



# Health & Safety at Work

It is often a matter of luck whether an incident causes serious loss or a sharp intake of breath! We all need luck, but we don't run our operations in the expectation of always being lucky. Yet, too many people turn a blind eye to the need for good management practice when it comes to Health & Safety.

There is no copyright to the recipe for good management:

- Policy
- Planning
- Organisation
- Review
- Control

These ingredients are applicable to all aspects of business - and that includes Health & Safety.

Accidents and ill health are costly:-

- Lost Resources
- Adverse Publicity
- Management Time
- Repairs
- Compensation
- Low Morale

In fact, you don't need an accident to suffer the last item. If your staff believe that you are indifferent to their well-being you can be sure of lower productivity. The effect is corrosive and it will not improve without positive action.

All governments proclaim the virtue of good management but, when exhortation does not produce the desired response legislation and regulation must be introduced.

### When Did It Start ?

Everyone is aware of the existence of Health & Safety statutory requirements. There has been legislation for a long time, but the main thrust in the UK began with the Factories Act of 1961. Coverage was extended to offices and other non-industrial activities by the Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act 1963. Parts of both Acts are still in force, as are subsequent regulations promulgated under those Acts.

In 1974, the Health and Safety at Work etc. Act was superimposed on the earlier legislation. Additionally, the 1974 Act provided the springboard for a multitude of regulations, not least those of 1992, which were introduced because of EC Directives.

### Who Is Affected ?

All organisations are affected - industrial, commercial, charitable, educational - factory or office - nobody is let off the hook.

It looks forbidding and seems like a minefield, but it is a basis for good management practice.

### What Must Be Done ?

It is mandatory to carry out Risk Analysis, take corrective action and monitor the situation thereafter.

Failure so to do brings substantial legal penalties as far as the management is concerned, not to mention the embarrassment.

### Help Available

Coming to terms with all the Health & Safety requirements of the 1990's is not easy. Horwood International can help by showing you and your employees, in a practical way, how to :

- Undertake Risk Assessment
- AND
- Set Objectives
  - Develop Policies and Procedures
  - Organise Implementation
  - Improve Performance

Minimising the risk of accidents has to be the right approach, but best of all, it will improve the business.

**For further information please Email, Fax or call Horwood International today.**

I would like further information without obligation

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