



# Point

July 2025



This newsletter is to inform you of recent changes & trends regarding health and safety.

The Turning Point is a monthly newsletter covering topics from various industries and sectors. The Turning Point will respond to your inquiries and inform you of current services and updates regarding

Raising the Standard Consulting Inc.



## RAISING THE STANDARD CONSULTING

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### CONSULTANT ARTICLE FEATURE

#### STANFORD BROWN

#### OWNER/PRESIDENT OF RAISING THE STANDARD CONSULTING

STANFORD BROWN HAS A PROVEN RECORD OF EXCELLENCE IN PROVIDING COST-EFFECTIVE SOLUTIONS IN A SPECTRUM OF ENVIRONMENT, HEALTH AND SAFETY ISSUES REGARDING CLIENT-SPECIFIC COMPLIANCE AUDITS, PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT AND SITE-SPECIFIC TRAINING FOR THE LAST 35 YEARS.

HE HAS ATTAINED EXCELLENCE IN VARIOUS INDUSTRIES INCLUDING AUTOMOTIVE, RETAIL PRODUCT DISTRIBUTION, THE FOOD INDUSTRY, CONSTRUCTION, DRY CHEMICAL MANUFACTURING, MINING AND STEEL MANUFACTURING.

## HAZARD IDENTIFICATION AND CONTROL

### Purpose

Management needs to identify and eliminate workplace hazards. This includes knowing how to do a safety and health analysis, what to do after completion of the analysis, and how to implement and communicate safety information.

In my years of experience in a variety of industries and business cultures I have found that this step has done a great deal in ensuring a mature and effective safety program. Below is an example of a methodology for a very simple organization with very limited resources.

The purpose of the Hazard Identification and Control is to ensure all employees are protected against Safety and Health hazards, and work in a healthy and safe environment.

Results can include:

- Increased knowledge of the dangers inherent in the tasks of employees
- Enhanced safety awareness and improved safety dialogue and communication amongst employees
- Improved focus for workplace safety inspections
- Improved risk management leading to increased accident prevention
- Compliance with HIOSH/OSHA

### **Standards / Procedures**

Recognizing and assessing hazards is the first step to controlling or eliminating risk. Methods of doing this include observation and reporting, inspection, task analysis, and trend identification.

Factors that contribute to making a job hazardous are identified as physical hazards, mechanical hazards, structural hazards, health hazards, chemical hazards, biological hazards, ergonomic hazards, physical hazards and psychological hazards. A more simplistic approach is known as PEMEP:

- People (training)
- Equipment
- Materials
- Environment
- Process (the way the work is done)

The degree of hazard or risk can be estimated using knowledge of the potential for a major injury (severity) and knowledge of probability of occurrence (For example: an inexperienced worker or a new job or one done often or rarely that requires high competence).

### **How to do a Hazard Assessment**

1. Select a job or occupation or common hazard. Ideally, you should start with an item that has been identified as a safety and health problem.
2. Break down the tasks of this job into steps. Describe and list each step in sequence of how they occur in a typical day.
3. Identify the hazards associated with each task/factor combination. Systematically go through every risk factor for every task, and consider what specific hazards might be involved. Make a list of both safety and health hazards.

### **Hazard Types:**

- **Chemical:** compressed gases, flammables
- **Physical:** noise, weather, heat, cold
- **Biological:** exposure to blood, diseases, insect bites, plants
- **Ergonomic:** computer work stations incorrectly adjusted, repetitive motions
- **Safety:** housekeeping, inadequate machine guarding, material handling and energy
- **Etc:** industry specific

### **Hazard Sources:**

- **People:** actions, behaviours
- **Equipment:** tools, production equipment
- **Material:** raw materials, chemicals
- **Environment:** noise, air quality
- **Processes:** combination of the above

4. Assess the hazard. Evaluate the degree of risk that is the extent to which the hazard is likely to cause loss of life, permanent disability or serious injury as well as the probability of occurrence. When considering health hazards, you can consider the number of persons exposed and the duration of exposure. Where there is exposure to hazardous chemical, biological or physical agents, you may need to include workplace and personal exposure monitoring to ensure that exposures do not exceed regulated or recommended limits.

