Hazard Identification

The Hazard Identification is a determination of the various hazards that are pertinent for a specific location and organization. This is completed by assessing what types of emergencies could occur.

Hazards can be broadly grouped into three categories:

Natural

Technological

Human-caused hazards

Historical - What types of emergencies have occurred in the community, at your organization, at other businesses in the area, at similar businesses?

Geographic - What can happen as a result of the organization's location? This includes the natural hazards that affect the geographical area, but also include the risks due to the proximity to hazards that may be either internal to the community or external in neighbouring communities.

Natural - Weather, weather patterns / trends, and geological risks (e.g. fault lines, flood zones).

Technological - What could result from a process or system failure? What are the future trends in risks, based on increased reliance and complexity of technology and infrastructure?

Human - What emergencies can be caused by human error or intentional acts? What are the impacts of population demographics, density, activity, travel routes, and levels of preparedness?

Physical - What types of emergencies could result from the design or construction of the organization's major buildings? What are the risks due to aging buildings or infrastructure?