

## **Risk Management and Risk Assessment**

There are two facets to managing risk:

- Risk Management Strategic business risk identification, ownership, mitigation and management.
- Risk Assessment Tactical, task specific management of risk following the principles of the HSE's Five Steps to Risk Assessment.

### **Risk Management**

Effective risk management should be at the heart of every successful business. Does the process for managing risk in your business 'add value' or has it become a routine 'tick-box' approach?

**elnet consulting** believe that risk management should be kept simple, with the caveat that each part of the business must take ownership for managing risk for the areas within their control. This leaves the senior leadership with the task of managing the strategic risk in the knowledge that the 'day-to-day' risks are being managed as part of 'normal' business. As senior leaders in your business, are you getting the assurance you need?

We can help with effective prioritisation and action planning to provide the assurance needed in today's world. We can support your in-house teams or provide consultancy to deliver compliance, improved health and safety performance and overall business performance.

### **Risk Assessment**

There are a plethora of people who will talk about risk assessments and reams of information can be found on the subject. The need to carry out a risk assessment is a legal duty and is a fundamental part of any Safe System of Work (SSoW) to deliver work activities without harm to the health and safety of people or to the environment. However, if allowed, risk assessments can become a bureaucratic process producing lots of paper and the real reason for the risk assessment can become lost.

**elnet consulting** has the expertise to review your risk assessment process and can advise on good practices and potential improvements. We are strongly of the view that the risk assessment is a part of a process to keep people safe, but not the only part!

We will look to review your health and safety management system (refer to SHE Compliance on our website) to ensure the risk assessment element is aligned in the overall management system, there are no gaps and the management system is therefore compliant and delivering for you.

When reviewing your risk assessments , we would typically ask the following questions:

- Is your risk assessment compliant and aligned to good practice?
- Is it specific and relevant to the task and the environment?
- Has it been briefed and understood by the working party?

It can be tempting to keep adding unnecessary information to a risk assessment and the related method statement. We can help you to focus on the essential elements to be included and provide your team with the confidence and competence to be specific and concise in writing your risk assessments.