**Matrix for risk evaluation**



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|  | **Severity of injury** | | | | |
| **Likelihood** | **Superficial** | **Minor** | **Serious** | **Major** | **Extreme** |
| **Unlikely** | **Very low** | **Very low** | **Low** | **Low** | **Moderate** |
| **Possible** | **Very low** | **Low** | **Low** | **Moderate** | **High** |
| **Likely** | **Low** | **Low** | **Moderate** | **High** | **Very high** |
| **Very likely** | **Low** | **Moderate** | **High** | **Very high** | **Very high** |
| **Extremely likely** | **Moderate** | **High** | **Very high** | **Very high** | **Very high** |

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| **Rating for severity of injury** | |
| **Superficial** | **Injury;** none, delay only  **Property damage;** minimal |
| **Minor** | **Injury;** bruising, minor cuts, light abrasions.  **Health effects;** mild irritation of skin or eyes, headaches, ill-health leading to temporary discomfort.  **Property damage;** minor  **Lost time;** < 3 days |
| **Serious** | **Injury;** loss of consciousness, lacerations, concussion, serious sprains, minor fractures, deafness, asthma, burns or injury resulting in absence from work.  **Health effects;** acute health effects, e.g. harmful if inhaled/contact with skin/ or swallowed, dermatitis, ill-health leading to minor but permanent disability.  **Property damage;** serious but confined to a work-room or area. Oxidising, flammable and highly flammable substances.  **Lost time;** > 4 days – 3 months |
| **Major** | **Injury & illness;** fatal incident affecting one person, permanent disability or other reportable injury/disease for example amputations/major fractures. Severely life shortening diseases, acute fatal diseases.  **Health effects;** affecting one person, toxic by inhalation/contact with skin or swallowed. Damage to eyes, respiratory system, skin sensitization, effects on fertility, prolonged exposure risks, limited evidence of carcinogenic effects.  **Property damage;** major. Extremely flammable and explosive substances.  **Lost time;** > 3 months |
| **Extreme** | **Injury;** fatal incidents affecting more than one person  **Health effects;** affecting more than one person or chronic medical disability due to, for example exposure to a probable carcinogen, may cause sensitization by inhalation.  **Property damage;** the loss of one or more buildings. |

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| **Rating for likelihood** | |
| **Unlikely** | Appropriate control measures in place with effective management of risk |
| **Possible** | Appropriate control measures in place with partial management of risk |
| **Likely** | Inadequate / inappropriate control measures in place with partial management of risk |
| **Very likely** | Inadequate / inappropriate control measures with no management of risk |
| **Extremely likely** | Absence of control measures with no management of risk |

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| **Prioritisation of risk factors** | |
| **Very low** | Acceptable risk; no action required |
| **Low** | Tolerable risk; reduced as low as reasonably practical, further action may not be required |
| **Moderate** | Plan required to reduce the risk as far as is reasonably practical |
| **High** | Urgent action required to allow activity to continue. Plan required for sustainable risk control. |
| **Very high** | Risk intolerable; activity must cease until the risk has been reduced |