**Rate the risk of the hazard as if the controls were not in place.**

The following classification system could be used to assess the level of risk for all hazards:

- Class A (major) = high risk, danger of death or permanent disability
- Class B (moderate) = medium risk, non-life threatening injury or illness
- Class C (minor) = low risk, slight injury or illness

**All Class A risks /hazards have safe operating procedures and training is completed for workers exposed to these hazards.**

The hierarchy in which controls should be considered are:

- Elimination (stop what's creating the hazard)
- Substitution (replace with something less likely to harm/damage)
- Isolation (separate what can be harmed/damaged from the hazard)
- Engineering (change the way of doing what is creating the hazard)
- Administrative/PPE (reduce exposure to the hazard)

5. Identify controls. Identify procedures or modifications needed to eliminate or control the hazards further if required. This may require changes to people factors, equipment, materials, procedures, tools, systems or processes. Some controls can include:

- Preventative maintenance
- Existing Procedures or policies – e.g. universal precautions, safe lifting protocol
- Training
- Personal Protective equipment – gloves
- Job rotation
- Engineering
- Pre-shift inspection

6. Validate the analysis. Implement the additional required controls, if any, and then validate the analysis by observing the task in operation. Make sure that new hazards have not been introduced. Get feedback and include knowledgeable employees doing the job or a representative at every stage of the process to get adequate hazard identification, assessments, and controls.

**Points Worth Mentioning and Repeating**

Inform and instruct workers performing the activities that include major (A category) hazard of the high risk and need to adopt and maintain adequate controls in place.

A hazard analysis should involve the workers who perform the job as well as their supervisors.

Safety and health specialists should also participate to highlight industry trends, legislation and benchmark controls.

People familiar with the job should be asked about events that may affect normal operations. Equipment breakdowns, shift changes, or other intermittent events may lead to a sequence of steps different from the one being analyzed. By including their feedback, you are demonstrating that the workers have a say in their job and are more likely to get buy-in to the safe work procedures that are implemented.

Explain the purpose of the hazard identification and control to ensure full cooperation and participation of the employee. Assure the employee that the purpose is to make the job safer and not an evaluation of their work performance.

Observe jobs during normal working hours and situations. For example, if the job is normally done on the night shift, perform the analysis at night.

The following steps are required to conduct a hazard identification and control, leading

ultimately to the determination of level of risk for all hazards:

Identifying the hazards is critical because if the hazards associated to the job steps are not identified then they will not be assessed or controlled. Identify activities/processes that have potential for injury/illness and identify specific hazards that exist in these processes/activities. **All** areas and facets of the workplace are required to be reviewed for the identification of hazards.

Resources that could be used in conducting a hazard assessment:

- Legislation
- Existing practices and procedures
- Industry best practices
- Normal and abnormal operations
- Previous accident reports
- Physical inspection of the workplace
- Brainstorming (“ask what if...”)
- Employee knowledge (unsafe conditions, known hazards)

Stanford Brown, Owner/President RTSC

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**HAZARD  
IDENTIFICATION**



## CONSTRUCTION WORKER DIES AFTER PARTIAL ROOF COLLAPSE IN CLOSED MARINE PARK STEAKHOUSE

A 43-year-old construction worker died from injuries he sustained in a partial roof collapse in Marine Park on Thursday.

Workers were conducting repairs and installing a new refrigeration unit inside a rear addition to a closed steakhouse at 3223 Quentin Road just before 9 a.m. when the roof caved in, officials said.

Emergency responders arrived on the scene within four minutes, said FDNY Deputy Assistant Chief Joseph Duggan in a statement, and found the man trapped beneath a heavy slab of concrete. He was unconscious and unresponsive, according to the NYPD.

