

Revision	Date	By	Revisions
1.0	8 Dec 2019	C Stokes	First release

Introduction:

The Hierarchy of Controls (below) is a commonly used method for categorising and prioritising safety controls. It is especially popular in such fields as the manufacturing and resources industries. The Hierarchy of Controls can help to identify the differences between controls by categorising them according to how they protect people from harm. It can also be used to identify preferable controls based on where they sit in the hierarchy.

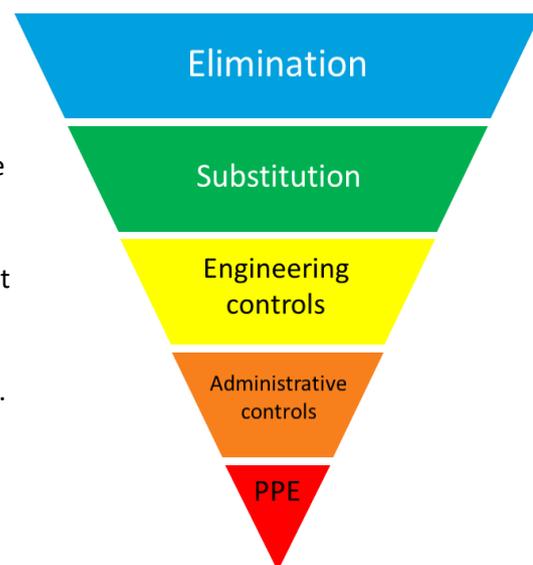
Elimination: the source of harm is eliminated

Substitution: the source of harm is substituted with one less harmful

Engineering controls: Infrastructure is utilised to protect and/or separate people from the source of harm

Administrative controls: policy, procedure, signage, etc. is used to limit exposure to the source of harm

Personal protective equipment: protective clothing, respirators, goggles, etc. are used to shield a person from the source of harm



Instructions:

Students should review Module1, Snippet 4, *Managing risk* of Safe System for Universities before undertaking this activity.

Form into small groups and using a large sheet of paper, draw up the Hierarchy of Controls so that lists can be made next each of the five control categories.

Review one of the following accident descriptions, or a detailed description of any other accident or incident:

- Piper Alpha drilling platform explosion
- Tenerife airport disaster

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- Princes Highway intersection crash

Consider a range of controls that could be used to eliminate the hazards or reduce the severity of harm in the case that failure occurs. Make sure to consider a broad range of controls from all five categories of the Hierarchy of Controls. Consider the reasons how each control could be effective at reducing or eliminating harm and why, in this context, it may be preferable to select controls from higher up in the hierarchy.