

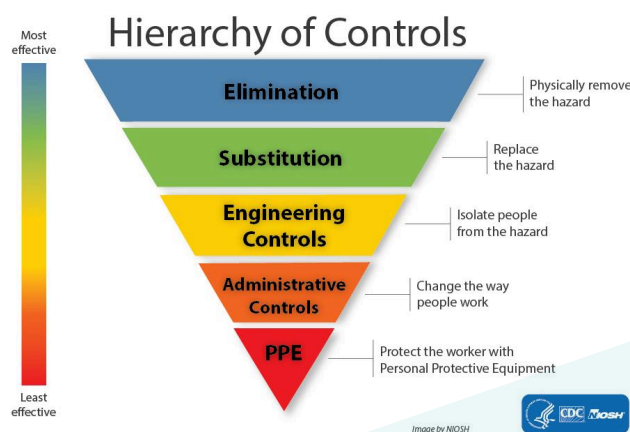
Missing Hazard Controls

Effective controls protect workers from workplace hazards, help avoid injuries, illnesses, and incidents, and minimize or eliminate safety and health risks. Some signs or symptoms that your organization could be missing adequate hazard controls are:

- High EMR or incident rates
- High employee turnover
- Reported work-related injuries or illnesses
- Near miss incidents
- Damaged property and equipment incidents
- Over the road vehicle-related incidents
- Mobile equipment-related incidents

To effectively control and prevent hazards, employers should:

- Involve workers, who often have the best understanding of the conditions that create hazards and insights into how they can be controlled.
- Identify and evaluate options for controlling hazards, using a "hierarchy of controls."
- Use a hazard control plan to guide the selection and implementation of controls, and implement controls according to the plan.
- Develop plans with measures to protect workers during emergencies and non-routine activities.
- Evaluate the effectiveness of existing controls to determine whether they continue to provide protection or whether different controls may be more effective. Review new technologies for their potential to be more protective, more reliable, or less costly.



Follow-up to confirm that controls are effective

To ensure that control measures are effective, employers should track progress in implementing controls, inspect and evaluate controls once installed, and follow routine preventive maintenance practices.

How to accomplish it

Track progress and verify implementation by asking the following questions:

- Have all control measures been implemented according to the hazard control plan?
- Have engineering controls been properly installed and tested?
- Have workers been appropriately trained to understand the controls, including how to operate engineering controls, safe work practices, and PPE use requirements?
- Are controls being used correctly and consistently?
- Conduct regular inspections (and industrial hygiene monitoring, if indicated) to confirm that engineering controls are operating as designed.
- Evaluate control measures to determine if they are effective or need to be modified. Involve workers in the evaluation of the controls. If controls are not effective, identify, select, and implement further control measures that will provide adequate protection.
- Confirm that work practices, administrative controls, and personal protective equipment use policies are being followed.
- Conduct routine preventive maintenance of equipment, facilities, and controls to help prevent incidents due to equipment failure.

Resources:

OSHA Recommended SHP: <https://www.osha.gov/safety-management/hazard-prevention>

