

# Penarth Management

## European Health & Safety at Work Campaign 2008-09

Our 33rd year of successful consultancy

Penarth Management is registered to ISO9001:2008, ISO14001:2004 and OHSAS18001:2007

We currently assist clients with:

- ISO9001 Quality Assurance
- TickIT
- TS16949 for the automotive industry
- ISO13485 for medical devices
- ISO14001 Environmental Management
- BS8555, phased ISO14001
- BS EN 16001 Energy Management
- BS OHSAS 18001 Occupational Health & Safety
- ISO27001 Security
- SIA Approved Contractor Scheme
- BS7499 Static Site Guarding
- BS5839 Fire Detection and Fire Alarm Systems
- The Chemical Industry's Responsible Care Programme
- Highways Agency Sector Schemes 12A /12B , 12C , 16 and 18
- CE Marking guidance
- HACCP Food Safety
- ISO22000 Food Safety
- BRC Food Safety
- SA8000 Social Accountability
- BS 25999 Business Continuity
- FSC and PEFC Chain of Custody
- Asbestos Surveys (Type II)

## Risk Assessment: Why You Should Care

### Health & Safety Week

As part of this year's European Campaign for Safety and Health at Work which aims to raise awareness about health and safety in the workplace, the main focus is on risk assessment.

### Cost of Work Related Deaths

According to the Working Lives Research Institute, 167,000 people die every year from work-related causes and over seven million accidents leading to three days or more off work occur every year in the EU. The cost to businesses, individuals and health services is vast.

But by implementing various occupational safety and health guidelines, this cost can be dramatically reduced. A preventive approach based on risk assessment forms a central part of the European approach to managing health and safety. For this to be successfully implemented, it is vital that the importance of risk assessments is communicated at all levels.

### What is a Risk Assessment?

Risk assessment is a thorough check of all potential hazards involved in all aspects of the work being done to see whether any risk of harm or injury is present, and if so, whether the hazard can be removed, or if not then what measures should be put in place to control the risks.

### Common Misconceptions

Crucially, there many misconceptions about risk assessments which can create misinformed approaches towards essential health and safety policies. Key terms such as *hazards* and *risks* are often used interchangeably. Yet a *hazard* is anything that may cause harm (chemicals, electricity, and machinery, for example) and a *risk* is the chance that someone could be harmed by a hazard.

Furthermore, risk assessments are often perceived as bureaucratic: implemented purely to repress spontaneity and a sense of 'fun' both in and out of the workplace, creating a "risk-averse" culture. However, they form an essential part of European health and safety policy, and are crucial in the successful implementation of any organisation's health and safety guidelines.

### Involving Staff

Carrying out risk assessments and involving staff at all levels in the process will not only benefit safety, as you become aware of potentially unsafe methods of working and dangers in the workplace, it may also save money by reducing accidents and days lost. Further benefits may also be gained with improved relations with a workforce who have been consulted on health and safety.



**HEALTHY WORKPLACES**  
GOOD FOR YOU. GOOD FOR BUSINESS  
A European campaign on Risk Assessment

Further information on risk assessments is available from Penarth Management. Contact us on 02920 703328 or email [judi@penarth.co.uk](mailto:judi@penarth.co.uk).



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Judi Starling



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## Summary of HSE Enforcement Notices

Area of concern (in manufacturing and services only)	Total number of notices issued
Risk assessment not carried out or inadequate	12 improvement notices
PUWER (Guarding of equipment insufficient or not present)	14 improvement notices 2 prohibition notices
COSHH (assessments not completed)	4 improvement notices
Work at Height (lack of edge protection or badly erected scaffold)	8 prohibition notices 3 improvement notices
LOLER (lifting equipment not inspected)	6 improvement notices 2 prohibition notices
PUWER (miscellaneous items from the PUWER regulations)	2 improvement notices 2 prohibition notices
LEV Test not carried out within 14 months	3 improvement notices
Window restrictors not fitted in care homes	3 improvement notices
Health Surveillance not completed for isocyanates	3 improvement notices
Asbestos survey not completed	3 improvement notices
Untrained operators using forklift trucks	2 improvement notices
Legionella management system / testing inadequate or incomplete	3 improvement notices
Spray booth thorough inspection not carried out	2 improvement notices
No health and safety management system in place (as required by the Health and Safety at Work Act)	2 improvement notices
Others (various miscellaneous items with no more than 1 notice in each category)	9 improvement notices 2 prohibition notices



Jenny Starling



Jess Robinson



Helen Hill



Laurence Richardson



Eddy Williams



Paul Good



Bernard Tracey



Karen McDonald



Fred Dobb



William Murdoch



Patience Kumalo



Paul Clark



Natasha Dobb

**Note:** The enforcement notices above were issued by the HSE to organisations in England and Wales over a 5 week period around July 2009. These do not include those issued in construction, utilities or agriculture. Improvement notices are issued where the inspector has noticed that Regulations are not complied with, and have a 28 day appeal period. Prohibition notices are issued where there is an imminent danger, and work must cease immediately.