

# Health and Safety Consultancy



## Risk Assessment

There is a lot of H&S legislation which your business needs to interpret. You will often look at legislation and then write your policy and procedures and these will indicate that you will undertake risk assessments for significant risks which affect your business. Your first step is to identify these significant risks. The next step is to write what legislation terms as 'suitable and sufficient' risk assessments. What this means is that you need to put sufficient thought into your risk assessment to ensure that you fully manage the risks and that your control measures for managing these risks actually work.

IOH's health and safety consultants have a vast array of experience in various different industries and this experience includes the writing and implementation of risk assessments. Our worksheet dealing with embedding health and safety policy and procedures discussed the need to embed these documents. In reality the embedding of risk assessments is just as important. This is also achieved through good communication systems and suitable information and where required workplace training.

Risk assessments need to reflect the reality of working within your business and the control measures which you have put in place. These control measures will range for physical guards and equipment to personal protective equipment, training, signage etc. The commitments that you make in your risk assessment need to be implemented or it will devalue your health and safety culture or in the event of an accident or incident will be used against the business in civil or criminal litigation. Once again a poorly conceived risk assessment is in danger not just of not going far enough but in going too far. Risk assessment are as much about "doing it the right way" as any other element of your health and safety system. You don't need to do something differently, you just need to make sure that your doing it the right way!

IOH have assisted clients with writing and embedding risk assessments covering;

- Workplace specific assessments
- COSHH assessments
- Work at Height assessments
- Manual handling assessments
- Ergonomic assessments
- DSE assessments
- Fire risk assessments
- Management of Occupational Road Risk assessments , etc.