

Risk Assessment Roadshow

WINTER 2005



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Roadshow aims

- understand the legislation under which you operate as a PCO
- understand the difference between job site risk analysis and health risk assessment
- be able to independently complete a health risk assessment for any pesticide that you use.



Pest Control Licensing



Overview

🕸️ Applicable legislation

🕸️ Licensing by DHS

🕸️ Trainee supervision requirements

🕸️ Record keeping requirements

🕸️ Other licensing requirements



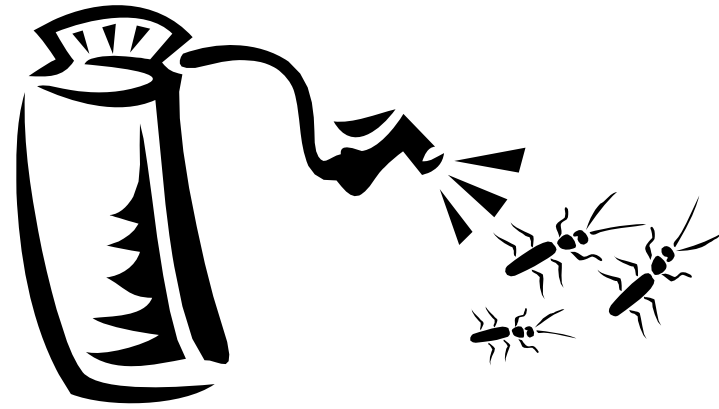
Applicable legislation

- ❖ *Health Act 1958*
 - Health (Pest Control) Regulations 2002
- ❖ *Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals (Control of Use) Act 1992*
 - Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals (Control of Use) Regulations 1996
- ❖ *Wildlife Act 1975*
 - Wildlife Regulations 2002
- ❖ *Environment Protection Act 1970*
 - Environment Protection (Prescribed Waste) Regulations 1998
- ❖ *Drugs, Poisons and Controlled Substances Act 1981*
 - Drugs, Poisons and Controlled Substances Regulations 1995
- ❖ *Firearms Act 1996*
 - Firearms Regulations 1997
- ❖ and Occupational Health and Safety legislation administered by WorkSafe

Applicable legislation

The requirements you must meet under the legislation include:

- 🕸 hold a valid licence/s
- 🕸 keep certain records
- 🕸 dispose of all waste and hazardous materials appropriately and responsibly
- 🕸 identify and manage hazards and risks
(complete a site risk assessment and a health risk assessment).



Victorian Health Act 1958

Anyone who uses pesticides, or permits another person to use pesticides, in the course of the business of a pest control operator in Victoria is required to hold a licence issued under section 108C of the Victorian Health Act 1958.

Licensing of the pest control industry is designed to protect pest control operators, consumers, members of the public and the environment from the harmful effects of pesticides.

Trainee supervision requirements



- ❖ The trainee licence authorises trainee pest control operators to apply **only** those classes of pesticides listed on their licence, **only** under the supervision of a fully qualified pest control operator who is also authorised to use those same classes of pesticides.
- ❖ A trainee must only apply pesticides for the control of a particular pest under **direct supervision** until such time as they can satisfy the department that they have the sufficient knowledge and skills to safely apply pesticides to control that pest under **indirect supervision**.
- ❖ A trainee will be considered to have the knowledge and skills upon completion of a minimum of **four** applications of pesticides to control that pest.
- ❖ The department will be satisfied that the trainee has successfully completed the four applications upon receipt of a declaration by their supervisor on a *Trainee Skills Declaration* form.

Record keeping requirements



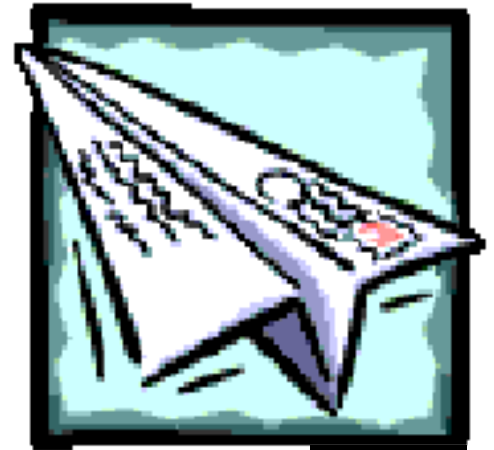
- ❖ Any person whose business involves the use of an agricultural chemical product, which includes pesticides, must maintain certain records.
- ❖ The details specified in pest control technical note three 'Record Keeping' must be recorded by the licensed technician carrying out the pest control activity for every pesticide application, and must be kept at the business address for a minimum of three years.

Other licensing requirements

- ❖ Commercial Operator Licence (DPI)
- ❖ Agricultural Chemical Users Permit (DPI)
- ❖ Commercial Wildlife 'Wildlife Controller' Licence (DSE)
- ❖ Industrial Permit (Drugs and Poisons Unit, DHS)
- ❖ Firearm Licence (Licensing Services Division of Victoria Police)

Change of Contact Details

It is important to ensure that you inform the department within ten working days if any of your personal or business details change. Otherwise you risk licence cancellation as a result of not receiving renewal notices and may miss out on other important information and updates.



