



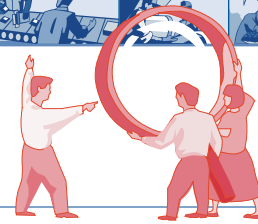
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Your Safety Matters

This information letter is distributed to those people who are ensuring that their workplace is safe and healthy. This includes members of OHS Committees, OHS Representatives, Safety Officers, Supervisors, Managers and Directors. "Your Safety Matters" (formerly "Committee Member") is a free information letter which has been distributed since 1996.

Reasonably Practicable?

When considering what to do about health and safety or what to do about a specific hazard in the workplace, keep in mind that section 8 of the amended OHS Act 2000 requires an employer to do what is reasonably practicable to ensure the health and safety of employees and others in the workplace.



Section 7A of the amended NSW OHS Act 2000 tells us what needs to be done to pass the test of **reasonably practicable**.

In plain English language, it means take into account all relevant matters including ;

1. How likely it is that the hazard or risk may happen
2. How much harm could result from the hazard or risk
3. What the employer knows or reasonably ought to know about
 - > the hazard or risk, and
 - > ways of eliminating or minimising the risk, and
4. The availability and suitability of ways to eliminate or minimise the risk, and
5. The cost associated with available ways of eliminating or minimising the risk, including whether the cost is grossly disproportionate to the risk.

To help your search for other relevant matters try checks such as;

- Do you have up to date knowledge and technology about the risks you are trying to identify, assess, and eliminate or control?
- Is there a regulation, code of practice, Australian Standard, or other publication that is relevant to the situation?
- Have you guarded against the possibility that an employee might make an error, or be careless or disobedient?

This publication provides general information about obs. It is not a legal opinion and does not represent a comprehensive statement of the law to be applied to a particular problem.

Brought to you by Courtenell Pty Ltd, Occupational Health & Safety Training Specialists.
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