



RISK ANALYSIS

SECTION 1 – What is Risk Analysis?

RISK ANALYSIS

- **Risk Assessment and management or hazard identification and containment?**
- What a risk assessment is;
- Why it is done, and;
- How to go about doing one.



RISK ANALYSIS - Overview

WHAT IS IT?

A systematic process whereby supervisors, managers and staff identify, assess and control hazards that may affect people at the place of work.

WHY DO IT?

All members of an organisation have a role and responsibilities in the implementation of workplace safety.

Ethical: No employer or his representative has the right to threaten the life, safety or wellbeing of any of his employees

Financial: Injury and illness costs can be a large financial burden on both the organization and the individual.

Legal: Any employer owes its workforce a legally binding "duty of care".

The OH&S Regulations require that all hazards must be eliminated unless it is not reasonably practicable to do so in which case hazards must be controlled according to set formula called the "Hierarchy of Controls"

There are substantial fines for both organisations and individuals for non compliance with the legislative requirements.





RISK ANALYSIS - Overview

WHO DOES IT?

Supervisors, managers and staff need to have a practical understanding of what a risk analysis is and how to conduct a risk analysis in their work area.

HOW IS IT DONE?

There is a very effective system of Risk Analysis which enables hazards to be identified, assessed, controlled and documented. An action plan is prepared and hazards identified are then controlled by being eliminated or minimised. Staff consultation, especially involving those who are familiar with the particular or similar situation are an essential part of the process.

WHEN SHOULD IT BE DONE?

A risk analysis is required whenever changes are made to the workplace, or when entering into something new, either in terms of action or location.



RISK ANALYSIS – What is Risk Analysis?

Good risk management requires hazards to be identified and controlled in a systematic pro-active way. Risk analysis can be a pro-active way of preventing an accident or incident occurring and can be useful in preventing an incident/accident reoccurring. Under the OH&S legislation **everybody** at the University has an OH&S role and responsibility to minimise hazards.

Once hazards have been identified we need to assess the potential of the hazards to cause harm.

By assessing the hazards we can give each a risk rating. Typically this is done using a risk rating matrix such as 'Hazpak' or the "Risk Assessment Score & Control Strategy Model" or the "Risk Assessment Score Calculator Model".

Identifying and assessing go hand in hand and we need to record information we have gathered on hazards by systematically documenting the process.



RISK ANALYSIS – What is Risk Analysis?

Once we have identified the hazards, list the risks involved and assess the hazards using a matrix. Depending on the level of risk perceived, we can formulate an 'action plan' to control the hazards in order of priority as assessed by the matrix. The hazards that have the potential to cause the greatest harm should be addressed first.

On the action plan we list the suggested controls, when the controls need to be in place by, and who is responsible for their implementation. Controls need to be developed using a set hierarchy that seeks to eliminate or contain the hazard as the preferred control. If elimination is not possible then the controls should introduce changes to the equipment or materials, or if this is not possible, introduce changes to the work methods. Finally, as the least preferred control option, supply of personal protective equipment should be considered. In reality a combination of hierarchy elements may be utilised to control hazards.

The action plan needs to be monitored so that we can be sure that no new hazards have been introduced into the workplace by our hazard controls.



Enough of this for Now!