Further information

Pest Control Program

- Katherine Smith
 - A/Program Manager
- Kimberley Topp
 - Project Officer
- Joanne Moloney & Kate Swift
 - Licensing officers



Mail: GPO Box 4057
Melbourne VIC 3001

Phone: 1300 887 090

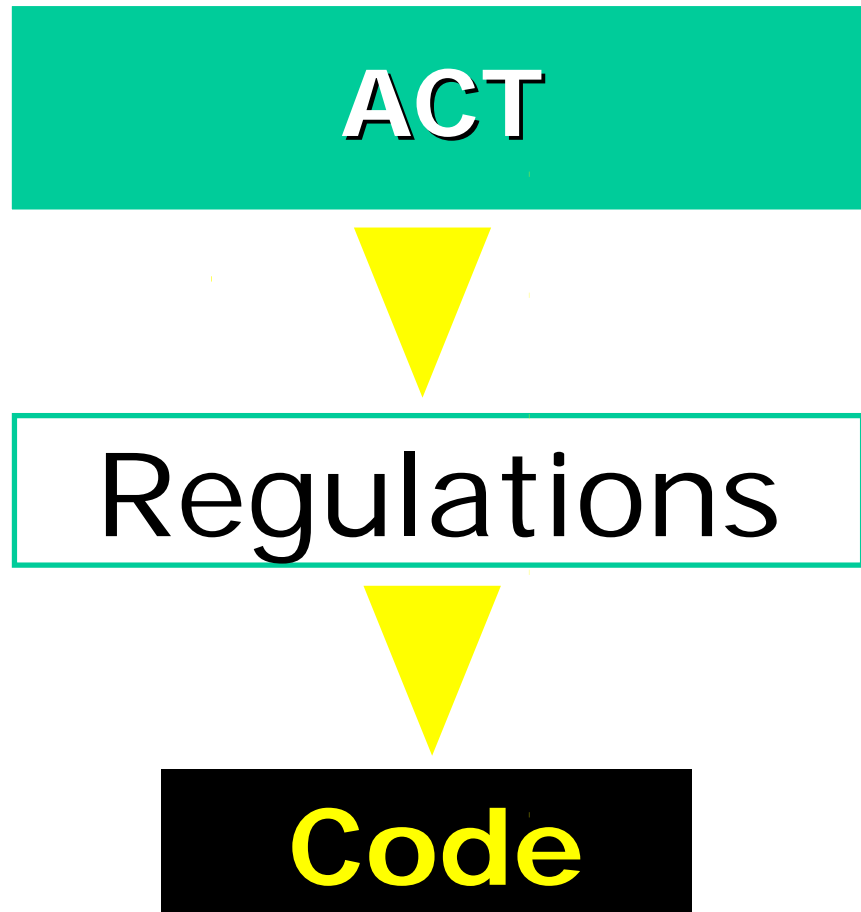
Email: pestcontrol@dhs.vic.gov.au

Web site: www.health.vic.gov.au/pestcontrol

Occupational Health and Safety Legislation

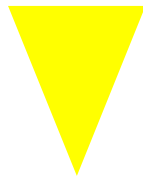


OHS legislation

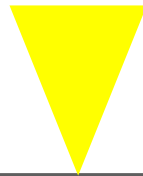


OHS legislation

OHS ACT 2004

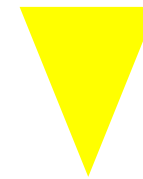


**OHS (Hazardous
Substances)
Regulations 1999**

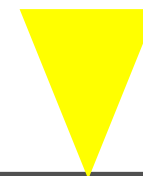


Code

DG ACT 1985



**DG (Storage &
Handling)
Regulations 2000**



Code

Hazardous substances **versus** Dangerous goods

- **Dangerous Goods**
 - classification (UN) is based on **immediate safety hazards** (fire, explosion, corrosion and acute toxicity)
 - identified by class diamonds.
- **Hazardous substances**
 - classification (EU) * based only on **health effects** (immediate and long term)
 - identified by information/statement in MSDS and label statement/warning.
- **Many chemicals are both hazardous substances & dangerous goods – both regulations apply in such cases.**

***List of Designated Hazardous Substances or Approved Criteria**

OHS (Haz subs) Regs 1999

– a summary

Manufacturers, importers & suppliers requirements

- classify substance
- prepare & provide information (MSDS/Labels).

Employers requirements

- obtain & provide information (MSDS/Label)
- **identification** (Register (List/MSDS))
- risk **assessment**
- eliminate/**control** risks to health
- atmospheric monitoring & health surveillance in certain circumstances
- information, instruction & training
- records
- consultation
- additional duties for scheduled carcinogens.

DG (storage & handling) Regs 2000 - a summary

Manufacturers and suppliers requirements

- classify substance (DG?)
- prepare & provide information (MSDS/Labels)

Employers/Occupiers requirements

- obtain & provide information (MSDS/Label)
- identification (register)
- assessment/control
- manifests
- storage (type/ventilation/ignition sources)
- ignition sources
- spill control/segregation/separation/placarding
- emergency procedures (plan & equipment)
- consultation/information & training

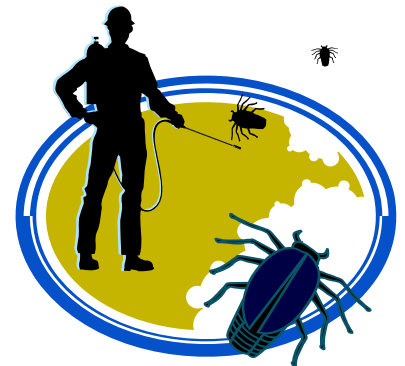
Best practice

Remember:

If a chemical is not classified as a hazardous substance it does not necessarily mean that it is harmless.

