

## **Occupational health and safety and risk assessment:** **Metal machining: Industrial Technology**

In this activity you will learn about the role of WorkCover and the OH&S Act in the workplace and be able to identify a range of potential hazards and methods of controlling them.

This material addresses aspects of the following syllabus outcomes:

- 4.1.1 The student identifies and applies fundamental OH&S principles when working with materials, tools and machines
- 5.1.1 The student identifies, assesses and manages the risks and OH&S issues associated with the use of a range of materials, hand tools, machine tools and processes.

*Extract from: Stage 4 Industrial Technology Syllabus © Board of Studies NSW 2003.*

Occupational Health and Safety (OH&S) in the workplace is a serious consideration for employers as well as employees. It covers a range of situations, for example:

- use of plant and equipment
- hazardous substances
- working conditions (lighting, heat, dust etc)
- Bullying and stress.

The OH&S Act 2000 and the OH&S Regulation 2001, detail mandatory laws and procedures to be implemented in every workplace to protect the health and safety of workers and visitors.

WorkCover New South Wales is the Government body that administers the OH&S Act and enforces the regulations. Inspectors can visit workplaces at random to check for breaches of the Act. WorkCover also investigates workplace accidents and has the power to impose fines and to prosecute employers for breaches that lead to accidents.

According to the Act, it is the responsibility of an employer to ensure a safe and healthy workplace for all employees.

**Activity 1**

Answer the following questions from the summary of the OH&S Regulation 2001. It can be viewed at:

<http://www.workcover.nsw.gov.au/Publications/LawAndPolicy/Regulations/summaryohsreg2001.htm>

1. Outline the five measures that must be taken to minimise or control risks.

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2. What are the three obligations of employers?

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### Activity 2

Identifying risks in the workshop is essential in order to control risks and avoid accidents and injuries. Complete the table below by identifying the risks associated with using the machines listed and outlining the measures needed to control and minimise those risks.

Machine	Risks	Ways to minimise the risks
Metal machining lathe	<hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>
Drill press	<hr/> <hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>
Brobo saw	<hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>
Magna bend	<hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>