

Skills Canada National Competition

Workplace Safety Competition

Sample of a completed Hazard Assessment Form

How is the hazard assessment marked?

Possible 3 marks

1. What is the hazardous or unsafe condition? (1 mark)
2. What could happen if the hazardous or unsafe condition is not corrected? (1 mark)
3. How could the hazardous or unsafe condition be corrected? (1 mark)



Drywall AREA	<p>What is the hazardous or unsafe condition? (1 Mark)</p> <p>Worker is standing on rolling platform Physical (fall)</p>	<p>Ask / Answer: What do you see is wrong?</p>
	<p>What could happen if the hazardous or unsafe condition is not corrected? (1 Mark)</p> <p>Worker could fall resulting in injury or property damage, strain or sprain</p>	<p>Answer: What happens if you do not fix it?</p>
Possible 3 Marks	<p>How could the hazardous or unsafe condition be corrected? (1 mark)</p> <p>Worker should use proper work platform</p>	<p>Answer: How do you fix it?</p>

Additional information on Hazard Assessment

What Is a Hazard?

A hazard is any situation, condition or thing that may be dangerous to the safety or health of workers. Basically, it is anything that can cause an injury or illness.

- Some hazards can be acute – they have an immediate effect, such as being hit by a truck.
- Other hazards are considered chronic – repeated exposures, over time, can eventually cause an effect, such as hearing loss after repeated overexposure to noise.

What Is a Hazard Assessment?

Assessing hazards means taking a careful look at the different activities that workers do and asking:

- What could go wrong?
- You are trying to find out about anything that could harm workers at the work site. The purpose of hazard assessment is to prevent work-related injury or illness to workers.

Why Conduct a Hazard Assessment?

Benefits of performing a hazard assessment may include:

- learning what could harm workers
- finding better and safer ways to do the job
- identifying the need for worker training
- identifying poor or missing procedures
- increasing workers' involvement of workplace health and safety
- having a useful tool when investigating an incident

How to Conduct a Hazard Assessment

There are a number of ways to find hazards in the workplace, including:

- walk around and look at your workplace and at how work is done, ask your workers what they consider unsafe
- think about what could possibly go wrong (don't overlook the things that people may have worked around for years) and ask yourself, What if....?
- review any information you may have on a particular piece of equipment (manufacturer's specifications) or chemical (For example: Material Safety Data Sheets (MSDS) to see what it says about safety precautions

- review previous incidents, including near misses
- talk to others in similar industries to find out what issues they have identified or incidents they have had

More formal processes for conducting a hazard assessment may include:

- **task or job hazard analysis** – breaking jobs down into tasks and identifying the hazards involved with each task
- **process analysis** – following a process from start to finish and identifying the hazards involved at each stage.

Questions to Ask when Looking for Hazards

- What is your work environment? For example, does the work take place in a building, office, yard, laboratory, trench, roof or delivery van?
- What are the hazards with work in this environment?
- How suitable are the things you use for the task? Are they easily accessible?
- How might people be hurt directly by equipment, machinery and tools?
- How might people be hurt indirectly through noise, fumes or radiation?
- How might people be hurt by using chemicals and/or other materials, such as paints, solvents, fuels, toner, oils, plastics, acids, pesticides, gases, biological samples and wastes?
- Are workers using equipment and materials correctly?

**If you have any questions please contact a member of the
National Technical Committee.**