Employers still have duties under OHS Act to ensure employees' health is not at risk.

Therefore the best way to deal with pesticides is to do a risk assessment for each product used in the course of the business of a pest control operator.



Pesticide Health Risk Assessments



Regulations & chemicals management



Identify
Hazard

Assess
Risk

Control
Risk

Review/
Revise
Assessment

What is a risk assessment?

A risk assessment is a process of determining the likelihood of an adverse health effect associated with potential exposure to hazardous substances in the workplace.

Why perform a pesticide health risk assessment?

- requirement of the Occupational Health and Safety (*Hazardous Substances*) Regulations 1999
- to eliminate/minimise the risks to health
- to prevent accidents **before** they occur
- to encourage and introduce safe work practices by identifying the risks
- to ensure that relevant factors are properly considered.



Why perform a pesticide health risk assessment? (cont.)

- As a pest control operator, you are potentially at a greater risk because you use various toxic/poisonous pesticides on a daily basis - therefore you need to take greater precautions.
- Depending on the level of exposure, these chemicals may cause immediate **(acute)** poisoning or they may cause irreversible long term **(chronic)** effects from repeated low to moderate exposures over a period of time.

Risk assessment

Must consider:

Substance

MSDS / Label

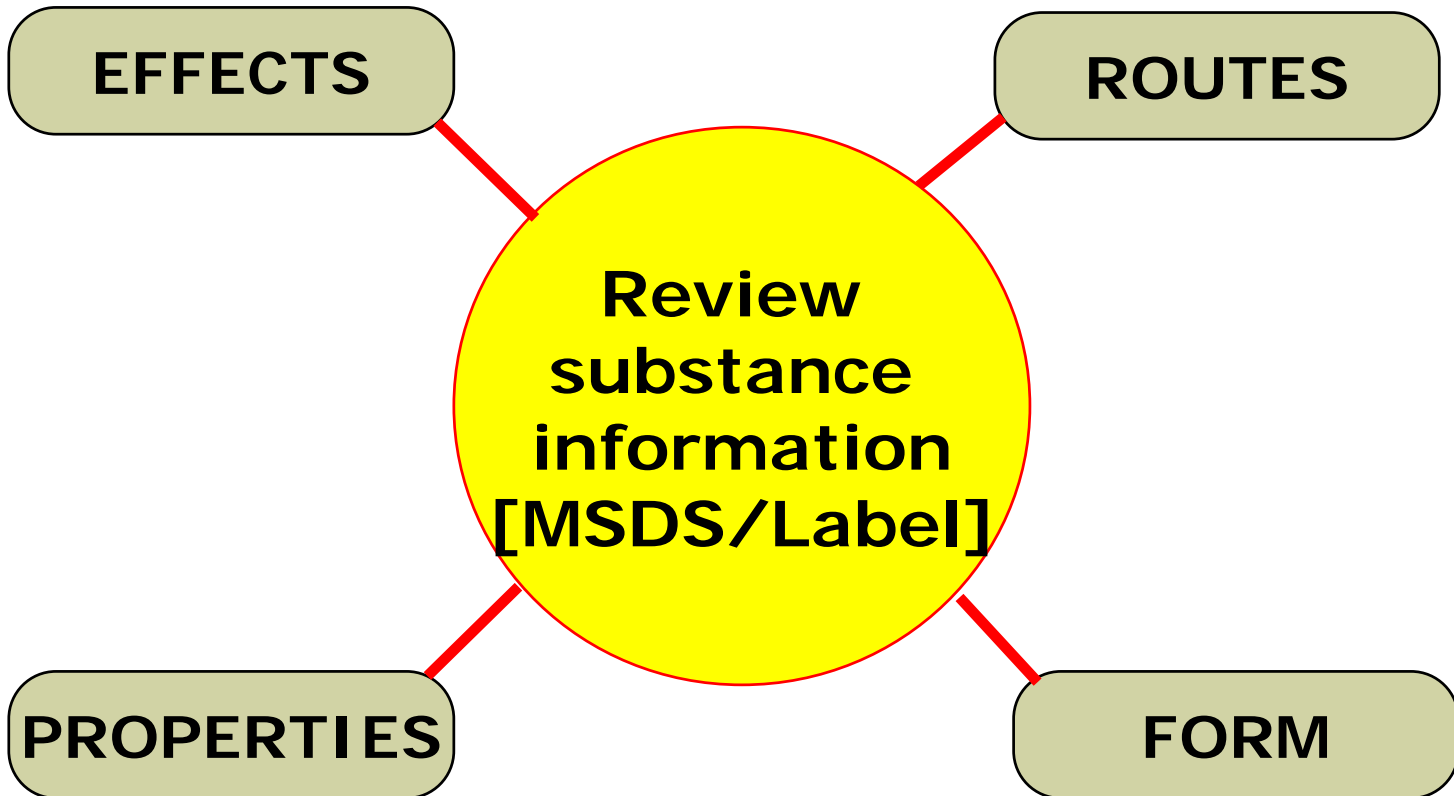
Nature of work

Accidents / Incidents

- before substance first used
- may be done for a process
- may cover more than 1 substance
- generic assessment
- record result
- review/revise (5 years).

