Monitor safe workplace Rekha Subedi

**Risk Management: Assessing Risk**

Hazard identification, risk assessment and risk control are three principles used in workplaces to manage safety and health.

Risk means a combination of the severity and likelihood of harm arising from hazard.

Risk assessment is the process of evaluating the severity and likelihood of harm arising from a hazard.

Risk assessment is the determination of [quantitative](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Quantitative_property) or [qualitative](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Qualitative_data) value of risk related to a concrete situation and a recognized [threat](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Threat) (also called hazard). *Quantitative risk assessment* requires calculations of two components of [risk](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Risk) *R*, (1) the magnitude of the potential loss *L*, and (2) the probability *p* that the loss will occur.

**Step 1: Identifying or Spotting the Hazard**

The hazards can be identified by observing, inspecting, investigating, communicating and consulting with staff / students in the workplace and making a record of the hazards identified. Knowledge of the workplace hazards will assist, and hence be alert at work. Watch out for hazards in workplace and should be reported to immediate supervisor.

**Step 2: Assess and priorities Risk**

Analyzing the risk involves determination of the:

Consequences – outcome of an incident

Exposure – interaction with hazard

Probability – likelihood that consequences will occur once individual is exposed

Process - Use the Risk Score calculator for analyzing and evaluating risk. The objective of analyzing risk is to determine whether the risk is acceptable. It provides a qualitative tool that assists in prioritizing risk. The Risk Score Calculator determines the level of risk by defining consequences, exposure and Probability. The risk matrix is used to assess and priorities risks; then dealing with high priority risks first and then dealing with the least significant risks last.

**Step 3: Make the Changes**

Making changes means to work for fixing hazards to make the workplace safe.