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5	6		

Implement Selected Controls in the Workplace

Your organization has laid a solid foundation for injury and illness prevention by identifying hazards and prioritizing actions. You've brainstormed and chosen additional controls based on research and worker input. These activities have already improved your organization's knowledge of hazards. They've also helped to build collaboration, improve culture, and improve communication between operations, managers, and workers. Now take the next steps to implement your plan to control hazards.

To-Do

- Begin implementing your hazard control plan.
- Anticipate potential obstacles.
- Monitor progress.
- Make adjustments when issues arise.

One Step at a Time: Get Started

Have you ever planned a vacation? If so, you know how much work goes into the planning. You have to figure out where to go and how to get there. You have to decide what to pack and what to do after you arrive.

Once you've planned a trip, it would be a shame not to go. Carrying out your plans requires action. The same is true for your hazard control plan. For the changes you've envisioned to become real, you need to trust the foundation you've built and put your plan into action. Otherwise, you risk wasting all your hard work.

If you're wondering how to start, try taking one small step. Review your hazard control plan. Find the first control on your list. Work on the first step you've identified for implementing that control (say, "request and review cost estimates" for the control). Then move along to complete each step.

Sometimes implementation will go smoothly. Other times, challenges might arise. (After all, you can't anticipate every problem.) Don't let these challenges keep you from moving forward. For example, the hardware for the control you chose might not be available right away. In that case, figure out a temporary

control you can put in place in the meantime. Then follow up to make sure the permanent control gets implemented as soon as possible.

The key is to have a mindset of continuous improvement—learning as you go. Remember that your hazard control plan is a living document. You might need to update it with new information as you implement the controls.

Getting Started: An Example

Here is an example of how to begin implementing your hazard control plan.

First, identify the hazard you want to begin with (referring to Worksheet 4). As an example, we will focus on amputation risks from an unguarded mechanical power press. In the plan, this hazard is identified as a priority because of the severity of potential injuries, and because of several near misses within the last month.

The plan calls for installing a light curtain (Figure 1) as a permanent control. A light curtain is an electronic device that detects body parts such as hands and fingers in the hazardous area and stops operation or prevents the initiation of a cycle.

Take the first step outlined in your plan for implementing the control. In this case, the first step is to request and review cost estimates for the light curtain. Then move step by step toward implementation. As you do, here are some questions to consider:

1. Can you anticipate any obstacles or challenges for implementing and ongoing use of this control?
2. How will you overcome these obstacles or challenges?
3. After the control is implemented, do any new issues or problems arise?
4. How will you address any new issues?

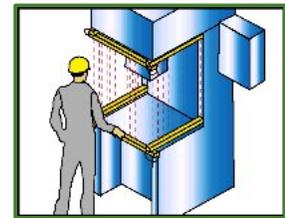


Figure 1. Light curtain

Monitoring the effectiveness of controls is also part of implementation. You'll look at that in Worksheet 6, "Follow Up to Confirm That Controls Are in Place and Effective."

The table on the next page gives some sample answers to the four questions above, based on the example of the light curtain control. Below the sample answers, there is space for you to answer the questions for a control you want to start on. Answer the questions for as many controls as needed.

Can you anticipate any obstacles or challenges for implementing and ongoing use of this control?	How will you overcome these obstacles or challenges?	After the control is implemented, do any new issues or problems arise?	How will you address any new issues?
Example: Light curtain to address amputation hazard			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> You didn't budget for the new light curtain. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Put in temporary controls until funds are available to buy the light curtain. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Some workers don't know how to use temporary and permanent controls properly. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop and deliver new training for anyone operating the press or supervising the work.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The hardware will not be available for several months. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consider other light curtain vendors that may have an acceptable device in stock. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> It may take time for workers and supervisors to get used to the new safeguard and have confidence in its effectiveness. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Do periodic checks to make sure workers are comfortable and using the control correctly.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Due to high production demands, you can't immediately take the press out of service to install the light curtain. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Put in temporary controls until the schedule allows the press to be taken out of service for installation. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> You don't hear anything from workers or supervisors after installation. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Management should proactively seek feedback rather than wait for complaints.
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Due to implementation challenges, temporary controls might become permanent. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Work with the press manufacturer and safeguarding vendors to figure out what else can be done as an alternative or temporary control. Get your workers', supervisors', and engineers' thoughts on how else the work can be managed. Shift work to a press that is effectively safeguarded.

Can you anticipate any obstacles or challenges for implementing and ongoing use of this control?	How will you overcome these obstacles or challenges?	After the control is implemented, do any new issues or problems arise?	How will you address any new issues?
Control you are implementing:			

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