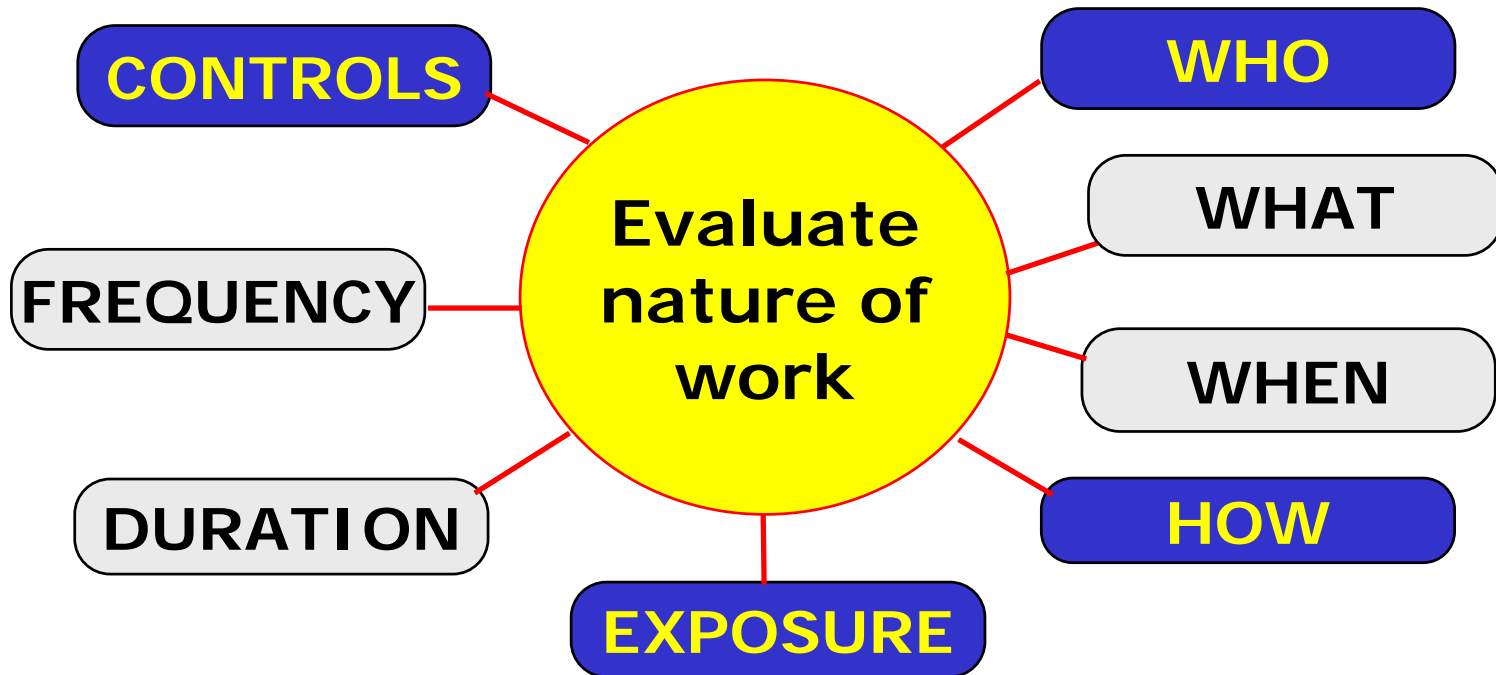
Risk assessment

– substance information



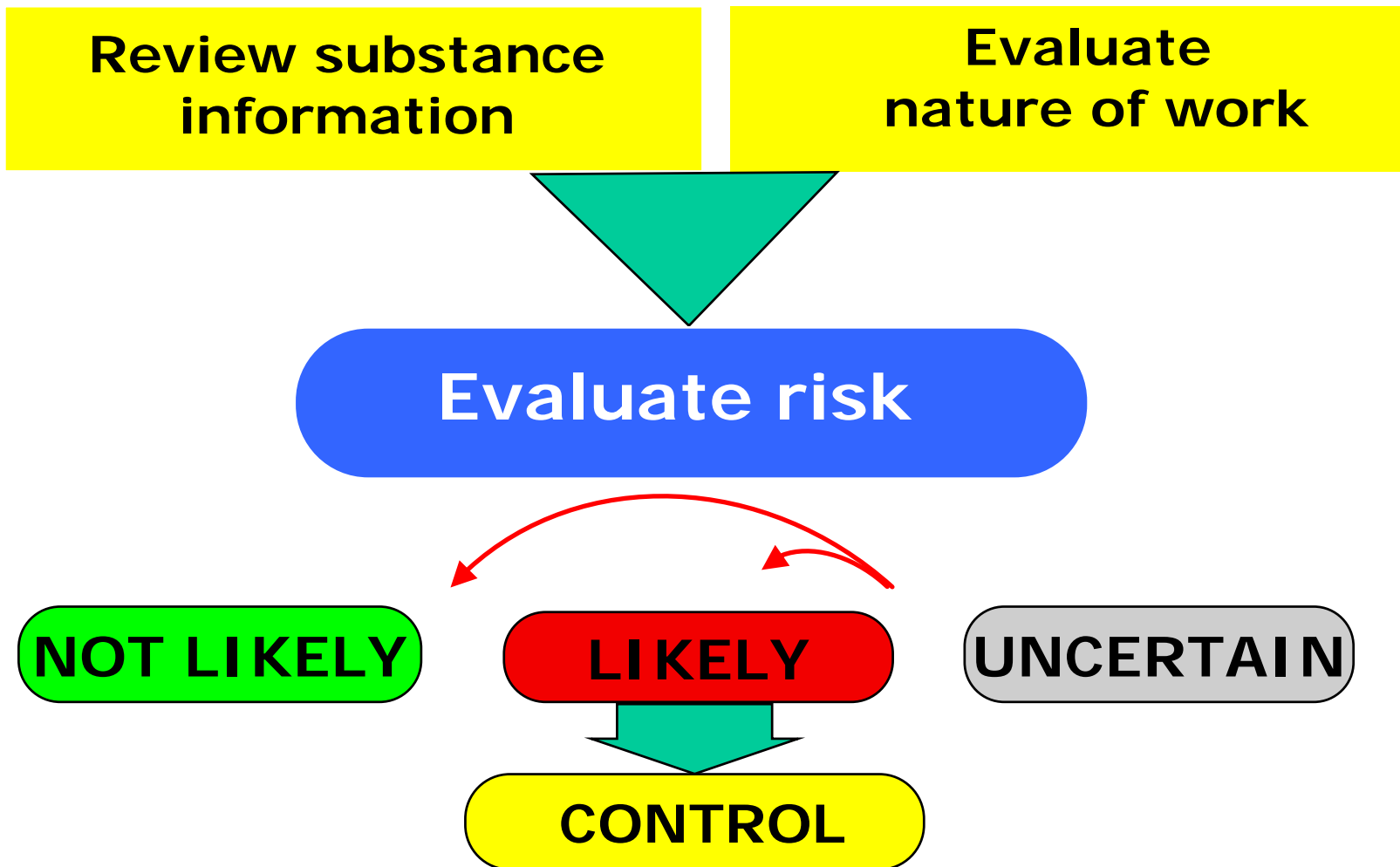
Risk assessment - nature of work

- Divide up workplace/process/jobs/tasks
- Group similar work/substances



- Any incidents / near misses ?

Risk assessment



Risk assessment - in summary

INJURY OR ILLNESS UNLIKELY

