

RISK MANAGEMENT

A SHORT GUIDE TO THE PRINCIPLES OF SENSIBLE RISK MANAGEMENT

Every organisation whether large or small can benefit from implementing sensible risk management.

Sensible risk management is about:

- Implementing control measures to ensure the protection of employees and non-employees at all times.
- Identifying risk and where reasonably practicable eliminating risk or reducing it to its lowest form.
- Encouraging risk awareness among employees.
- Ensuring that those who create risk are adequately trained in how to effectively manage risk.
- Raising awareness among employees as to their individual legal obligations to comply with health and safety rules and to take responsibility for their own health and safety.
- Identifying only the significant hazards and associated risks.

Sensible risk management is not about:

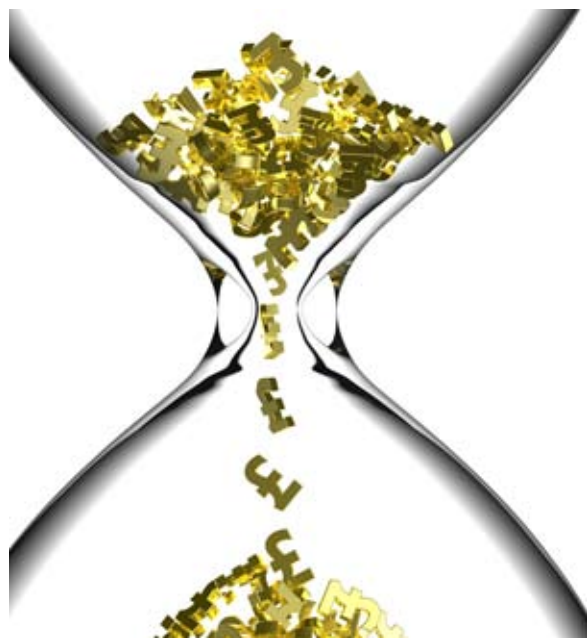
- Achieving a completely risk-free society.
- Creating mountains of paperwork.
- Preventing individuals from undertaking activities where the risks could be effectively managed.

Before you can manage risk you must first identify the risk. Risk assessment involves five steps. These include:

- Identifying the significant hazards.
- Deciding who might be harmed by your undertaking and how this might occur.
- Evaluating the risks and implementing adequate control measures to eliminate or reduce the risks
- Reviewing your assessment and its effectiveness and update where necessary.

Benefits to your organisation include:

- Reduced accident rates.
- Reduction in the need to allocate resources for accident investigations etc.
- Reduced employee absenteeism.
- Reduced legal costs i.e. criminal and civil litigation.
- Improving productivity.
- Improving employee morale.
- Improving workplace health and safety.
- Developing a health and safety culture.
- Working towards achieving statutory compliance.



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