Risk Assessment Matrix

What you need to do

1) Consider what can go wrong
2) Determine how bad the outcome would be (CONSEQUENCE)
3) Determine how likely it is to happen (PROBABILITY)
4) Calculate the risk level

CONSEQUENCE

PROBABILITY	Catastrophic	Critical	Marginal	Negligible
Frequent	1	1	1	3
Probable	1	1	2	3
Occasional	1	2	3	4
Remote	2	2	3	4
Improbable	3	3	3	4

RISK	Extreme	High	Moderate	Low
	Immediate action required	Action plan required, senior management attention needed	Specific monitoring or proceedures required, management responsibility must be specified	Manage through routine proceedures

CONSEQUENCE

Catastrophic Death, loss of infrastructure/ system, release causing irreversible high impact, wide scale, detrimental alteration of the environment, such that significant public interest or regulatory intervention occurs or reasonably could occur.

Critical Severe injury, major infrastructure/system damage, release causing reversible, localised, high impact, decrease in environmental value, such that minor public interest or regulatory intervention occurs or reasonably could occur.

Marginal Major injury, minor system damage, non-damaging environmental exposure.

Negligible Less than above.

PROBABILITY

Frequent Likely to occur often during the life of an individual item or system or very often in operation of a large number of similar items.

Probable Likely to occur several times in the life of an individual item or system or often in operation of a large number of similar items.

Occasional Likely to occur sometimes in the life of an individual item, or will occur several times in the life of a large number of similar components.

Remote Unlikely, but possible to occur sometime in the life of an individual item or system or can reasonably be expected to occur in the life of a large number of similar components.

Improbable So unlikely to occur in the life of an individual item or system that it may be not assumed to be experienced, or it may be possible, but unlikely to occur in the life of a large number of similar components.

Hierarchy of controls

Elimination Removing the hazard or hazardous work practice from the workplace. This is the most effective control measure.

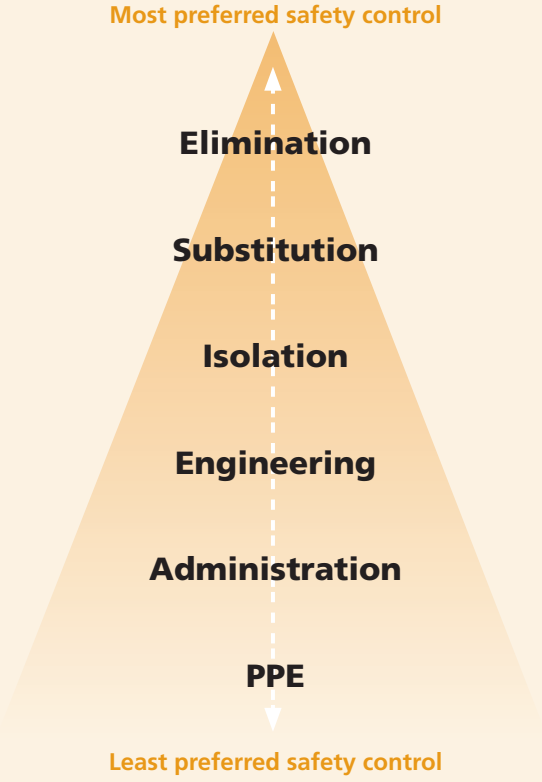
Substitution Substituting or replacing the hazard or hazardous work practice with a less hazardous one.

Isolation Isolating or separating the hazard or hazardous work practice from people not involved in the work or the general work areas, for example, by marking off hazardous areas, installing screens or barriers.

Engineering This may include modifications to tools or equipment, or adding guards to machinery or equipment.

Administration Includes introducing documented work practices that reduce the risk, e.g. limiting the amount of time a person is exposed to a particular hazard or erecting signs to restrict access to particular areas.

PPE (Personal Protective Equipment) The last resort. This is the least preferred option and should be considered only when other control measures are not practicable, or to increase protection.



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