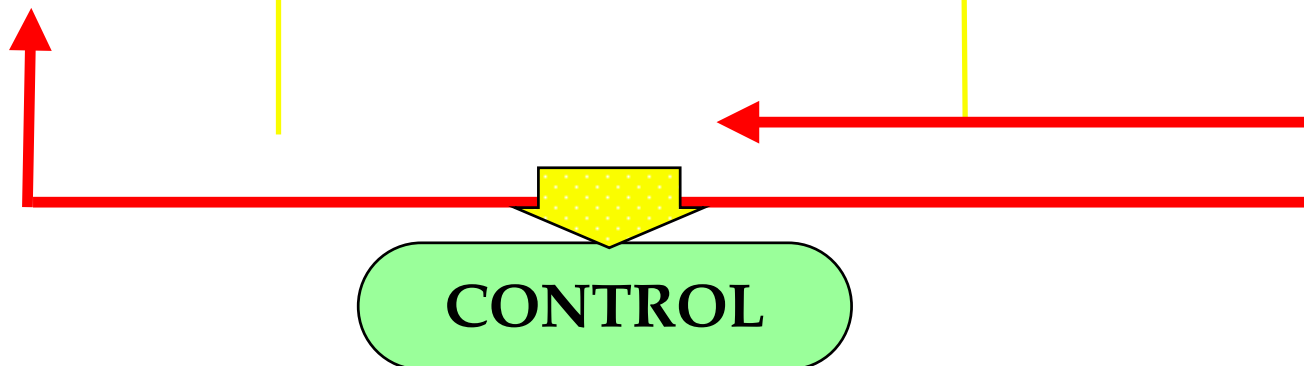
Totally enclosed *
Small quantity used
Previous measurements
Low toxicity
Diluted pesticide
Short duration

INJURY OR ILLNESS LIKELY

Monitoring results
Visible dusts/mists/
Getting covered in spray
mist or powder
Complaints/symptoms
Excessive odour
Bad practices
Badly maintained
controls

