

Sheraz Ahmad From Florida Discusses The Stages Of Risk Assessment

SARASOTA, FLORIDA, UNITED STATES, June 18, 2018 /EINPresswire.com/ -- Within the construction industry, risk assessment is considered to be sacrosanct to all operations. This is why [Sheraz Ahmad](#) wants to stress its importance. He also believes that there are eight specific stages that every risk assessment must go through in order for it to be beneficial and accurate.

Sheraz Ahmad on the 8 Stages of Risk Assessments

Since the ANSI/CSA standards have been upgraded, a lot of construction experts have found themselves quite confused about their methods of working. However, risk assessment has always been and continues to be a key thing that all employers and employees alike must be aware of. In order for them to be appropriate and beneficial, however, they must go through eight specific standards. [Sheraz Ahmad explains](#) that the 8 stages are needed to be fully compliant with the new ANSI/CSA standards.

1. Identify which tasks must be undertaken. This means that everybody is fully aware of what they are supposed to be doing, where, and when.
2. Choosing the right MEWP (Mobile Elevated Work Platform). There are now many different types and sizes of MEWPs available, each of them having their own rated capacity, reaches, and working heights. Hence, it is vital that the right one is used, which is down to the task at hand, the worksite constraints, conditions of the ground, proximity to others, site access, and more.
3. Assessing the associated risks. These are, firstly, specific to the operations of a MEWP, but there are also risks linked to the location of the task, the nature of the workers, the equipment and materials used, the environment, and more.
4. Identifying relevant control measures. Sheraz Ahmad points out that, by now, all hazards and risks should have been identified. At this point, measures and procedures have to be implemented to control these risks and hazards.
5. Identifying the appropriate safe working procedures. The results of the risk assessment so far should drive the types of work procedures that will maintain and enhance overall safety. These include determining contingencies for the different tasks.
6. Planning for height rescues. Sheraz Ahmad explains that it is vital that a risk assessment also includes rescue planning, particularly if someone is working up a height. If something does go wrong, time is of the essence, so this eventually should be planned for in advance. Examples include an auxiliary power malfunction on the MEWP or a failure in the manual descent controls.
7. Communicating the results. Once a risk assessment has been completed, it has to be shared with everybody who is involved in the operations. A copy should also be kept on file for future reference.
8. Reviewing existing risk assessments and adjusting where necessary. Sheraz Ahmad explains that

a lot of businesses where workers perform the same task in the same location for extended periods of time will only conduct a full risk assessment once. However, things and situations change and even in long-term positions, risk assessments must be conducted periodically, even if it is solely to confirm that nothing has changed. If any changes do have to be made, however, they must also be communicated to all parties involved before they can return to the task at hand.

Sheraz Ahmad on Rescue Plans

Ahmad explains that developing a rescue plan, the 6th step of the overall risk assessment is one of the most important ones. It will help identify, as well, whether everybody has received the appropriate training. This includes first aid training, particularly as the rescue plan must look at how to handle a fall from a height.

In terms of rescuing workers from equipment, the manual should have details included on what are the emergency procedures. At the same time, workers need to know what is expected of them at that point. This should be a written plan that has to be included in the training manual of the company. It has to include what should be done in case of experiencing an accident and in case of witnessing one.

Sheraz Ahmad explains that a good rescue plan will, firstly, include details of self-rescue, which the person involved may be able to follow. Secondly, it should look at assisted rescues, if the person involved needs help from another employee. Finally, it should include technical rescues, which are performed by emergency services. Doing so will also highlight any need for training on how to properly rescue individuals from a height, how to administer first aid, which emergency response teams to contact, and so on.

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