

Abstract of the Good Practice Guide to... Risk Management

Facilities Management can experience risks in everything from delivery of services through to health and safety. Although the requirements of the latter have the force of law behind them, the Guide emphasises that compliance is simply a means to an end; the object of risk assessment here is to prevent death and injury.

The Guide outlines risk management principles and the four strategies for managing risk, namely avoid, reduce, transfer, accept. It goes on to describe the common themes of risk management models which are based on five subject areas used to identify the most appropriate strategy to adopt in various situations. These subject areas are:

- Risk identification
- Risk analysis and assessment
- Risk evaluation
- Risk management – control, monitoring and review
- Risk reporting and communication



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Five techniques for risk identification are described which can be used to produce a risk register. This can highlight major internal and external risks up the corporate structure.

Processes for risk analysis and risk assessment are outlined. These provide the input for the risk evaluation stage which can be against a range of criteria such as, if realised, to what extent might the risk affect the business. This enables the risk control strategy to be agreed.

Control, monitoring and review are important parts of the overall risk management process and the Guide describes the important elements of a written scheme that encapsulates these.

The value of reporting and communication in enabling informed decisions on the future management of risks within a business is explained

A major part of the Guide is given over to showing how to apply the risk management model to two examples, the Display Screen Equipment Regulations 1992 and the case of driving at work.

The Guide concludes by giving brief details of twenty-one risk areas that are relevant to Facilities Management. Over twenty DOs and DON'Ts of good practice are recommended.

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