

Fire risk assessment

If you own a business or manage an organisation, you should be aware of how devastating a fire can be.

Not only do fires reduce profits by damaging property, equipment and assets, but it also impacts downtime, and it is a serious safety risk for you and your employees.

Should a fire result in an accidental death, you will be prosecuted by the law.

And while not all fires are entirely preventable, there are many steps you can take to increase your chances of preventing fires and reacting quickly when one does occur.

Our approach

The assessment determined what is physically implemented at the premises in terms of:

- **Section 1: Fire Safety.** Escape routes, adequate signage, proper escape doors, designated congregation area, roll-call, employee training, etc, etc.
- **Section 2: Fire prevention.** Methods to restrict or delay the spread of fire from one section of an area to the next, building security, proper waste disposal, storage of flammable material, designated smoking areas, etc. etc.
- **Section 3: Fire protection.** Access to the Fire Brigade, and access to fire hydrants, fire extinguishers, hose reels, smoke detectors, fire alarms, control panels, logbooks, etc, etc.
- **Section 4: Fire suppression.** Water sprinklers, gas, oxygen reduction, etc. etc.

We are cognizant of the applicable laws and standards, i.e., the *National Building Regulations and Building Standards Act, SANS 1475, SANS 10400, SANS 10139* and *SANS 1186-1*, and address issues with these in mind.

However, extracting from them all will result in a report that will be exceedingly large and difficult to comprehend.

Our report points out what is in place, what is lacking and what is better for your business, which includes a quote to remedy the situation.

The importance of completing a fire risk assessment

There are a lot of reasons why completing the risk assessment is important, and not just because it is the law.

The assessment ensures that you have the best possible fire safety policy, and this could potentially mean saving lives.

It can be tempting to push fire safety to the back of your mind when it isn't an immediate threat, but the reality is that a fire could happen at any time.

Completing a fire risk assessment gives you peace of mind, knowing that all of the risks have been identified and the area has been made a safer space because of it. You won't need to worry about any potential hazards, because it will all be taken care of.

That being said, regularly reviewing your fire risk assessment is very important too.

So, you did your risk assessment and you have a Fire Safety policy, a process and procedures, what's next?

Hopefully, you won't have to do anything for a while, but eventually, a new risk assessment will be required. This is another requirement by law, although when exactly it is required is not stated.

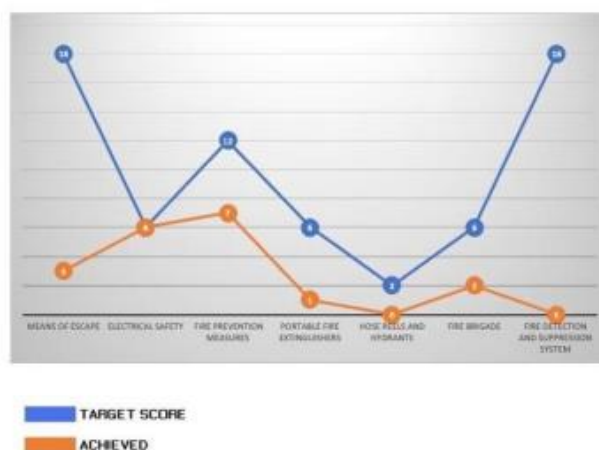
The law does state *Any such assessment must be reviewed by the responsible person regularly to keep it up to date.*

Don't get caught out by a fire or by the law, and make sure that you are always prepared for the worst.

A comprehensive fire risk assessment that's regularly reviewed can save lives.

Area: Preliminary walk through

COBEY FIRE SA (PTY) LTD FIRE ASSESSMENT - SAFETY - PREVENTION - DETECTION - SUPPRESSION AUTOMATION - EQUIPMENT SUPPLY - TRAINING - MAINTENANCE		
Fire Safety Risk Assessment Checklist		
Section 1 ~ Fire Safety		
	Means of Escape	Score
1	Is there a clearly defined written fire action and emergency evacuation policy, process and procedures, and is every employee familiar with it?	0
2	Are the fire alarms audible from all occupied locations?	0
3	Are fire drill records kept on site and available on request?	0
4	Are fire exits of a sufficient number, preferably a minimum 2 per room or area, and of sufficient width, not less than 750 mm at any given point?	0
5	Do all doors on escape routes open in the direction of travel?	0
6	Do all final exits lead to a place of total safety?	1
7	Are all escape routes free from obstructions, i.e., not used for storage?	1
8	Are all escape routes clearly and properly signed throughout their lengths, with internal doors and dead-ends not forming part of a route clearly labelled as such?	1
9	Is adequate, permanent emergency lighting provided and is it fully serviceable?	0
Electrical Safety		
10	Is the entire electrical installation in order, i.e., the Certificate of Compliance (COC) is available, current and valid?	2
11	Are the use of flexible electrical cable and extension leads kept to a	



In closing

Our reports point out what is lacking in each area or what would be a better option for your business, without resorting to drastic and costly changes to your existing infrastructure.

Please note: The R4,000 Assessment Fee will be held in escrow, and will be discounted from our quote should we be appointed to implement the proposed solution.

Part of our innovation is our ability to keep an open mind and pursue all possibilities and alternatives.

We, therefore, prefer to sit around a table with our clients to co-operatively agree on the best solution for your business.

Brendon Cobey

081 240 8003

André Potgieter

082 437 4883