Death by compliance: The benefits of a risk-based approach to Health & Safety

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Could we all say with the hand on our heart that we are doing everything 'so far as is reasonably practicable' to prevent injuries or incidents?

This thought-provoking session will encourage a shift in mindset within health and safety practices. By emphasising the benefits of a risk-based approach over a compliance-focused one, it not only aims to enhance the performance and credibility of H&S professionals but also support Business Leaders to promote safer work environments and prevent injuries.

Starting with examples of compliance-based experiences and situations can effectively highlight the limitations and shortcomings of such an approach. By demonstrating how a compliance focus may lead to a dependent and stagnant organisational culture, the session will illustrate the need for a more dynamic and proactive mindset.

Using the Bradley curve to depict the progression of organisational safety culture helps understand where organisations currently stand and where they aspire to be. Showing real-life examples of the outcomes and benefits of a risk-based approach can further drive the importance of shifting focus for H&S professionals, organisational growth and prevention of injuries.

In conclusion, rather than just meeting minimum compliance requirements, take a step back, gather more information and inputs and do what's right for people and organisations. It is also highly likely in this process that H&S professionals will feel respected, fulfilled and relevant while fostering a proactive culture of continuous improvement in H&S practices.

The learning objectives:

By helping participants recognise when they are overly focused on compliance, understand the benefits of a risk-based approach, and providing practical examples for shifting focus, the session equips attendees with actionable insights to drive positive change in their organisations.