

Wilkins Safety Group

Weekly Update Newsletter



Welcome to this issue - Friday 20th January 2012 - of our Update Newsletter

Please feel free to forward this newsletter to colleagues and friends.

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Risk assessments

Let us start the year correctly and get our risk assessments in order.

This week I met a new client who was unsure about their risk assessments and worried about using some generic blank assessment forms. So I thought we should look at risk assessments.

Generic assessments

Should you use generic assessments?

Providing all your risk assessment complies with the **Management of Health & safety at work 1999** regulation five step guidance you should be OK. Just make sure they are current, signed and relevant to your site/contract/risk.

In this newsletter, you will find example risk assessments which show the kind of approach the HSE expects a business or workplace to take.

The examples show how other small and medium-sized businesses have approached risk assessment.

If you can't find your industry listed, pick the one closest to it and adapt it for your own workplace. Use it as a guide to think about:

- some of the hazards in your business
- the steps you need to take to control the risks.

Don't just copy it and put your company name to it as that would not satisfy the law - and would not protect your employees. Every business is different - you need to think about the hazards and controls your business needs.

Even where the hazards are the same, the control measures you adopt may have to be different from those in the examples to meet the particular conditions in your workplace.



Remember

A risk assessment will only be effective if you and your staff act on it. It is important that you follow through with any actions required and review it on a regular basis.

Example risk assessments

Shops

- Betting office
- Butchers
- Charity shop
- Cleaning large retail premises
- Cleaning a shopping centre concourse
- Convenience store/newsagent
- Drycleaners
- Estate agency
- Food preparation and service
- Hairdressing salon
- Off licence
- Travel agent

Motor vehicles

- Car parking attendants
- Motor vehicle bodyshop
- Motor vehicle repair shop
- Motor vehicle showroom
- Private hire
- Road haulage

Office

- General office cleaning

Other

- Administration work in a manufacturing company
- Call centre

- Chilled warehousing
- Cold storage and warehousing
- Contract bricklayers
- Factory maintenance work
- Maintenance of flats
- Night club
- Plastering company
- Poultry farm
- Pub
- Village hall
- Warehouse
- Woodworking

If you have any problems completing the necessary assessment for your business contact a member of our technical team by email info@wilkinssafety.co.uk

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If you would like to discuss any of the issues highlighted in this newsletter then drop an email to **Jon** on jon@wilkinssafety.co.uk or call the office **01458 253682**



Your Business is Safer
Your Business is Safer in Our Hands