

Risk Assessment Evaluation and Control

Lecture Title: Developing a Risk Control Plan

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**Undergraduate Diploma in
Occupational Health and Safety**

Lecture Aim

- Develop a risk control plan at a workplace by prioritising controls, consult with workers and assessing the effectiveness of controls



Developing a Risk Control Plan

- Once you have completed a risk assessment and prioritized high, medium and low risks, the hierarchy of control provides guidance in selecting appropriate control measures.
- A variety of controls will usually form part of your management strategy and your plan will also depend upon economic feasibility.



Developing a Risk Control Plan

1. Prioritizing controls based on risk level and effectiveness.
2. Consult with workers to ensure controls are practical and understood.
3. Assessing the effectiveness of controls after implementation and review regularly.



What Makes a Good Risk Control Plan

- **Clear and Specific**
 - Clearly identifies hazards, associated risks, and the selected control measures.
- **Prioritised Controls**
 - Uses the hierarchy of control to ensure the most effective measures are implemented first.
- **Consultative**
 - Developed in consultation with workers and relevant stakeholders.
- **Practical and Feasible**
 - Considers the workplace context, available resources, and economic feasibility.
- **Documented and Assigned**
 - Outlines who is responsible for implementing and monitoring each control.
- **Monitored and Reviewed**
 - Includes timelines for review and methods to assess the effectiveness of controls.



What Makes a Good Risk Control Plan

“Which of these elements do you think is most often overlooked in real workplaces, and why?”



Developing a Risk Control Plan

1. Prioritizing Controls

Often management are faced with a dilemma with respect to managing risk.

What **NEEDS** to be considered:

- A variety of controls will ensure legislative compliance – some which are inexpensive whereas others can be greatly expensive.
- Some controls require little effort to implement, others great effort and involvement to introduce.
- Some solutions may be immediate, others months or years.
- Some controls may reduce the risk dramatically whereas others only have a minor impact.



Developing a Risk Control Plan

1. Prioritizing Controls

- All of the above factors are paramount in determining an appropriate management plan to control risk.
- The Risk Management Plan will need to consider both **LONG TERM** and **SHORT TERM** objectives and acknowledge the hierarchy of control.
- In developing a control plan, the costs of implementing each strategy should be weighed against the benefits to be gained and a rational decision made, with respect to legislative compliance and reasonable practicability (ALARP).



Developing a Risk Control Plan

Example: Risk Control Plan for minimizing manual handling risk in a plant producing large trucks. (1 of 5)

- Elimination and substitution may be impractical and too costly in the immediate future. This may be due to technological implications of producing lighter truck parts, economic constraints, customer acceptance and recent research and development budget cuts.



Developing a Risk Control Plan

Example: Risk Control Plan for minimizing manual handling risk in a plant producing large trucks. (2 of 5)

- However, the benefits are acknowledged and these controls considered as longer term objectives.
- In the meantime engineering and administrative controls are implemented to reduce the risk of manual handling injuries.



Developing a Risk Control Plan

Example: Risk Control Plan for minimizing manual handling risk in a plant producing large trucks. (3 of 5)

- Mechanical lifting assistance is provided by cranes and hoists;
- Tools are suspended on pulleys to support their weight;
- Workers are encouraged to work in teams when handling heavy parts;
- Appropriate training using real job situations is provided and jobs requiring heavy manual handling are rotated amongst workers.



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Example: Risk Control Plan for minimizing manual handling risk in a plant producing large trucks. (4 of 5)

- Frequently training programs are suggested as the ideal and total solution to managing a risk. When you contemplate the cost of implementing a training program across a large organisation, the effort and time involved in developing course materials, down time associated with workers attending the training course, hiring of facilities, equipment, trainers' fee, refreshments etc., the cost of this control strategy can be surprisingly high.



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Example: Risk Control Plan for minimizing manual handling risk in a plant producing large trucks. (5 of 5)

- So with the example outlined above, the effectiveness of providing manual handling training programs may not be worth the effort and expense incurred.
- A more effective control, at a similar cost, could be to provide some mechanical handling devices to reduce the requirement to handle materials in the first instance.





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2. Consult with workers (1 of 2)

- Workers are valuable sources of information about how a process, task or piece of equipment can be redesigned to improve productivity and reduce risks – They encounter the risk (s) every day.



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2. Consult with workers (2 of 2)

- Vital information can be obtained by consulting them about their perceptions of the problem and how it could be solved. Workers have to work with the solution and adopt a new way of performing a task or process; If they have had little or no input into the process, they could sabotage the change
- Some companies encourage this participative form of management by supporting regular health and safety meeting of work teams, giving them budgets to fund their suggestions and autonomy to act within predetermined constraints.



Developing a Risk Control Plan

3. Assessing the effectiveness of controls (1 of 3)

- Often control measures are put in place with little thought to their efficacy.
- The last stage in developing an effective control plan is to evaluate the effectiveness of the plan and to make modifications accordingly.



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3. Assessing the effectiveness of controls (2 of 3)

- A variety of measures could be employed to indicate success or otherwise of your control measures. These could include, but are not limited to:
 - A review of injury and illness statistics
 - Consultation with workers
 - An inspection / audit
 - A review of health records (audiometry reports, respiratory function assessments, urine analysis).



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3. Assessing the effectiveness of controls (3 of 3)

- A variety of measures could be employed to indicate success or otherwise of your control measures. These could include, but are not limited to:
 - Reassessment of risk using:
 - Quantitative assessment (e.g. monitoring for noise, ventilation, heat)
 - Semi-Quantitative assessment (severity and likelihood analysis)
 - Review of training program (skills and knowledge retained).
 - Acceptability / compliance with the new control (e.g. wearing of PPE).



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SUMMARY of RISK CONTROL PLAN: (1 of 2)

- Control measures can be prioritized by referring to the hierarchy of control, which provides guidance on the most desirable to the least desirable control options.
- Usually, a combination of controls will be considered as a final solution.
- A risk control plan should be developed, which not only considers the hierarchy of control but also the economic feasibility of control solutions.



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SUMMARY of RISK CONTROL PLAN: (2 of 2)

- Both long and short term controls, low cost and high cost solutions will be appropriate in a thorough approach to controlling health and safety risks.
- Finally an evaluation of the control is essential to determine the effectiveness of control solutions.



Developing a Risk Control Plan

CASE SCENARIO: Slippery Floor Hazard in a Food Processing Workplace

Background:

At a local food processing plant, workers have reported several near-misses due to slippery floors near the dishwashing and packaging areas. Spilled water and food residues often make the floor hazardous, especially during busy shifts. A few workers have expressed concern but feel that reporting it repeatedly hasn't led to lasting solutions. The supervisor has asked the health and safety representative (that's your role in this scenario) to **develop a risk control plan** to address the issue.



Developing a Risk Control Plan

CASE SCENARIO: Slippery Floor Hazard in a Food Processing Workplace

- Working individually:
 - *Identify the hazard and associated risks.*
 - *Apply the hierarchy of controls — what control measures could be implemented?*
 - *Priorities your controls (which should be done first and why?).*
 - *Outline how you would consult with workers in developing and applying the plan.*
 - *Describe how you would assess the effectiveness of the implemented controls after a set period.*



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CASE SCENARIO SUMMARY:

Slippery Floor Hazard in a Food Processing Workplace

- Hazard: Slippery floors → Risk of slips, trips, falls
- Controls: Drainage, anti-slip mats, cleaning procedures, footwear
- Priorities: Engineering first, admin second, PPE last
- Consultation: Toolbox talks, feedback sessions
- Review: Monitor incidents and worker feedback





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