

## **Improving and Simplifying Activity Hazard Analysis**

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Activity Hazard Analysis (AHA), sometimes referred to as Job Safety Analysis, is an integral part of Integrated Safety Management principles. AHA offers the potential of identifying job hazards on a step-by-step basis, but suffers from the problem that it often only considers already known issues, and does not act as a predictive mechanism for hazardous conditions. Coupled with this, AHA is often completed on a short time frame with limited knowledge resources for the tasks to be analysed. As a result, AHA does not always offer the degree of problem identification that is desirable. By using certain specific elements of structured hazard analysis techniques such as the What-If Checklist and Hazard and Operability study (HAZOP), it is possible to retain the more informal nature of AHA, while adding significantly to the identification of previously unknown hazards. What-If Checklist and HAZOP are widely used, tested, and proven methodologies in the Process Safety Management field, but are not as widely applied for AHA and JSA activities. With some simple additions to the generally accepted AHA methodology, the use of the methodology can be improved and made more accessible for its users, while not greatly adding to the time and effort required.