

MOVING EDGE LIMITED

Risk Assessment Record

AREA OF ASSESSMENT: Warehouse

PERSONS AFFECTED: Warehouse Staff and others

EQUIPMENT: Knives

RISK:

Risk of cuts, lacerations, puncture or stab wounds from the use of open blade knives to open packaging.

CURRENT CONTROL MEASURES:

None.

FURTHER ACTION REQUIRED:

There is a serious risk of further injuries to staff from the use of open bladed knives. These injuries would include slash wounds, cuts, stab wounds and skin punctures.

There are also similar risks to members of the public and visitors from the exposed blades of these knives when they are accidentally left lying around or have been put down while work is carried out.

Management, under MHSWR & PUWER must try to find a safer more suitable alternative to the open bladed knives currently used.

Management should obtain and test samples of enclosed bladed safety knives to find one that is suitable for their applications of cutting shrinkwrap and banding as well as opening boxes.

Once a suitable alternative has been discovered Management should form a policy concerning the use of knives and then introduce the knife to staff. Management should also provide suitable training in the use of knives.

Training should include information on the law, the risks from open bladed knives, the reason for banning them from the workplace, how to use a safety knife, how to inspect it for damage or wear, to whom to report damage and where to obtain replacement knives or blades.

Staff should then be supervised to use safety knives.

PROBABILITY	X	SEVERITY	=	RISK FACTOR	PRIORITY
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Management must ensure that relevant persons are informed of the result of this risk assessment.

ASSESSOR:	Nigel Turner	DATE:	24.03.04	REASSESS:	24.03.05
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EQUIPMENT: Knives

RISK:
Risk of cut, puncture or stab wounds from the use of open blade knives to open packaging.

CURRENT CONTROL MEASURES:
Management have banned all open blades from the workplace, provided suitable safety knives, trained staff in their use and introduced a safe system of work.

FURTHER ACTION REQUIRED:

Management have minimised the risk to staff and others of cuts, lacerations and puncture wounds from the workplace by banning all open bladed knives.

Management should continue to train and supervise staff in their use.

Management should also continue to review the accident book for incidents and accidents which, since the introduction of the safety knife policy, has no new entries concerning knife accidents.

PROBABILITY	X	SEVERITY	=	RISK FACTOR	PRIORITY
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Management must ensure that relevant persons are informed of the result of this risk assessment.

ASSESSOR:	Nigel Turner	DATE:	24.03.05	REASSESS:	24.03.06
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