

## Emergency situations: General wood 2: Industrial Technology

In this activity you will learn about the emergency action plan, and in particular, safety.

This material addresses aspects of the following syllabus outcomes:

- 4.1.1 A student identifies and applies fundamental OH&S principles when working with materials tools and machines.
  - 5.1.2 A student applies OH&S practices to hand tools, machine tools, equipment and processes.
- Extract from: Years 7–10 Industrial Technology Syllabus © Board of Studies NSW 2003.*

### The emergency action plan

In any potentially dangerous area such as a technology room, it is important to have a plan to cope with any emergency should it arise.

The emergency action plan consists of five steps:

- **S**afety
- **R**esponse
- **A**irway
- **B**reathing
- **C**irculation.

These steps are also commonly called SRABC, and are very important for you to remember if you happen to be involved in the care and treatment of someone who is injured in your work area. This activity focuses on safety.

#### *Safety*

If an emergency has occurred you need to ensure the safety of all those nearby. The groups that you need to consider are:

- yourself
- students and teachers nearby
- the person who needs first aid.

Take the time to look for anything that may threaten the safety of those nearby. Hazards may include:

- fire or flammable materials
- gases
- electricity
- fumes
- slippery surfaces
- sharp metal edges
- smoke
- chemicals.

Leave dangerous situations to the emergency personnel who have the training and equipment to manage the situation. Risking your own safety in a dangerous situation may increase the number of injured, so waiting for the emergency services to arrive is the only option.

Other situations may permit the removal of the hazard, or the removal of the casualty from the hazard. Examples of removing a hazard would be turning electricity off at the main power board in an electrocution incident.

Acknowledgement: <http://www.parasolemt.com.au/Manual/DRABC.asp>  
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**Activity: Emergency action plan**

Read the following scenario carefully then describe the first step to be followed under the SRABC plan.

**Scenario**

It is lunchtime and Justin and Rebecca think that their two mates Brett and Skye have gone to the woodwork room to drill some holes in their footstool so they can catch-up to the rest of the class. They have been in trouble for wasting time in class and they think they won't ask their teacher's permission to use the room and electric drill.

When Justin and Rebecca arrive at the room, the door is closed but they can see through the small window. What they see alarms them — Brett is lying face down on the floor across the power lead to the drill and Skye is next to him with a steel rule in her hand, which is touching Brett.



They panic. What should they do?

*See the worksheets on first aid for more information on response, airways, breathing and circulation.*