

Industrial Hazards Management

Occupational Health & Safety

What are industrial hazards?

- Physical - noise, vibration, heat, cold, pressure, radiation, dust, fibres
- Chemical - flammable/explosive materials, toxics, sensitising agents
- Biological - dust, pathogens
- Psychological - workplace practices & systems, payment systems

What are industrial hazards? (cont.)

- New technologies - information & telecommunications techs., industrial /manufacturing processes
- Occupational injuries & diseases - back, RSI, skin, heart, cancer, reproductive/birth, substance abuse.

Safety pays, it doesn't cost!!

Expenditure on safe, healthy workplaces are less than the total cost of accidents..

Cost of workplace accidents

- Downtime
- Clean up & investigation
- Worker's compensation insurance and payments
- Prosecutions & fines
- Poor worker morale & industrial unrest
- Bad publicity

Oxenburgh's Productivity Model

- No. of lost-time injuries
- Injuries as % of workforce
- Near misses
- Time lost via downtime & reworking
- Downtime & reworking as % of total costs

NSW OHS Act 2000

- Repeals 1983 Act
- Employer's Duty of Care is paramount

Requires a risk management
approach - identifying,
removing, controlling potential
hazards - involving all employees

Legislation covers

- Employers
- Controller of premises
- Occupier of premises

Risk Management

- Identification of all hazards
- Assessment of hazard risk level
- Determination of reasonable methods to eliminate or control risks
- OHS training & information
- Emergency provision - first aid, protective gear

Workplace Consultation

- Employers required to consult on issues of workplace health, safety & welfare
- Sharing of relevant information
- Opportunity for employee views
- Acknowledgement of employee views

Workplace Consultation required during -

- Risk assessment processes
- Risk management decision processes
- Changes to premises, work methods/systems
- Changes to work plant, equipment, materials
- Decisions on consultative arrangements

Working Environment issues

- Work space
- Lighting
- Heat & cold
- Noise
- Atmosphere
- Heights
- Electricity
- Confined spaces
- Manual handling
- Fall prevention
- Asbestos
- Fire/explosion

Plant design, manufacture & use

- Identify foreseeable hazards
- Assess risks, including potential faults
- Incorporate existing design standards
- Control risks
- Specify procedures & operator competencies

Hazardous substances

- Obtain material safety data sheets
- Make safety data accessible
- Appropriate labels
- Avoid prohibited substances
- Carcinogen processes
- Employee health surveillance and records

Hazardous Processes

- Spray Painting
- Abrasive blasting
- Welding
- Molten metal
- Lead work
- Electrical work

“Scheduled work” undertaken by
certificated competent workers.

Eg: Scaffolding, crane work, rigging,
boilers, turbines, steam, load shifting
machines

Incident reporting-

- Death
- Injury, illness, violence - causing 7 days work absence
- Unsafe plant, equipment, building, structures
- Uncontrolled risk of explosion, fire, gas, steam, dangerous materials
- Carcinogens
- Blood lead levels
- Blood borne disease - bodily fluid exposure

Penalties

- Corporations - \$550 k 1st offence, \$825 k subsequent, \$600 on-the-spot fines, conviction in press
- Manager/supervisor - \$55k 1st offence, \$82.5k + 2yrs jail subsequent
- Employees - \$3.3k