



15 Minute Safety Presentation

Hazard Identification

15 MINUTE SAFETY PRESENTATION – HAZARD IDENTIFICATION

INTRODUCTION

If you want to make a workplace safe, you need to know how to identify hazards. The identification of hazards fits into the overall safety management program as one method of reducing the risk of injury and equipment damage.

There are many types of hazards in and around the workplace. Some are fixed, others are obvious but many are hidden and developing. We need to identify all types of hazards and take the appropriate steps to reduce the risk or, if possible, to eliminate the hazard.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

By the end of this presentation you will understand:

- hazard and risk;
- types of hazards;
- categories of hazards;
- risk assessment; and
- the best way to deal with hazards.

HAZARD AND RISK

In simple terms:

A **hazard** is a source of danger that can be defined as “a condition or situation that exists in the work environment that could result in injury or harm to health”.

Risk relates to exposure to the danger and is defined as “the probability of any injury, harm or loss occurring from the hazard”.

TYPES OF HAZARDS

There are three types of hazards:

- visible;
- hidden; and
- developing.

Visible hazards are the obvious defects that can be readily seen and identified by inspection.

Examples of obvious hazards are:

- untidy housekeeping;
- missing machine guards;
- broken or damaged ladders;
- blown or missing lights; and
- missing or damaged fixtures.