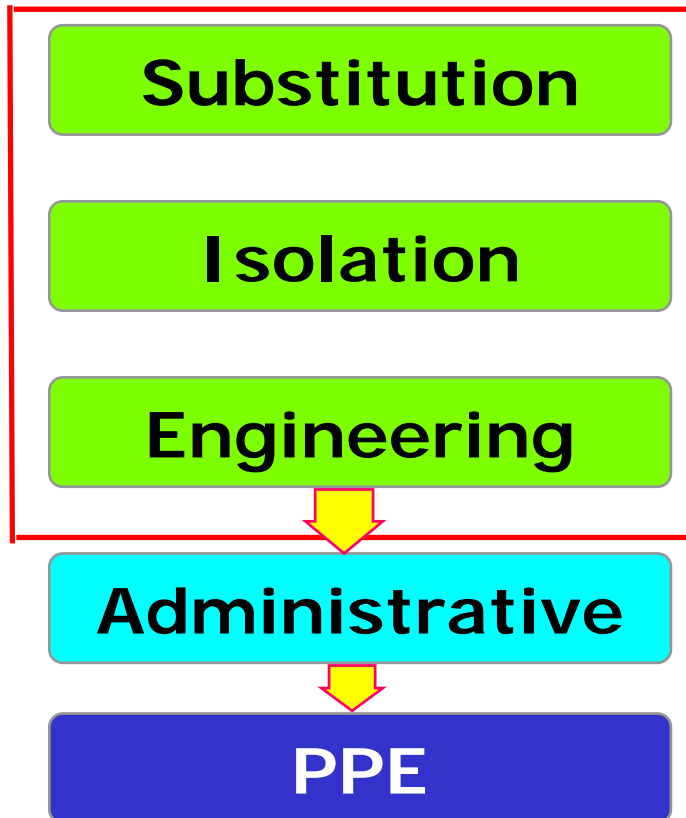
INJURY OR ILLNESS UNCERTAIN

Further
information:
• air monitoring?
• biological
• monitoring?
• expertise?



Control of risks to health

Eliminate or reduce as low as practicable

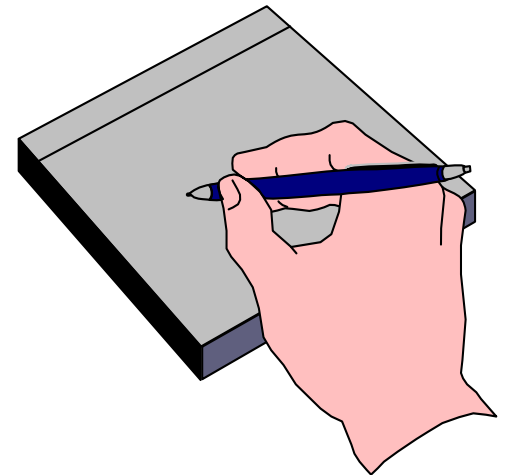


- Ensure use
- Maintain

Record assessment

As part of your risk assessment, you should document the:

- name of assessor(s)
- date of assessment
- workplace/unit/area/process
- name of substance(s)
- summary of process/tasks
- results of any atmospheric/health monitoring
- relevant details to support result/conclusion
[eg controls/observations/nature of substance & task/ results of any tests etc]

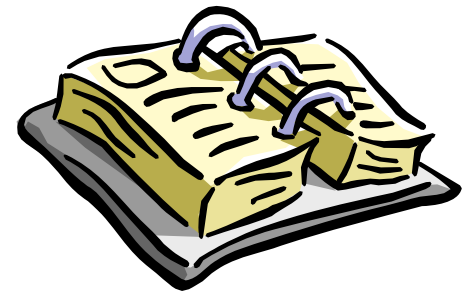


- **Level of detail depends on risk/complexity**

Review and revise assessment

You should review and revise your risk assessments when:

- a new substance is introduced
- process or plant is modified
- different equipment is used
- new information on hazards becomes available
- monitoring indicates inadequate control
- accidents or near misses / symptoms
- new control measures become available or practicable
- Otherwise, annually.



Remember

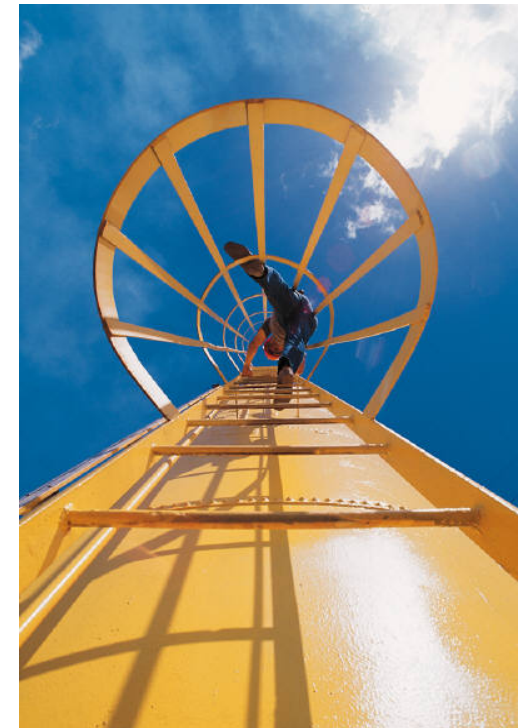
Reducing risks PROACTIVELY is better than dealing with the impact and losses REACTIVELY



Site Risk Analysis

Why site assessments?

- Work largely unsupervised
- Different
 - sites
 - circumstances
 - environments
- Encounter range of hazards
 - Chemical
 - Electrical
 - Manual handling
 - Slips, trips & falls



Site Risk Analysis vs. Health Risk Assessment Checklist

- administrative control
- serves as reminder/prompt
- assists in identifying hazards
- demonstrates precautions taken & how particular job was done
- valuable information (eg complaint)
- many sites/workplaces require JSA's or information on how you will manage risks

NB. Most of you provide most of this information to your client anyway.

