

When considering the impact of harm occurring the worst case shall be considered but be careful not to include unrealistic scenarios. With enough imagination even the most minor accident could result in a fatality. What is required is the realistic worst case.

It is important to remember when assessing the impact of the harm arising from contact with a hazard that it is irrespective of the likelihood of contact with the hazard. Ask yourself the question what happens if someone touches that, or falls off that, or gets hit by that, etc. you have already assessed how likely it is, impact is about the extent of the harm.

12.2.5 Controlling Hazards

Control measures should be considered in a logical order so that the most effective controls are chosen over those that are less effective:

- a) Eliminate the hazard
- b) Reduce risk at source, i.e. make the hazard less hazardous
- c) Enclose the hazard, i.e. prevent contact with hazard
- d) Remove the person from the hazard, e.g. Remote control
- e) Reduce contact with the hazard, e.g. Do less work at height
- f) Implement safe working procedures
- g) Provide information, instruction, training and supervision
- h) Provide PPE

Often several of the control methods will be required to reduce the risk to an acceptable level. When evaluating the initial risk rating assume there are no controls in place. Then decide what controls are appropriate taking into consideration the initial rating and the time, trouble and effort needed to reduce it. Low risks should be reduced where this can readily be done. Where the residual risk rating is 'Extreme' or could easily be further reduced, additional control measures should be implemented.

12.2.6 Screening Level Risk Assessment

The first step in the risk assessment process is for the safety plan team to carry out a screening level risk assessment. This initial assessment uses broad information to screen out any hazards that are unlikely to happen or to have any significant impact. The risks associated with each hazard or hazardous event should be assessed using the safety plan team's judgment and experience. The aim of this screening level assessment is to:

- a) identify all the risk posed by the reuse scheme
- b) describe the insignificant risks, and
- c) identify significant and uncertain risks which shall be assessed in more detail.
- d) The team should consider each potential hazard and consider its fate as it passes through the wastewater management chain. This stage is particularly important for assessing environmental risk because of the wide range of potential endpoints and different impacts.
- e) The second step is to review those the risks identified as significant and uncertain in more detail. The maximum and residual risk for each hazard should be established and an assessment of the need for additional control measures should be established in this step. Each hazard or hazardous event identified by the team should be assessed against the likelihood and impact criteria.