Firefighters from Engine Company 309 and Ladder Company 159 used the “jaws of life” and specialized airbags to lift the slab and a piece of heavy equipment Joseph said, but had to call in additional units from Rescue Company 2 and Squad Company 252 to stabilize the debris and rescue the man.

FDNY Rescue Medics, who are trained in confined space operations, treated the man on the scene before he was rushed to Brookdale University Hospital, where he was later pronounced dead, police said. His identity is being withheld pending family notification.

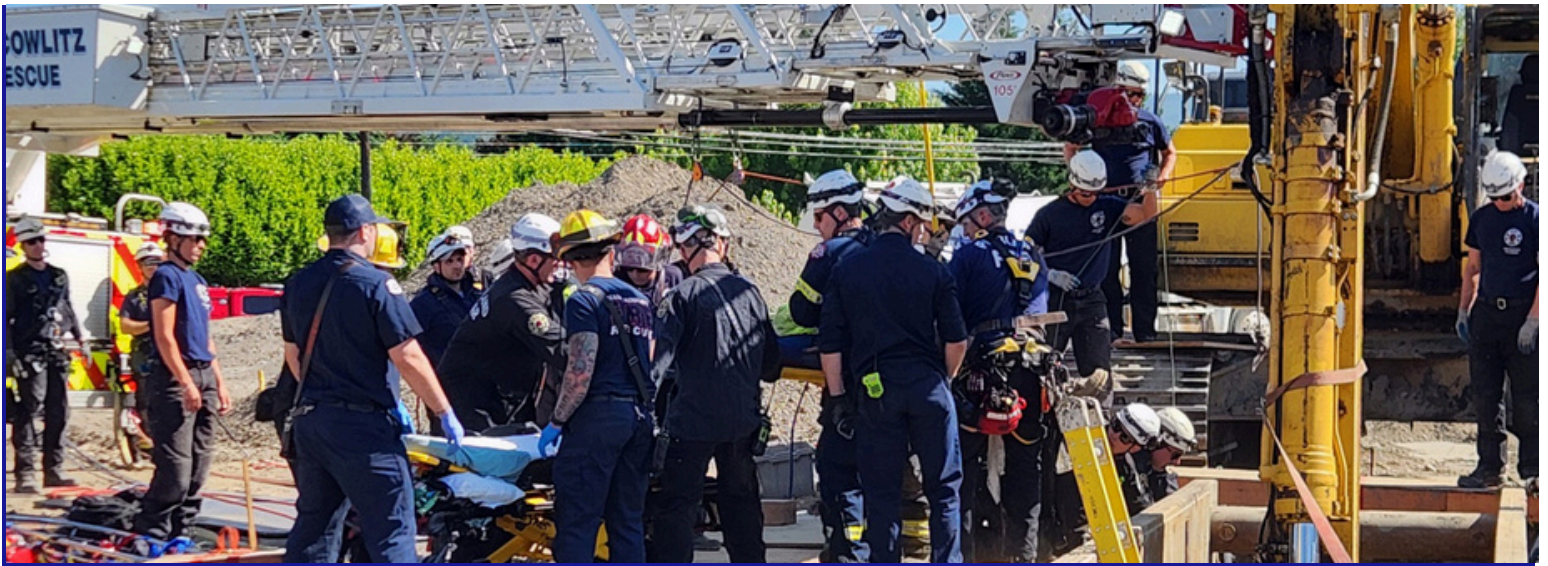
The incident is under active investigation by the Department of Buildings, Office of Emergency Management, and OSHA, police said. There were two other workers in the building at the time of the collapse, both unharmed, according to the FDNY.

City records show that the building — which used to be home to the now-closed T-Fusion Steakhouse — was cited for work without a permit in 2017, after DOB inspectors noted construction of two sheds at the back of the restaurant. Photos shared online by the FDNY appear show that the roof collapsed on a small addition attached to the rear wall of the main building.

DOB inspectors determined that the roof of a concrete extension had collapsed, a department spokesperson said, and that no permits for the work that had been in progress — which included the demolition of a walk-in freezer and commercial kitchen — had been issued.

The building owner was not on-site or reachable during the inspection, per the DOB. Records show that the building is owned by an LLC that is registered to a residential address in Brooklyn.

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## WOODLAND, WA – WORKER SERIOUSLY INJURED IN CONSTRUCTION SITE ACCIDENT ON LEWIS RIVER RD

Woodland, WA (June 4, 2025) – A construction worker was seriously injured Tuesday morning at a job site near the intersection of Lewis River Road and Insel Road in Woodland after a piece of heavy equipment fell on him while he was working in a trench.

The worker was reportedly positioned inside a trench approximately 15 feet deep when the equipment fell, trapping him under debris. Emergency crews responded swiftly, and the Portland Trench Rescue Team was dispatched to assist with the complex extrication. After being freed from the trench, the injured worker was airlifted by Life Flight to a nearby hospital for urgent treatment.

The condition of the worker has not been publicly disclosed, but the nature of the rescue and transport indicates that the injuries were severe. The incident also caused significant traffic delays along Lewis River Rd as emergency operations took place.

Authorities are continuing to investigate how the equipment came to fall into the

trench and whether any safety procedures may have been breached at the construction site.

We extend our thoughts to the injured worker and hope for a full and swift recovery.

### **Construction Site Safety and Trench Accident Risks in Washington**

The incident in Woodland highlights the severe dangers construction workers face on excavation sites, particularly those involving trench work. According to the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA), trench collapses and equipment-related incidents are among the leading causes of injury and death on construction sites across the United States.

Trenches more than 5 feet deep require specific safety measures such as shoring, shielding, or sloping to prevent collapse. When heavy equipment is being used in close proximity to an open trench—as was the case on Lewis River Rd—the risk of catastrophic injury

increases significantly, especially if equipment is not properly stabilized or personnel are not clearly positioned.

Specialized rescue operations, such as those performed by the Portland Trench Rescue Team, are crucial in incidents like this, where access and extrication are especially hazardous. These rescues require precise coordination to prevent further collapse or injury during recovery efforts.

For workers injured in trench accidents, the road to recovery is often long and difficult, involving extensive medical care, rehabilitation, and potential loss of income. Legal and financial assistance may also be needed, particularly in cases involving workplace safety violations.

Construction companies and site managers are urged to rigorously follow OSHA regulations, conduct regular safety briefings, and ensure all equipment is used in

accordance with manufacturer guidelines—especially when working near or inside deep excavations.

If you or someone you care about has been injured in a construction accident, resources are available to help you navigate the aftermath and secure your recovery.

Construction site injuries can have life-changing consequences. At Local Accident Reports, we're here to help injured workers and their families connect with vital support services, recovery resources, and guidance for next steps. Whether you need information, referrals, or answers, contact Local Accident Reports today to begin your path toward recovery and resolution.

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# Raising The Standard

# RTS

## CONSULTING INC.

### **RTS Hazard Assessment**

RTS offers a range of Hazard Assessment & Control trainings from Hazardous Energy to Health Hazards.

### **RTS Competent Person Trenching Excavation (8-Hour)**

This is a 8-hour “competent person” course. The Trenching and Excavating Safety Course helps employers and employees comply with the requirements of Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA), Hawaii Occupational Safety and Health (HIOSH) and EM 385-1-1, by determining what type of working hazards exist, how to correct them and the responsibilities of the competent person. It also conveys the importance of using the right protective system during excavation work.

**For more information please contact Hailey Mesner at [hmesner@rtsconsulting.com](mailto:hmesner@rtsconsulting.com)**

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Raising the Standard Consulting will raise the standard of EH&S in your organization through the development of new and innovative strategies and programs driven by your own individual needs.

We want to build relationships with our clients to help create lasting change in their organizations. Contact us today to build a safer tomorrow.

With Aloha,

Stanford Brown, B.Sc., CSP, CSHP, CRSP, CHSC, Senior  
Consultant, President & CEO