



risk assessment as it should be

INTRODUCTION

As an employer, you are legally responsible for the assessment and management of health and safety risks. This obligation exists regardless of whether you operate a multinational conglomerate or a one-man operation.

Accidents and ill health caused by unsafe practices affect businesses through financial cost, lost time and possible legal action. Whilst it is impossible to remove all risk from the environment, it is not unfair to expect an employer to take all reasonable precautions to minimise the risk level.

Risk assessments play an invaluable role in controlling the level of risk to which employees are exposed. By applying a consistent evaluation across the board a business can identify those tasks which carry significant risk and those which can be performed safely by adopting sensible precautions. By interrogating historical assessments, a business can avoid making the mistakes of the past.

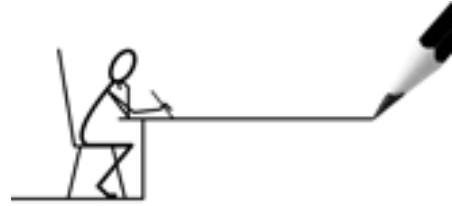
era is a fully configurable web based solution for the definition and completion of assessments. It can be applied to multiple industry sectors to assess risks in a variety of situations.

THE NEED	THE PROBLEM	THE SOLUTION
<p>To fulfil legal obligations, a business must undertake assessments for tasks which involve an element of risk.</p> <p>Staff should not be expected to undertake tasks which carry an element of risk without understanding the dangers and the precautions available to minimise the chance of injury.</p>	<p>Without a standard procedure, assessment results are subjective and inconsistent over time, between locations and with different staff.</p> <p>Current software products are either a small part of an expensive safety system or a specialised system for a specific type of risk.</p>	<p>era offers a solution specific to risk assessments, and can be configured for many types of risk.</p> <p>era is easy to use at all levels and content can be defined and tailored to suit your business by your own staff, if required.</p>

EASE OF USE

era was designed from the ground up to be easy to use, with the interface minimising the amount of user input required to deliver the desired result.

From the ability to copy existing assessments as a starting point for a new task, to the use of radio groups and checkboxes so that a few clicks can complete an assessment, the user experience is never confusing.



And to aid the user in completing an assessment, the system user guide is supplemented by 'hover' descriptions of all relevant items and comprehensive help on each specific item to be completed.

This item specific help can be tailored to use company specific terminology, helpful images, company procedures or reference external material and is integrated into the structure of the assessment, thus removing the need to constantly switch between a user manual and the job at hand.

The **era** dashboard, the homepage of the application, keeps the information you need right where you can find it. Each user will be shown the records that they have created within a specified period (day/week/month) and 'assessors' will also be shown records awaiting their attention. Where appropriate, assessments are highlighted if they are not addressed within an allotted time period.

From creating new assessments, searching existing information or reporting, **era** makes the process as easy as it should be!

FLEXIBILITY

The ease of use which characterises **era** belies the flexibility offered by the system. Users of the system can tailor the content from changing simple terminology right through to the addition of new categories of risk.

The configuration facilities of **era** allow you to:

- Define additional categories of risk, e.g. manual handling, working at heights, fire risk.
- Define new assessment types, e.g. individual lifting task, team carrying operation.
- Define the factors to take into account within a task.
- Construct the risks for each factor of a task.
- Specify the precautions to alleviate risk.
- Define complex rules with multiple conditions in order to apply a desired result.
- Definition of an approval path for an assessment.
- Specify colour coded scoring bands/ranges.
- Attributes can be defined for a specific type. This allows relevant data to be recorded only against the applicable type (e.g. team size against team tasks but not individual ones). Attributes can be defined as text input, date picker or as a lookup list from a user defined domain of values.

era also allows you to model your business by means of:

- Definition of the organisation in terms of business unit, company, departments, etc and the hierarchical relationships between them.
- Definition of the locations used by your business and the relationship between them (e.g. building in town, town in region, etc).
- Definition of the positions to which user can be assigned (e.g. Assessor, Medic).



SECURITY

era offers several methods of controlling access to the application:

- Prompt for a username and password.
- Accept the network identity of the user.
- Accept network identity and prompt for a password.

era controls data access within the application by granting roles to a user:

- Administrator - create new risk categories and define model of the business.
- Configurator - define the structure of an assessment.
- User role to allow creation of assessments.
- Read only access to assessment data.

Other than Administrator, all others roles are attributed on a risk category basis, allowing users to hold privilege in the areas of risk applicable to them whilst restricting privilege in other areas.

Users may then be assigned positions within each risk category. These positions are related to the approval chain and are used to limit modification to data according to status. Both the positions and the approval statuses are configurable to allow modelling of different business operations.



COST EFFECTIVE



era is a cost effective addition to any business because:

- ✓ The initial purchase cost compares favourably with other software in this market whilst offering greater benefit.
 - ✓ The flexibility of **era** means it can be re-used in multiple situations within a business (e.g. manual handling, fire risk, display screen assessment).
 - ✓ Using **era** for all your assessment needs reduces the training overhead on staff as a common application interface is used for all risk types.
- ✓ **era** can be configured or extended by internal staff, no need for external consultants and the associated cost.

TRAINING

As well as the **era** software solution, the following training is also available:

- **era** user training on use of the application and creation of assessments.
- **era** advanced training for users who will administer and configure the system.
- General risk assessment training.
- Assessor/Verifier training.
- Manual Handling risk assessment training.

APPLICATION SCOPE

era is a flexible solution able to be configured to deliver risk assessments in multiple scenarios. Some of the risk areas in which the solution could be utilised to assess are:

- Manual Handling
- Slipping/Tripping Hazards
- Flammable Gases
- Electricity
- Noise
- Vibration
- Radiation
- Biological/Chemical Hazards
- Violence/Stress
- Machinery/Work Equipment/Hand Tool
- Pressure Systems
- Chemicals
- Dust And Fumes
- Working In Confined Spaces
- Lifting Plant
- Display Screen Equipment
- Seating
- Workstation Design
- Fire Risk

SYSTEM REQUIREMENTS

era is a web based solution based on the Microsoft .NET framework and can be implemented for use on a single computer or on a corporate intranet.

The following prerequisites must be satisfied for an **era** installation:

- Microsoft Windows operating system
- Microsoft .NET Framework Version 2.0
- Microsoft SQL Server 2000/2005
- Internet Information Services Version 6 and above

The following must be present on each machine accessing **era**:

- Web browser (IE6 or above, Firefox, Chrome)

VERSION DETAILS

era will be offered under the three following licences:

- Personal** : The solution may be installed on a single PC and is valid for use by a single user.
£500
- Business** : The solution may be installed on multiple servers for use on an intranet within specific business geography (e.g. United Kingdom).
£2,500
- Enterprise** : The solution may be installed on as many servers as is required for the deployment on a corporate intranet serving a worldwide business.
£5,000



CONTACT DETAILS

For further information or to discuss your version requirements, please contact us on the following details:

mail : Safety Hub
Harbour Buildings
South Quay
Ferryden
Montrose
DD10 9SL
Scotland
United Kingdom
tel : +44 (0)1674 673963
fax : +44 (0)1674 660401
email : info@thesafetyhub.com