Module II: Hazard Prevention Program

ANNEX C: Hazard Ranking Matrix

Definitions:

PROBABILITY	
Highly Likely	Likely to occur several times this year; has happened several times before
Likely	Expected to occur more than once a year
Possible	Expected to occur at least once; foreseeable under unusual circumstances
Unlikely	Not expected to occur; has never happened before; no known history; unlikely sequence of events

FREQUENCY (Exposure)	
Frequent	Occurs one or more times per day
Regular	Occurs one or more times per week
Occasional	Occur one or more times per month or season
Rare	Occurs rarely or has never occurred, but is possible

LIKELIHOOD	
Almost certain	The most likely and expected result if a hazard exists
Quite Possible	Not an unusual occurrence
Remotely Possible	Unusual occurrence or possible, occurred in the past
Unlikely	Has not or never occurred but is conceivable

Step 1: Identify the **Probability**
(Frequency x Likelihood= **Probability**)

PROBABILITY					
(Frequency x Likelihood = Probability)					
		Likelihood			
		Unlikely	*Remotely Possible*	*Quite Possible*	*Almost certain*
Frequency	*Frequent*	Possible	Likely	Highly Likely	Highly Likely
	Regular	Possible	Possible	Likely	Highly Likely
	Occasional	Unlikely	Possible	Likely	Likely
	Rare	Unlikely	Unlikely	Likely	Likely

Step 2 – Identify the **SEVERITY**
If the hazard were to occur, the following would result (pick appropriate one

SEVERITY	
Critical	Fatality or permanently disabling injury or illness; limb amputation, major fracture, burn on a large part of the body
Severe	Disabling injury resulting in loss of work time; laceration, burn on several parts of the body
Serious	Minor injury; sprain, light burn
Minimal	Non-disabling injury

Step 3 – Hazard Ranking: (Probability x Severity)
Based on the definitions of Probability and Severity, identify where the hazard lies on the matrix.

		SEVERITY			
		Minimal	*Serious*	*Severe*	*Critical*
PROBABILITY	*Highly Likely*	C	B	A	A
	Likely	C	C	B	A
	Possible	D	C	B	B
	Unlikely	D	D	C	C

Hazard Levels

| A | These hazards are the highest ranking and require an action plan to identify and implement preventive measures. These hazards are a priority as they could result in a significant disabling injury if adequate preventive measures are not implemented. |

| B | Hazards are also considered to require immediate attention. An action plan should be developed in order to implement appropriate preventive measures. |

| C | Hazards are hazards that have a relatively low level of severity. This group should never be ignored but are not a priority |

| D | Hazards are the lowest level but should not be ignored. No immediate action plan is required. |

Note: these ratings are made without taking into consideration the presence of preventive measures. Once preventive measures are introduced, the rating will be lowered, as the hazard will be well controlled.