

1. Mire el texto y complete las oraciones que siguen:

- Seleccionar
- Asegurar que se utilicen y mantengan apropiadamente.....
- Determinar si se requiere.....

2. Decida cuál de los títulos siguientes es el que le corresponde a STRUCTURING RISK ASSESSMENT

- Evaluación de riesgos de estructuración/estructuramiento
- Estructuración de riesgos de evaluación
- Estructuración de evaluaciones de riesgo

3. Indicar la función del by: indica quién realiza la acción, el método utilizado, nada

4. Lea el siguiente párrafo y encuentre el equivalente en inglés de las palabras subrayadas:

No se necesita realizar una evaluación de riesgo cubriendo cada actividad laboral en todo el lugar de trabajo. En su lugar, evaluar la naturaleza del trabajo mediante:

- Subdividir el lugar de trabajo: si no es factible evaluar el lugar de trabajo completo, dividirlo en unidades más pequeñas (ubicaciones/áreas o procesos) para que la evaluación de riesgo sea más manejable. Caminar por el lugar de trabajo y mirar los planos del piso o los planos del proceso ayudará a decidir cómo subdividir el lugar de trabajo.

- Agrupar trabajo parecido: los trabajadores que realizan trabajos parecidos o utilizan sustancias similares pueden agruparse juntos si se ha establecido que sus exposiciones son representativas del grupo. Estos grupos se denominan grupos de exposición similar. De esta forma, se puede evitar tener que repetir evaluaciones de exposición para cada uno de los trabajadores. Si el trabajo involucra un gran número de diferentes químicos peligrosos, los mismos pueden ser agrupados sobre la base de su forma, propiedades y la manera en que se usan o son manipulados. Este tipo de agrupamiento puede ser apropiado por ejemplo donde:

- select appropriate control measures

- ensure that control measures are properly used and maintained, and
- determine if air monitoring or health monitoring are required.

It may be necessary to engage external professional assistance to undertake a more detailed assessment.

STRUCTURING RISK ASSESSMENTS

Risk assessments can be simplified by evaluating the nature of the work in smaller, more manageable parts. You do not need to do a risk assessment covering each work activity in the whole workplace. Instead, evaluate the nature of the work by:

- **Dividing up the workplace** - If it is not practicable for the workplace to be assessed as a whole, divide it into smaller units (locations/areas or processes) to make risk assessment more manageable. Walking through the workplace and looking at floor plans or process plans will help you decide how to divide up the workplace.

- **Grouping similar work** - Workers performing similar work or using similar substances may be grouped together if it has been established that their exposures are representative of their group. These are referred to as similarly exposed groups. In this way, you can avoid having to repeat exposure assessments for each and every worker.

If the work involves a large number of different hazardous chemicals, they may be grouped on the basis of their form, properties and the way they are used or handled. This kind of grouping may be appropriate for example, where:

- a range of solvent-based paints containing a number of different solvents and additives are used in the same or similar way (for example, sprayed, brushed or applied with a roller)
- solvent-based liquid pesticides are used in the same or similar way (for example, decanted, mixed or sprayed)

- **Examining work practices and conditions** - Once you have divided the workplace into manageable units, you should observe and consult with workers to find out how the job is actually done. Workers may sometimes not adhere strictly to standard operating procedures for certain tasks. This could be because they have devised a more efficient and/or safer method for performing that task, or because the control measures or PPE provided make it cumbersome and difficult. Workers should be encouraged to share their views and concerns on working practices and be involved in discussions on how to improve working methods. Also, it is good practice to find out what changes in workplace activities occur during cleaning, maintenance, breakdowns and during staff absences or shortages.

You should take account of any information about incidents, fires, spills, illnesses or diseases that may be related to the use of the hazardous chemical. Check your accident/incident records. Ask those doing the work if they have experienced symptoms listed on the SDS. This information will help you to determine if exposure has been significant.

CONSIDERING BOTH HEALTH AND PHYSICOCHEMICAL RISKS

Hazardous chemicals may present an immediate or long term risk to human health through their toxicological properties, or a risk to safety of persons and property as a result of their physicochemical hazards. In some cases, chemicals may present both health and physicochemical hazards, for example solvents such as benzene, toluene and xylene. There are many common elements to assessing risks from health and physicochemical hazards, but also several key differences in the way these risks are assessed. As a consequence, the assessment of health and physicochemical risks are discussed separately in this chapter.