Pesticide Health Risk Assessment



workshop

Materials



The following materials may be useful in documenting a risk assessment:

- Pesticide Health Risk Assessment Template
- Product Material Safety Data Sheet
- Product label
- Company policy/procedures manual

Record assessment

As part of your risk assessment, you should document the:

- workplace/unit/area/process
- name of assessor(s)
- date of assessment
- date of review



Pesticide Health Risk Assessment

Business name: _____

Name of person(s) completing this risk assessment: _____

Date this pesticide risk assessment completed: _____

Date this pesticide risk assessment to be reviewed: _____

STEP 1:

Review substance information (MSDS/label)

- product name
- active ingredient(s)
- health effects
- form/concentration
- routes of exposure
- properties.



Pesticide Details

Product name: _____

Active constituent: _____

Form: (e.g. liquid, solid etc.) _____ **Poison schedule:** _____

Health effects: (briefly describe using label and MSDS) _____

Ingestion: _____

Inhalation: _____

Skin/eyes: _____

PPE required: (use label and MSDS) _____

Locations treated: (e.g. residential house, kitchen, external perimeter, garden beds) _____

Pest(s) treated: _____

STEP 2:

Break job up into individual tasks

- storage/loading/unloading/transporting pesticide
- decanting/mixing pesticide
- application of pesticide
- management of pesticide spills.



Provide brief description of each task

Job Description

Briefly describe procedures for:

LOADING, UNLOADING AND TRANSPORT OF PESTICIDE

MIXING AND PREPARATION OF PESTICIDE

APPLICATION OF PESTICIDE

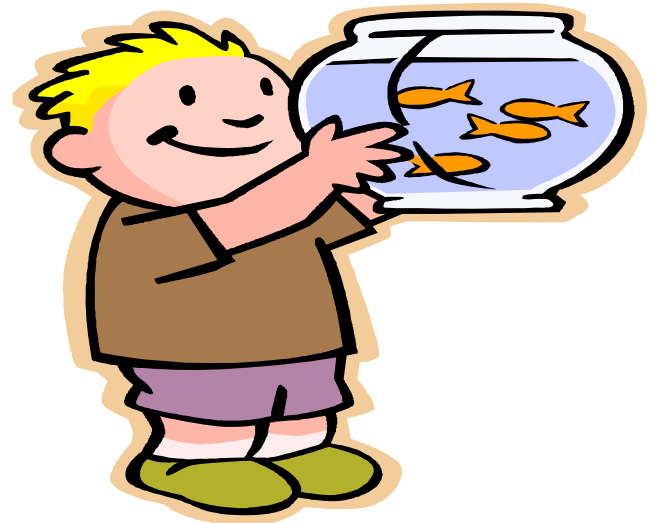
MANAGEMENT OF SPILL OF PESTICIDE

Authorities notified where appropriate: _____

STEP 3:

Identify who & what is at risk for each task

- Technician
- Other people
 - other employees on-site
 - residents – during **and** after the treatment
 - public
- Environment
- Pets.



Application of Pesticide

Who is at Risk	Route of Exposure	List current control measures	Are current control measures adequate?		List additional measures to control health risks
<i>Pest Control Operator</i>	Skin/Eyes		<input type="checkbox"/> YES	Why/Why not?	
			<input type="checkbox"/> NO		
	Inhalation		<input type="checkbox"/> YES	Why/Why not?	
			<input type="checkbox"/> NO		
<i>Other People</i>	Ingestion		<input type="checkbox"/> YES	Why/Why not?	
			<input type="checkbox"/> NO		
	Skin/Eyes		<input type="checkbox"/> YES	Why/Why not?	
			<input type="checkbox"/> NO		
<i>Other Hazards</i>	Inhalation		<input type="checkbox"/> YES	Why/Why not?	
			<input type="checkbox"/> NO		
	Ingestion		<input type="checkbox"/> YES	Why/Why not?	
			<input type="checkbox"/> NO		
	(list)		<input type="checkbox"/> YES	Why/Why not?	
			<input type="checkbox"/> NO		

STEP 4: Consider Route(s) of Exposure

- skin/eyes
- inhalation
- ingestion



Application of Pesticide

Who is at Risk	Route of Exposure	List current control measures	Are current control measures adequate?		List additional measures to control health risks
<i>Pest Control Operator</i>	Skin/Eyes		<input type="checkbox"/> YES	Why/Why not?	
			<input type="checkbox"/> NO		
	Inhalation		<input type="checkbox"/> YES	Why/Why not?	
			<input type="checkbox"/> NO		
	Ingestion		<input type="checkbox"/> YES	Why/Why not?	
			<input type="checkbox"/> NO		
<i>Other People</i>	Skin/Eyes		<input type="checkbox"/> YES	Why/Why not?	
			<input type="checkbox"/> NO		
	Inhalation		<input type="checkbox"/> YES	Why/Why not?	
			<input type="checkbox"/> NO		
	Ingestion		<input type="checkbox"/> YES	Why/Why not?	
			<input type="checkbox"/> NO		
<i>Other Hazards</i>	(list)		<input type="checkbox"/> YES	Why/Why not?	
			<input type="checkbox"/> NO		

STEP 5:

List current controls/safety measures

These may include:

- respirator worn to prevent inhalation of mist/vapours/powder
- other people on-site warned that pesticides are being applied
- bunting and warning signs displayed to keep public/people out of the area being treated
- coarse spray applied to minimise spray drift
- extension nozzle used
- spraying not conducted overhead
- fogging done from external point / auto unit with timer used
- start fogging at rear and work backwards
- clean up equipment after use
- drums fitted with taps/bungs to prevent/minimise spills
- etc, etc.

