Risk Assessment Method

In order to evaluate the risk level associated to a hazard, two factors need to be considered:-

1) the likelihood of the outcome to occur

How likely is it that the hazard will be realized and result in harm? Five categories are defined: -

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **1** | **Very Unlikely** |
| **2** | **Unlikely** |
| **3** | **Fairly Likely** |
| **4** | **Likely** |
| **5** | **Very Likely** |

2) the possible Consequence of the outcome

Realistically, what is the worst likely outcome? This method defines five categories of Consequence: -

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **1** | **Insignificant – No injury** |
| **2** | **Minor – minor injuries needing first aid** |
| **3** | **Moderate – up to three days absence** |
| **4** | **Major – more than seven days absence** |
| **5** | **Catastrophic – Fatality or permanent Disability** |

Once those two factors are assessed, the matrix on the next page can be used to determine the level of risk. Measure the Likelihood (L) X the Consequence (C) which will give you a numerical score. Using the table you can convert this score into a qualitative value for example (L) fairly likely X (C) Major = 12 = Medium Risk Level

This information will then be used to prioritise any control measures necessary to eliminate or reduce the risk to an acceptable level.

Risk Assessment Method (continuing).

**Matrix**

|  |
| --- |
|  |
| **Consequence** |
| **Catastrophic** | **5** | **10** | **15** | **20** | **25** |
| **Major** | **4** | **8** | **12** | **16** | **20** |
| **Moderate** | **3** | **6** | **9** | **12** | **15** |
| **Minor** | **2** | **4** | **6** | **8** | **10** |
| **Insignificant** | **1** | **2** | **3** | **4** | **5** |
| **Likelihood** | **Very Unlikely** | **Unlikely** | **Fairly Likely** | **Likely** | **Very Likely** |

**Action Level**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **20-25 VERY HIGH** | **Unacceptable risk - immediate action required** |
| **10-16 HIGH** | **Risk reduction required - high priority** |
| **4-9 MEDIUM** | **Medium risk - action required so far as is reasonably practicable** |
| **2-3 LOW** | **Low priority - further risk reduction may not be feasible or cost effective** |
| **1 Very Low** | **Low risk - no further action required** |

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Service**: | **Location**: | **Assessment Completed by**: |
| **Description of Activity/Task Assessed**: | **Date of Assessment**: | **Review Date**: |

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **No** | **What is the Hazard?**  (i.e. potential causes of injury/damage) | **Who might be harmed** | **How might people be harmed?** | **Existing Risk Control Measures** | **Risk Rating \*** | | | **Additional Controls** | **Residual Risk Rating** | | | **Action monitored by whom?** | **Action Completed by When?** |
| **L** | **C** | **R** | **L** | **C** | **R** |
| **1** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **2** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **3** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **4** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **5** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

\*Risk Rating is calculated By multiplying the (L)Likelihood by the (C) Consequence using the matrix at the end of this document

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **No** | **What is the Hazard?**  (i.e. potential causes of injury/damage) | **Who might be harmed** | **How might people be harmed?** | **Existing Risk Control Measures** | **Risk Rating** | | | **Additional Controls** | **Residual Risk Rating** | | | **Action monitored by whom?** | **Action Completed by When?** |
| **L** | **C** | **R** | **L** | **C** | **R** |
| **6** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **7** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **8** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **9** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **10** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

Risk Assessment Method

In order to assess a risk associated to a hazard, two factors need to be considered:-

i - the possible Consequence of the outcome

Realistically, what is the worst likely outcome? This method defines four categories of Consequence: -

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **1** | **Insignificant – No injury** |
| **2** | **Minor – minor injuries needing first aid** |
| **3** | **Moderate – up to three days absence** |
| **4** | **Major – more than seven days absence** |
| **5** | **Catastrophic – Fatality or permanent Disability** |

ii - the likelihood of the outcome to occur

How likely is it that the severe outcome will occur? Five categories are defined: -

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **1** | **Very Unlikely** |
| **2** | **Unlikely** |
| **3** | **Fairly Likely** |
| **4** | **Likely** |
| **5** | **Very Likely** |

Once those two factors are assessed, the matrix on the next page can be used to determine the level of risk. This information will then be used to prioritise any control measures necessary to eliminate or reduce the risk to an acceptable level.

Risk Assessment Method (continuing).

**Matrix**

|  |
| --- |
|  |
| **Catastrophic** | **5** | **10** | **15** | **20** | **25** |
| **Major** | **4** | **8** | **12** | **16** | **20** |
| **Moderate** | **3** | **6** | **9** | **12** | **15** |
| **Minor** | **2** | **4** | **6** | **8** | **10** |
| **Insignificant** | **1** | **2** | **3** | **4** | **5** |
|  | **Very Unlikely** | **Unlikely** | **Fairly Likely** | **Likely** | **Very Likely** |

**Action Level**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **20-25 VERY HIGH** | **Unacceptable risk - immediate action required** |
| **10-16 HIGH** | **Risk reduction required - high priority** |
| **4-9 MEDIUM** | **Medium risk - action required so far as is reasonably practicable** |
| **2-3 LOW** | **Low priority - further risk reduction may not be feasible or cost effective** |
| **1 Very Low** | **Low risk - no further action required** |