

## Risk Assessment Matrix

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

Rating for Likelihood	
<b>Unlikely</b>	Freak event – no known history
<b>Possible</b>	Unlikely sequence of events
<b>Likely</b>	Foreseeable under unusual circumstances
<b>Very likely</b>	Easily foreseeable – odd incident may have occurred
<b>Extremely likely</b>	Common occurrence – aware of incidents

Likelihood	Severity				
	Superficial	Minor	Serious	Major	Extreme
<b>Unlikely</b>	Very low	Very low	Low	Low	Moderate
<b>Possible</b>	Very low	Low	Low	Moderate	High
<b>Likely</b>	Low	Low	Moderate	High	Very high
<b>Very likely</b>	Low	Moderate	High	Very high	Very high
<b>Extremely likely</b>	Moderate	High	Very high	Very high	Very high

Risk Level	
<b>Very low</b>	Acceptable risk - no action required.
<b>Low</b>	Tolerable risk - further control measures not required, but status must be monitored.
<b>Moderate</b>	Further control measures required to reduce risk as far as is reasonably practicable.
<b>High</b>	Urgent action required to allow activity to continue.
<b>Very high</b>	Risk intolerable - activity must cease until the risk has been reduced.