
INTRODUCTION

TSO is delighted to bring you the new consolidated version of the Civil Procedure Rules. As a result of continuing civil justice reforms a large number of amendments have been made to the Rules in the six years since they were originally introduced in 1999. We have already published 37 separate updates, each containing numerous changes to the Rules. Demand for a revised edition has grown, and as a result this edition has been consolidated for publication in March 2005. In future there will normally be only two updates a year, unless additional updates become essential. The two updates will be in October and February.

The publication contains the complete text of the Civil Procedure Rules, Practice Directions, Pre-action Protocols, Forms, Notes to Accompany and Practice Direction Annexes Relating to European Legislation. It incorporates all amendments up to and including those in Update 38. New amendments made as a result of Update 38 are also included in the Notes to Accompany for Update 38. Consolidation has led to a substantial reduction in pages, and we have also taken the opportunity to re-index the printed version and to redesign both print and CD-ROM formats.

The printed version of this official publication is currently the authoritative version, and is provided in courts across England and Wales for use by judges and court clerks. A CD-ROM version of the Rules is supplied as part of each subscription, to provide portability and a very useful search facility for the subscriber. The CD-ROM can also be networked; for enquiries about network licences call our sales team on 01603 696860 or e-mail tsls@tso.co.uk.

As part of your subscription, updates will be sent to you as and when the Civil Procedure Rule Committee introduces new Rules or Rule changes. A new CD-ROM will be provided with each update. We endeavour to synchronise the publication of each update with the commencement of amendments included in that update. However, although the Rule Committee is working towards common commencement dates for Rule changes, it is still possible that a number of amendments with different commencement dates will be included in the same update. To be certain of when individual amendments come into force, please refer to the information under the 'Commencement Dates' heading in the Notes to Accompany published with each update.

Should you have comments or suggestions as to how we could improve the presentation of the Rules, or any queries regarding this publication, please call the TSO Customer Services Subscriptions Team on 0870 600 5522 or e-mail subscriptions@tso.co.uk.

