Topic: Risk Assessment

Meeting Goal(s): By the end of this meeting, employees will understand the basics of risk assessment and prioritizing risks.

Lesson Content:

Background Information

What is a Risk Assessment

Risk assessment is understanding and sometimes rating how serious a given risk might be for a worker. Primarily, a risk assessment identifies the chance of harm or loss occurring due to a hazard.

Why do Risk Assessments

An effective risk assessment lets you be proactive in regards to health and safety, as opposed to being reactive and dealing with the injuries or illnesses once they occur. It has been recognized that the best, most efficient, and most economical way to eliminate hazards is at the earliest possible stage.

Presentation

Hazard

Anything that can cause harm (e.g., a chemical, a ladder, etc.)

Risk

How great the chance that someone will be harmed by the hazard
The following rating scale can be used to rate a risk to determine how serious it could be for workers. Risks are rated by the following:

- Frequency - how often the worker is exposed to the risk
- Potential Consequence – how serious the injury would be to a worker
- Incident Probability – How often an incident is likely to, or has, occurred

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Risk Rating Scale</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Frequency of Exposure (F)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 – One or more times per day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 – At least once a week</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 – At least once a month</td>
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<tr>
<td>1 – Less than once a month</td>
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Risk Rating total is found by multiplying the scores from each column (F x C x P)

*You can’t control what you don’t know.*

**Discussion**

On today’s job there will be several hazards and we will encounter. Let’s take a minute to rate some of them.

You may also choose to discuss the following:

*Here are some examples of hazards. Assess them by rating them on the scale.*
TOOL BOX TALKS:
STRENGTHENING THE FOUNDATION
OF SAFETY

_____ Ice on a sidewalk in front of a busy entry door.
_____ An excavation near a housing project without proper barricades.
_____ A worker who is painting without respiratory protective equipment.
_____ A worker grinding without a proper safety guard on the grinder.
_____ An attendant fuelling a vehicle that is running.

Sources

Information taken from Alberta Government at

And Enform – Introduction to Safety Management Systems Guideline

Feedback / Changes / Additions: