



SAFETY ALERT & BULLETIN OF THE MONTH

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Hazards and Risks

AOM: 2021-09-17

The difference between hazards and risks is often misunderstood. Hazards are things or conditions that can cause an injury or illness. For example, a leaning tree or a slippery walkway. Risk is the probability of a hazard causing the injury or illness. For example, if the leaning tree is nowhere near workers or equipment, we could say the risk is low because it wouldn't cause a problem if it fell.

An assessment is often done to determine risk levels for each hazard. This is done by identifying each hazard and then asking:

- What's the probability of this hazard causing an incident?
- If an incident occurs, how severe is it going to be?

By answering these questions, you'll be able to focus on the high-risk hazards – the ones most likely to cause the biggest problems.

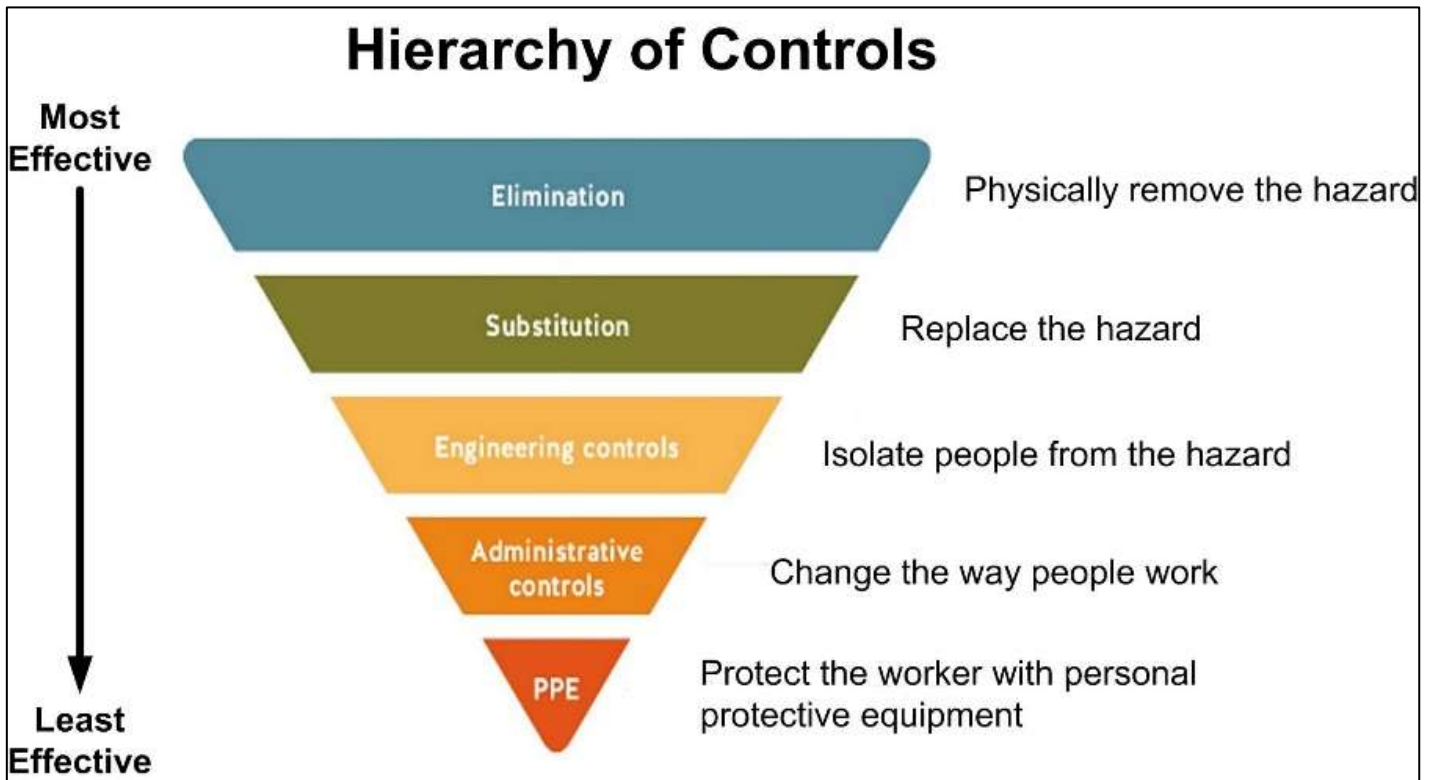
Hazard and Risk Considerations:

- Hazard ID – Sometimes hazards hide in plain sight – we have become used to them and take the hazard for granted (e.g. wood dust buildup); or conversely maybe it is something that is difficult to see (e.g. carbon monoxide).
- New Hazards and Risks – Look at the worksite with fresh eyes to identify hazards not previously there – new equipment, workers, or process can all result in new risks. Be a student of safety – learn about hazards and risks in other industries and situations. Do they apply where you work?
- Communication – Knowing about hazards will keep you safe but sharing the information can keep a whole company or site safe. It's likely there will be a new worker or a contractor on site who will not know about all the hazards.
- Controlling Hazards – Controls are the steps taken to make hazards safe, in essence "reduce the risk". The diagram below illustrates that eliminating hazards is the most effective. PPE is the least effective and shouldn't be the ONLY control in place.





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- Don't Be Complacent – Having a vigilant attitude and actively identifying new hazards everyday will help you and your co-workers stay safe.
- Location, location, location – Every work location and job task will have different hazards. For example, manufacturing or office sites will have different hazards from field-based worksites. Specific hazard and risk training is needed for these different environments. See below for links to new online blasting training.

Additional Resources

- **Online Training:** [Forestry Blasting Hazards and Risks](#)
- **Webpage:** BCFSC - [Industry Lost Time Injury Fact Sheets](#)
- **Video:** [Difference Between Hazards and Risks](#)

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BC Forest Safety

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BCFSC Bulletin - News and Updates

BCFSC Latest News & Resources

[BC Vaccine Card System and the BCFSC](#) – As of September 13, 2021, the new vaccine card system requires proof of at least one dose of COVID-19 vaccine and applies to all people born in 2009 or earlier (12+). [Learn more](#) about how the BCFSC is addressing the BC Vaccine Card System requirements.

Occupational Health and Safety (OHS) Regulation Updates:

[Coming into effect September 1](#) - New and revised regulatory requirements for pesticides, safety headgear, high-visibility apparel and mobile equipment.

[Coming into effect December 1](#) - Approved amendments to Part 26, Logging truck load securement of the Occupational Health and Safety Regulation as well as amendments to OHS Regulations Parts 1, 5, 7, 14, 18, 20, 22, 23, 24, 25.

BCFSC Training:

Upcoming Classroom Training

October 5-8 | [BASE Internal Auditor Training – Online](#)

This course is about occupational health and safety for large employers working in the forest sector. Participants should be active in their company's business operations and have knowledge of their safety program, as they will become the company's internal auditor and conduct their company's audit.

October 14 | [Forest Supervisor Training – Due Diligence – Kamloops](#)

This two-day classroom workshop will equip supervisors with knowledge of their legal responsibilities and how to prove due diligence.

October 15 | [Basic Incident Investigation – Prince George](#)

This two-day classroom workshop will equip supervisors with knowledge of their legal responsibilities and how to prove due diligence.

October 28 | [Small Employer OHS Training – Kamloops](#)

This two-day course is about occupational health and safety for small employers working in the forest sector. Participants should be active in their company's business operations and have knowledge of their safety program, as they will become the company's internal auditor and submit their company's audit.



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October 28 | [Forest Supervisor Training – Communication – Campbell River](#)

This two-day classroom workshop will equip supervisors with knowledge of their legal responsibilities and how to prove due diligence.

October 29 | [Forest Supervisor Training – Leadership – Campbell River](#)

This two-day classroom workshop will equip supervisors with knowledge of their legal responsibilities and how to prove due diligence.

October 29 | [Small Employer OHS Refresher Training – Kamloops](#)

This course provides a refresher for ISEBASE/SEBASE internal auditors. It is a requirement for eligibility for the WorkSafeBC Certificate of Recognition (COR) program and must be taken within 3 years of the last successful audit.

COURSE DATE CHANGE: the Joint Health and Safety Committee Training in Campbell River originally scheduled for November 8th has been rescheduled for December 15th. [Register today](#) to reserve your spot.

Refer to the [Training section of our website](#) for more information on upcoming classroom training and costs.

Online Training

BCFSC offers a wide selection of free online training courses: Basic Forest Worker, Phase Congestion, Professional Industry Driver, Resource Road Driver, Serious Incident Investigation and more. Click here to self-enroll: [Online Learning Centre – BC Forest Safety Council](#)

Worker Assessment and Training

Each forestry occupation requires different knowledge and skillsets to perform the job at hand. BCFSC worked with industry to develop competency-based standards, training and assessment tools to help employers evaluate workers and complete on-the-job training.

Check out our [FREE online training and assessment forms](#) for Basic Forest Workers, Yarding, Mechanized Harvesting and Road Building.

