Control Options Matrix (COM) Worksheet

Organisation : Operation :		
Hazard:	Analyst :	Date :
Options (tick)	Examples	Description
Engineer (Energy Mgt.) Limit Energy Substitute Safer Form Prevent Buildup Prevent Release Provide Slow Release Rechannel/Separate in Time/Space Provide Special Maint. of Controls	Lower voltages, small amount of explosives, reduce speeds, reduce heights Use air power, less hazards chemicals, more stable explosives/chemicals Use automatic cutoffs, blowout panels, limit momentum, governors Containment, double/triple containment Use pressure relief valves, energy absorbing materials Automatic procedures, diverters, barriers, distance Special procedures, special checks/audits	
Guard On Source Barrier Between On Human or Object Raise Threshold	Fire suppression systems, energy absorbing systems (crash walls, etc.) Revetments, walls, distance Personal protective equipment, energy absorbing materials Acclimatization, over-design, reinforcement, physical conditioning	
Improve Task Design Sequence of Event Timing (within/between tasks) Man-Machine Interface/Ergonomics Simplify Tasks Reduce Task Loads (physical, mental, emotional) Backout Options	Put tough tasks first before fatigue, don't schedule several tough tasks in a row Allow sufficient time to perform, to practice. Allow adequate time between tasks Assure equipment fits the people and effective ergonomic design Provide job aids, reduce steps, provides tools Set weight limits, automate mental calculations, monitor tasks, avoid excessive stress, provide breaks, vacations, spread risk among many Establish points where process reversal is possible when hazard is detected	
Limit Exposure Number of People or Items Time Iterations 	Only expose essential personnel and things Minimize the time of exposure – Don't bring the explosives until the last minute Don't do it as often	
Selection of Personnel Mental Criteria Emotional Criteria Physical Criteria Experience	Essential basic intelligence, and essential skills and proficiency Essential stability and maturity Essential strength, motor skills, endurance, size Demonstrated performance abilities	
Train and Educate Core Tasks (especially critical tasks) Leader Tasks Emergency Contingency Tasks Safety Tasks Rehearsals	Define critical minimum abilities, train, test and score Define essential leader tasks and standards, train, test and score Define, assign, train, verify ability Hazard ID, risk controls, maintenance of standards Validate processes, validate skills, verify interfaces	
Warn Signs/Color Coding Audio/Visual Alarms Briefings	Warning signs, instruction signs, traffic signs Bells, flares, flashing lights, klaxons, whistles Refresher warnings, demonstrate hazards, refresh training	
Motivate Measurable Standards Essential Accountability Positive/negative Incentives Competition Demonstrations of effects 	Define minimum acceptable risk controls Check performance at an essential level of frequency and detail Meaningful individual and group rewards, punishment Healthy individual and group competition on a fair basis Graphic, dynamic, but tasteful demonstrations of effects of unsafe acts	
Reduce Effects Emergency Equipment Rescue Capabilities Emergency Medical Care Emergency Damage Control Procedures Backups/Redundant Capabilities	Fire extinguishers, first aid materials, spill containment materials A rescue squad, rescue equipment, helicopter rescue Trained first aid personnel, medical facilities Emergency responses for anticipated contingencies, coordination agencies Alternate ways to continue the mission if primaries are lost	
Rehabilitate Personnel Facilities/equipment Mission Capabilities	Rehabilitation services restore confidence Get key elements back in service Focus on restoration of the mission	