



## HSE Example Risk Assessment For Cold Storage Warehousing

HSE is continually working to improve the way it regulates businesses to ensure that regulation is proportionate, competitive and principled. This work has included the promotion to businesses by HSE of proportionate risk assessments that adhere to the principles of sensible risk management.

In consultation with **BFFF** and other industry stakeholders, HSE has produced this example cold storage risk assessment to help businesses see what a risk assessment might look like. It hopefully makes clear that a risk assessment should be about identifying practical actions that protect people from harm and injury, not a bureaucratic experience.

BFFF has made a significant contribution throughout the development of this example risk assessment and the resulting format is easy to use and readily demonstrates the risk assessment process. We also feel that the example hazards given are a useful guide and excellent means to assist companies who need a starting point in this area. Further guidance on the hazards highlighted is available in the newly revised HSE guidance HSG76- 'Warehousing and Storage- A Guide to Health and Safety'.

It is important to note that although much of the detail will directly relate to many of our members, companies should not simply copy the detail for your own business – HSE advises 'these examples do not provide companies with a short cut to their own assessment. All businesses have their unique features and the example may cover some hazards you do not have to deal with in your own workplace, and not mention some you do – you will have to take your own '5 steps' when carrying out your own risk assessment. Even where the hazards are the same, the control measures you adopt may have to be different from those in examples so as to meet the particular conditions in your workplace'.

The example risk assessment for cold storage warehouses is available directly from the following web link: <http://www.hse.gov.uk/risk/casestudies/coldstorage.htm>

Further information on the '5 steps' approach to risk assessment is available from <http://www.hse.gov.uk/risk/fivesteps.htm>

BFFF team member Joanna Hancock worked directly with HSE on the example risk assessment project for our members, so please feel free to contact her on 01400 283090 or [joannahancock@bfff.co.uk](mailto:joannahancock@bfff.co.uk) should you wish for any further details.

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