

Being accountable for safety in YOUR workplace



WHAT HAZARDS ARE

Safety doesn't just happen; you have to make it happen. This series will help get you started to ensure you won't become a statistic on the YWCHSB injury sign in 2007.

Every workplace has hazards.

Understanding and controlling those hazards pays off in fewer and less severe injuries (less suffering) and cost savings.

Think of a hazard as anything that could cause harm to a person or property. There are four types of hazards:

1. Chemical (e.g. vapours, gases, fumes, mists)
2. Physical (e.g. noise, vibration, extreme heat or cold, violence)
3. Ergonomic (e.g. awkward posture, poor tool design, manual labour)
4. Biological (e.g. bacteria, viruses, fungi)

In order to protect yourself and others from the hazards in your work, you will have to find the answers to 4 key questions:

1. What are the hazards in your work?
2. What is the level of risk from each of those hazards?
3. How do you get rid of or reduce ("control") the risks from those hazards?
4. How can you make sure the hazard controls work properly?

Is anyone in your workplace trained to spot hazards and know what to do about them? Training is available through the Northern Safety Network Yukon (633-6690) or Yukon College (668-8800).



SPOT THE HAZARDS



Yukon Worker's Compensation Health and Safety board
Commission de la santé de la sécurité au travail

Safety. It's time.