viz. 22 days under the CIJC agreement.

The Public and Bank holiday element of 8 days accrues at the rate of 0.154 days per week of service.

*N.B. From April 2020 the reference period for calculating holiday pay will change from 12 to 52 weeks.
Calculation of holiday entitlement for an operative who either leaves or joins during the year (cont’d) 

By way of example an operative who is employed for 20 weeks would have earned a total of 20 x 0.577 = 11.54 days of paid holiday of which 20 x 0.423 = 8.46 is to be paid as “Industry” days which includes overtime in accordance with WR.4. 

Payment for the remaining 3.08 days for Public and Bank holidays excludes overtime. 

If, on leaving, the operative has been paid for less than the accrued entitlement then a payment in lieu of the difference must be made with the final wage. If, on the other hand, the operative has been paid for more than the accrued holiday entitlement then an appropriate deduction should be made from the final wage. 

● Annual & Public/Bank holidays 2020 - England & Wales 

The following are days to be recognised as Public/Bank holidays for purposes of the Working Rule Agreement provided that such days are generally recognised as holidays in the locality in which the work is being done. 

Good Friday - Friday 10th April
Easter Monday - Monday 13th April
Early May Bank Holiday - Friday 8th May
N.B. The Government has decided, for 2020 only, the traditional May Day Holiday (the first monday in May) will be moved to Friday 8 May to celebrate the 75th anniversary of VE Day.
Spring Bank Holiday - Monday 25th May
Summer Bank Holiday - Monday 31st August
Christmas Day - Friday 25th December
Boxing Day (substitute) - Monday 28th December
New Year’s Day - Friday 1st January 2021 

● Other holidays - England and Wales 

As stated at the beginning of this briefing flexibility has been introduced regarding when the 15 days of non-allocated Industry holidays may be taken. This does not prevent an employer from designating a particular period of “close down”. That is to stick with the old Easter close down or some other period. If an employer wishes to designate a “close down” then the workforce should be notified of such close down at the beginning of the holiday year. 

● Winter holiday and Associated Public/Bank holidays - Scotland 

The Working Rule Agreement states that there shall be 7 working days taken in conjunction with Christmas Day, Boxing Day and New Year’s Day to give a winter holiday of 2 calendar weeks. The Winter Break in 2020 will be from normal finishing time Friday 18th December 2020 to normal starting time Monday 4th January 2021 in accordance with WR.18.1. 

Payment for work on Public/Bank holidays 

All hours worked on a day designated as a Public/Bank holiday shall be paid for at double time (WR.19.4). An operative who has worked on a Public/Bank holiday should be given another paid day’s holiday in lieu and not paid holiday pay for the day worked. The day in lieu should be taken by agreement between the operative and the employer. 

Night-work and shift-work 

In the case of night-work or shift-work, it is customary for a holiday period to commence and finish at the start of the shifts which include the midnight proceeding or the midnight at the end of the holiday period for normal day workers. 

Flexibility associated with the Winter Holiday 

The Working Rule Agreement provides that all or some of the days of the winter holiday can be taken on alternative days (WR.18.1). Where it is agreed that the days should be changed the entitlement remains two weeks. By way of example, from Wednesday to Tuesday - a fortnight away, inclusive. 

For further information please contact your trade association 

Build UK (Contractor Members) 
0844 249 5351 
Civil Engineering Contractors Association (CECA) 
020 7340 0450 
Home Builders Federation (HBF) 
020 7960 1600 
National Access & Scaffolding Confederation (NASC) 
020 7822 7400 
National Association of Shopfitters (NAS) 
01883 624961 
National Federation of Builders (NFB) 
03450 578160 
National Federation of Roofing Contractors (NFRC) 
020 7638 7663 
Painting & Decorating Association (PDA) 
024 7635 3776 
Scottish Building Federation (SBF) 
0131 556 8866 

Members who require further information about the dates of the holidays to be fixed by a local authority should consult their local authority.

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