UNIVERSITY OF THE FRASER VALLEY
Safety & Security

Working Alone or in Isolation Risk Assessment Template (WorkSafeBC, 2012)

Instruction:

1. Complete a worksheet for each situation and location where the worker, may be at risk of an injury that would prevent them from getting help.
2. Consider which of the common hazards from column A might apply. In Column B, give specific examples of how these hazards may apply.
3. In columns C, D, and E use referenced tables to determine numerical likelihoods. Multiple these three values into column F.
4. Reference this value to Table 4 to determine recommended check-in period.

A	B	C	D	E	F	G
Hazards Ref. Table 1	Possible Injury	Likelihood of Accident (Ref. Table 2)	Likelihood of Disabling Injury (Ref. Table 3)	Likelihood of Help (Ref. Table 4)	Rating (D * E * F)	Recommended Check-In Period (Ref. Table 5)

Working Alone or in Isolation Reference Tables

Table #1

Examples of workplace hazards

Physical	Biological	Chemical	Psychological	Ergonomic
Temperature	Pests (insects)	Cleaning products	Workplace Violence	Repetitive movements
Noise	Allergens (dust/mould/pollen)	Flammable materials (gas/propane/etc.)	Stress	Extended postures-Sitting/standing/bending/twisting/ reaching for long periods
Indoor Air Quality (IAQ)	Viruses/bacteria	Corrosive materials (acids/bleach/etc.)	Bullying and Harassment	Pushing and pulling
Working at heights	Animals	Toxic materials (pesticides/lab chemicals/etc.)	Working alone	Lifting heavy loads or repeat lifting 0f smaller loads
Vibrations	Plants	Asbestos/Silica/Wood dust	Cognitive load	Inadequate lighting-too bright or too dim
Slips/trips/falls	Blood and bodily fluids	Oxidizers (create their own oxygen in a fire)	Unbalanced workload	Hand tool use – poor design/tool for task/extended use
Electrical shock	Biohazardous materials	Lead	Job demand design	Shift work
Working with moving equipment	NA	WHMIS/TDG regulated materials/products	Unclear direction or expectations	Office design – desk/computer set up appropriate for user?

Table #2	
What is the likelihood of an incident occurring while WAOII?	Value
Most likely	10.0
Very high likelihood	8.0
Quite possible, not unusual	6.0
Unusual, not likely	4.0
Remote possibility	2.0
Extreme remote possibility, but conceivable	0.5
Practically impossible, “one in a million” chance of happening	0.1

Table #3	
What is the likelihood of a disabling injury from this accident?	Value
Expected	10
Probable	8
Unusual, not expected	6
Remotely possible	4
Practically impossible	2

Table #4		
What is the likelihood of help being available?	Availability	Value
Isolated areas where no one is likely to pass by or see worker for 2 hrs or more	Never	12
Areas where people pass by infrequently e.g., 30 – 60 minutes	Rare	8
Areas where some people pass by regularly. e.g., 30 minutes	Occasionally	6
Areas where the worker is not in constant view of others, but if the worker was unexpectedly gone for any length of time, someone would notice	Usual	5
Areas where people pass by often and there is a high likelihood of witnesses	Frequently	2
Areas surrounded by potential witnesses	Continuous	1

Table #5		
Frequency Rating	Risk Level	Suggested Check-In Frequency
250 or Less	Low	*Low check-in frequency (every 4-8 hours)
251 - 400	Moderate	*Moderate check-in frequency (every 2-5 hours)
410 or More	High	*High frequency (every 30 minutes – 2 hours)
***Start and end-of-shift check-ins are required no matter the frequency.**		