

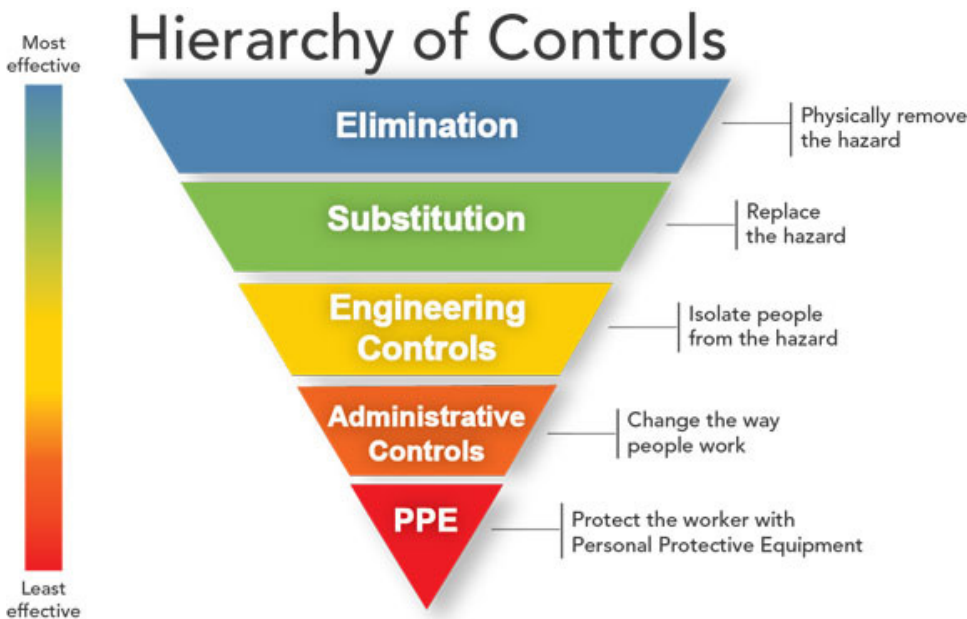


Toolbox TALK

HIERARCHY OF CONTROLS

Safety experts traditionally use a hierarchy of controls to mitigate occupational hazards and protect workers. The hierarchy is used to determine the best way to implement reasonable and effective control solutions. As depicted in the CDC chart below, the controls are listed from most effective to least effective. Below is a summary of the control types:

- 1. Elimination and Substitution** - Eliminating or replacing hazards is the most effective safety measure and should always be considered when creating a new process. However, this method is difficult to implement when a process is already in place, as it may require major changes.
- 2. Engineering Controls** - Engineering controls are designed to remove a hazard at its source, avoiding worker contact with the hazard. While engineering controls are initially more costly than administrative controls and personal protective equipment (PPE), in the long term, they generally cost less and even save money.
- 3. Administrative Controls and PPE** - These methods should serve as the last line of defense and rely largely on worker compliance. While inexpensive to implement, these measures are more costly to maintain and come at the expense of worker safety. Whenever possible, they should be used in combination with a higher level of control.



<https://www.cdc.gov/niosh/topics/hierarchy/default.html>

Date:

ATTENDANCE RECORD

SUPERVISOR:

CREW MEMBERS PRESENT:

COMMENTS/FEEDBACK: