

# Welcome to the Hard Hat Training Series!



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Welcome to the Hard Hat Training Series. Today we will talk about how to identify hazards, perform proper risk assessments, identify control measures for those hazards, and evaluate the costs of those controls.





## What is Risk Assessment?

Risk assessment is the process of classifying and prioritizing worksite hazards according to severity, exposure, and likelihood. Completing accurate risk assessments is vital for the safety of your employees.

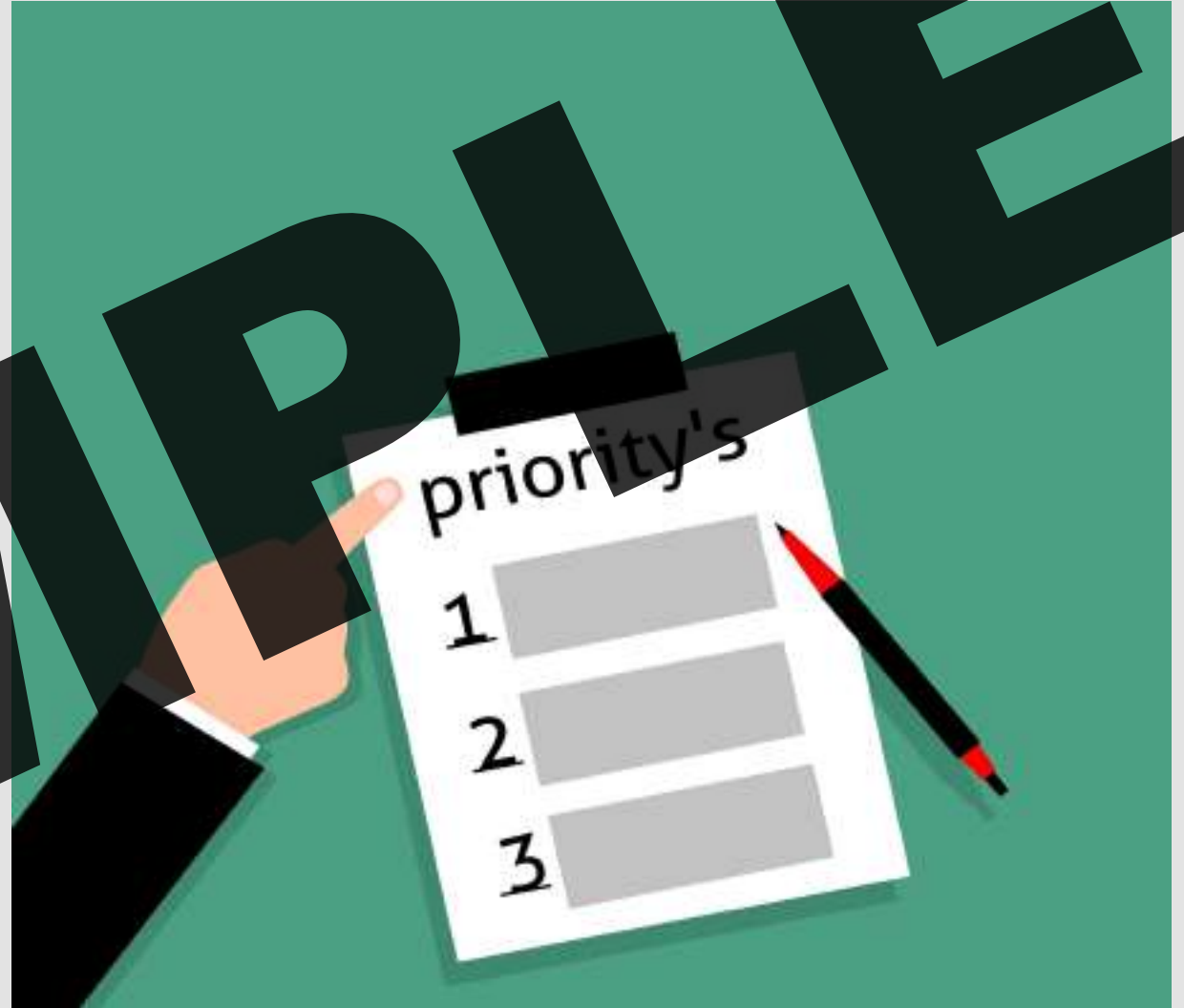


A hazard is defined as a condition or activity that, if left uncontrolled, can result in an injury or illness. Through identifying, prioritizing, and controlling these hazards, you will be preventing these unnecessary injuries and illnesses from occurring. Take time to review the types of hazards listed in the graphic to the right before continuing.

## HAZARDS TO FOCUS ON

- Impact
- Penetration
- Airborne Contaminants
- Repetitive Motions
- Heat
- Compression
- Chemical Exposures
- Optical Radiation
- Sharp Edges
- Worker posture
- Hazardous movements
- Suspended Loads
- Environmental Hazards
- "Struck By" hazards
- "Caught-in/-between" Hazards

The main purpose of risk assessment is to prioritize risks from greatest amount of danger to least amount of danger in order to know which hazards need to be controlled first. Hazards that are the greatest danger to your employees should be your top priority. That said, standards dictate that employers must control all serious and recognized hazards in order to protect their workers.







Assessing risks on a jobsite inherently involves making assumptions about the level of risk that a hazard poses to you or your employees. When conducting risk assessments, err on the side of caution. Prepare best by assuming the worst. After all, it is better to be too safe rather than not safe enough. Approaching all risk assessments with this mindset will help save the lives and livelihoods of your employees.

It is the employer's responsibility to ensure that risk assessments are conducted. This does not mean, however, that they must perform the risk assessment themselves. Employers may elect someone within their organization to carry out the risk assessment but should check in on the assessor to ensure that the assessment is being performed properly.







Performing proper risk assessments will make your jobsite safer and can even save the lives of your employees. The following story will showcase why risk assessments are so important.

For 22-year-old Miguel, that spring day started off just like every other. He was working on a trenching operation in New York City so a new hardware store could be built. His supervisor instructed him to climb into the 7-foot unsupported trench and get to work. Miguel had been doing trenching work for a while, so he wasn't worried as the excavation got deeper. By the afternoon, the trench had reached 13 feet. Miguel had no way to escape when the trench walls caved in and buried him alive.





Local news organizations reported that the two construction managers had been warned about the dangers on their site for months. Miguel's story shows why properly assessing risks and then implementing quality safety measures is so vital to the safety of you and your employees. Understanding and implementing the material in this training can help you avoid the worst-case scenario: the unnecessary death(s) of you or your employees.



# The Life & Times

Monday, September 18, 2019

Safety in the Workplace A3

## Investigators looking into recent worker fatality

Federal Way – Early in the morning last Saturday, local construction workers hired to install several utility poles were involved in an accident that killed two and injured four.

The horrific chain of events started with a relatively minor accident at 7 a.m. when a worker fell into a hole.



Throughout this training, we will look at real, investigated accident profiles. In some cases, two or three similar accidents have been combined for the purpose of illustrating key safety principles. They will show just how quickly things can go wrong when safety procedures are ignored, resulting in injuries or fatalities.



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**RISK ASSESSMENT**  
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# STANDARDS

- **General Duty Clause 5(a)(1)** - *"Each employer shall furnish to each of his employees employment and a place of employment which are free from recognized hazards that are causing or are likely to cause death or serious physical harm to his employees."*
- **RA-S-1.4 – 2021 – Probabilistic Risk Assessment Standard for Advanced Non-light Water Reactor Nuclear Power Plants**

These are some of the main standards concerning Risk Assessments. Many states or provinces have additional standards, as do some industries. We have provided these as a guide, but it's your responsibility to know all federal, local, and company rules that apply to your job site.



## Why Training?

No matter the situation, it is common to hear workers and even employers ask, “Where does it state we need to be trained?” Can’t a worker also be deemed “qualified” based on experience? The answer is “no.” Experience helps, yes, but regulations are very clear that employees must be trained (no matter how long they’ve been on the job) and that it is the employer who is responsible for overseeing that safety training, ensuring employees have the understanding, knowledge, and skills needed to operate safely.



Initial training and refresher training, as well as any written and practical evaluations, must be documented and filed. At the very least, employers need to show proof of proper and consistent training (in the way of training outlines, class lists, training goals, tests, certificates, and so on.) These documents should include the name of the person who taught the class or conducted the evaluation.



## WORKERS MUST RECEIVE REFRESHER TRAINING WHEN...

1. There are changes in their assigned duties.

2. There are changes regarding potential exposure to hazards, for which the employee has not received training.

3. If any deficiency has been noted in an employee's work performance that is related to the safety and health of themselves or other workers.

4. If an accident has occurred, or anytime an employee is injured or nearly injured during operations.

Note: In some areas, refresher training is required at least every three years (if not sooner).

Training is not just a one-and-done occurrence; it is on-going. In fact, training should take place whenever there is a demonstrated need for it. We have listed several instances when refresher training would be required. Can you think of any others?







The extent of training will be determined by the employer, but at the very least it should include classroom instruction followed by a written and practical examination that prove continued competency.



By the end of this training, you will be able to properly *assess the level of risk* that worksite hazards may pose to your employees, *identify control measures* which will reduce the risks of those hazards, and *evaluate the overall cost* of implementing those controls.





# Identify & Assess Risks

# SAMPLE



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