Application of Pesticide

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			<input type="checkbox"/> NO		
<i>Other People</i>	Skin/Eyes		<input type="checkbox"/> YES	Why/Why not?	
			<input type="checkbox"/> NO		
	Inhalation		<input type="checkbox"/> YES	Why/Why not?	
			<input type="checkbox"/> NO		
	Ingestion		<input type="checkbox"/> YES	Why/Why not?	
			<input type="checkbox"/> NO		
<i>Other Hazards</i>	(list)		<input type="checkbox"/> YES	Why/Why not?	
			<input type="checkbox"/> NO		

STEP 6:

Are current control measures adequate?

For each of the current control measures, ask yourself the following questions:

- Are the controls in place adequate?
- How do you know the controls are adequate?
- Are the controls maintained and used? How?
- Has the hierarchy of controls been considered and applied as far as practicable?
- That is, can the risk be:
 - o eliminated completely?
 - o minimised by using safer products or application equipment/techniques?
 - o reduced by implementing safer work practices?
 - o reduced by using Personal Protective Equipment?

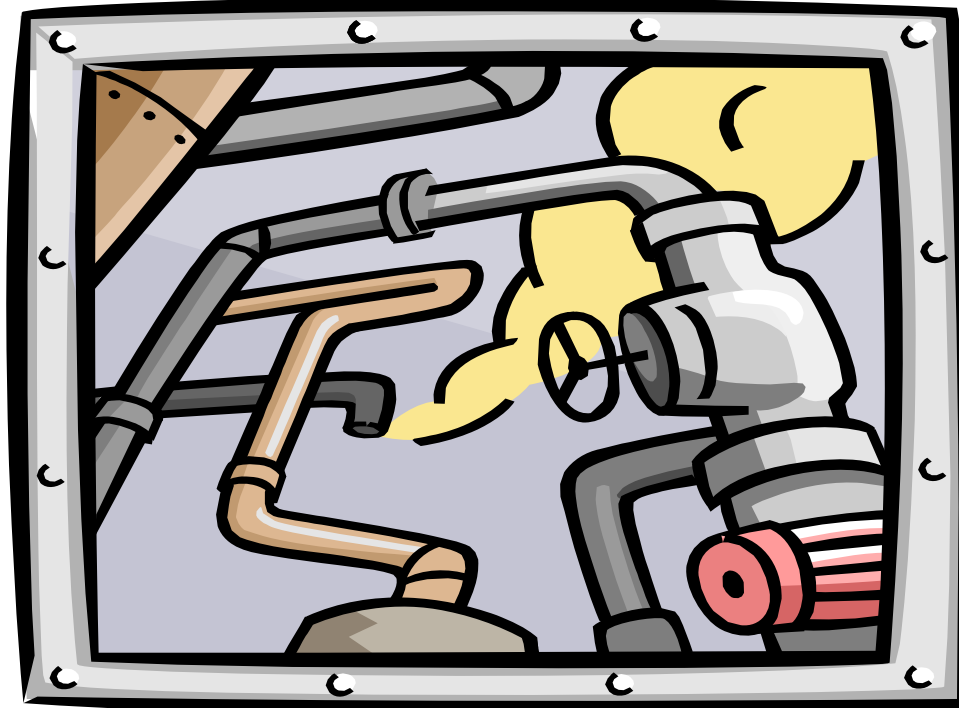
Application of Pesticide

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	Inhalation		<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO	Why/Why not?	
	Ingestion		<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO	Why/Why not?	
<u>Other Hazards</u>	(list)		<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO	Why/Why not?	

STEP 7:

List additional control measures

- Specify any additional controls required or proposed



Application of Pesticide

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<u>Pest Control Operator</u>	Skin/Eyes		<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO	Why/Why not?	
	Inhalation		<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO	Why/Why not?	
	Ingestion		<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO	Why/Why not?	
<u>Other People</u>	Skin/Eyes		<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO	Why/Why not?	
	Inhalation		<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO	Why/Why not?	
	Ingestion		<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO	Why/Why not?	
<u>Other Hazards</u>	(list)		<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO	Why/Why not?	

Repeat for other tables

- Now that the *Application of pesticide* table has been completed, repeat steps 3-7 for the other job tasks you have described in step 2 of the risk assessment process.

Repeat for all other hazardous substances

- You should now have a complete pesticide health risk assessment for **one** product that you use
- Repeat this process for all **other** pesticides that you use as part of your business.

Review and revise assessment

You should review and revise your risk assessments when:

- a new substance is introduced
- process or plant is modified
- different equipment is used
- new information on hazards becomes available
- monitoring indicates inadequate control
- accidents or near misses / symptoms
- new control measures become available or practicable
- Otherwise, annually.

