

Safety in your *Focus Area*: HSC Industrial Technology

This activity will direct you to sites related to your *Focus Area* industry where you will find OH&S regulations, guidelines and, in some instances, case studies to raise your awareness of important health and safety issues.

This material addresses aspects of the following syllabus outcome:

H 2.1 The student demonstrates proficiency in the use of safe working practices and workshop equipment maintenance techniques.

Extract from: Stage 6 Industrial Technology Syllabus © Board of Studies NSW 1999.

Safe working practices in workshops as well as offices are essential to minimise accidents and injury to all personnel.

There are general safety procedures that should be followed in all workplaces but some industries that use specialised equipment and processes need to have procedures in place that address the specific requirements of that equipment, for example, the need for safety harnesses in building and construction industries but not in an office situation.

The National Occupational Health and Safety Commission web site <<http://natindex.nohsc.gov.au/>> offers a range of resources aimed at providing up to date information on safety regulations for all industries.

Choose your focus area industry, below, and complete the safety activity provided.

Automotive industries

Building and construction industries

Electronics industries

Graphics industries

Metal industries

Multimedia industries

Plastics industries

Timber products and furniture industries

Automotive industries

Activity

Use the information at <<http://www.workcover.com/NR/rdonlyres/99D157B1-69F0-4869-9700-14C5312D2647/0/resInfoSheetMechanic.pdf>> to complete the table below.

Hazard	Common causes	Ways to minimise the hazard
Manual handling (pushing, pulling, lifting)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • _____ • _____ • _____ • _____ 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • _____ • _____ • _____ • _____
Falls	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • _____ • _____ • _____ • _____ 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • _____ • _____ • _____ • _____
Hitting or being hit by objects	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • _____ • _____ • _____ • _____ • _____ 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • _____ • _____ • _____ • _____ • _____

Building and construction industries

Activity

Read the injury case study at:

<http://www.safetyline.wa.gov.au/pagebin/injrsign0119.htm> and answer the following questions.

1. What were the contributing factors to the two workers falling off the beam?

2. What were the recommendations of the enquiry into that accident?

Graphics industries

Activity

Requirements for health and safety in office environments can be found at:
<<http://www.whs.qld.gov.au/guide/gde09.pdf>> from page 12.

1. List examples of risks in the office.

2. Describe measures for controlling these risks.

The whole document is an excellent resource for you to study, why not save it so you can read it in more detail.

Metal industries

Activity

Use the information about noise hazards at
<<http://www.whs.qld.gov.au/safetylink/noise/noise03.pdf>> to answer the following questions.

1. List some typical noise sources in the metals industry.

2. Describe measures for controlling noise hazards.

Multimedia industries

Activity

Ergonomics is concerned with designing objects to fit humans for comfortable operation. For example, a desk needs to be the correct height so that a person sitting at it can work comfortably.

Answer the following questions from the brochure titled *Ergonomic workstations for keyboard operators* at: <http://www.whs.qld.gov.au/brochures/bro031.pdf>.

1. What design elements should be considered in a workstation to help eliminate health hazards?

Elements of good design to consider include:

2. List the features of ergonomically designed chairs.

3. Describe the best screen position.

Plastics industries

Activity

Working with fibreglass reinforced plastics (FRP) poses many health risks.

Information at:

http://www.eric.sa.gov.au/uploaded_files/g8i.pdf will help you answer the following questions.

1. List the hazards associated with using FRP.

2. Describe the hazards associated with using methyl ethyl ketone peroxide (MEKP).

3. List the ways you should protect yourself from chemical and fibreglass hazards.

Timber products and furniture industries

Activity

Use the document titled *Dealing with risks in cabinet-making* at:
<http://www.whs.qld.gov.au/brochures/bro040.pdf> to complete the following table.

Hazard	Health effect	Ways to control
Noise		
Dust		
Two-pack surface finishes		