Workplace Risk Assessment for Logistics And Warehousing

Service Objectives

- Provide an operationally truthful, regulator-ready risk picture aligned with ISO 45001.
- Identify credible scenarios: MHE collisions, racking instability, pedestrian strikes, conveyor entanglement, dock slips, hot work during racking repairs, battery charging hazards (hydrogen, lithium-ion), cold-room icing, and yard shunting.
- Define pragmatic engineering, administrative, and PPE controls integrated with permit-to-work and emergency response plans.
- Benchmark hazards against storage classes, forklift traffic patterns, SKU mix, racking configurations, and shift structures.
- Clarify host versus tenant duties in multi-client 3PL environments to align actions with lease terms and SLAs.
- Deliver a prioritised, costed action plan and ranked risk register that preserves throughput and audit readiness.

> Outcome: a defensible, evidence-based risk register and costed action plan that leaders can defend to regulators, insurers, and auditors without disrupting operations.

Who This Service Is For

- UAE logistics and warehousing operations: regional distribution centres, 3PL campuses, e-commerce fulfilment hubs, cold chain warehouses, bonded facilities, port-adjacent stores, and spare-parts depots.
- Sites operating forklifts/reach trucks, conveyors/sorters/shuttles, mezzanines, or mixed commodities (including aerosols and flammables), with or without lithium-ion storage.
- Organisations with round-the-clock shifts, high agency labour, and seasonal volume spikes that pressure safe systems of work.
- Roles benefiting directly: HSE/QSHE leads, operations directors, facility engineers, maintenance supervisors, MHE coordinators, and 3PL contract owners.
- Multi-site networks seeking a consistent risk matrix and acceptance criteria with local adaptations (dock count, chiller/freezer areas, lithium-ion cages).
- Operators aligning with UAE obligations under MOHRE for safe workplace arrangements, heat stress management, and contractor safety.

Duration & Process Overview

- Single non-automated site (10,000–25,000 m²): 1–2 days on site across at least two shifts; 2–4 days off-site analysis and reporting.

- Large campuses, cold-chain complexes, or automation-heavy facilities: typically 3–5 days on site with added analysis as needed.
- Multi-site programmes: hybrid delivery with remote document review/interviews plus targeted visits to high-risk or high-throughput nodes.
- End-to-end timeline: usually 1–3 weeks for a single site; can be compressed post-incident or expanded (traffic re-design, racking audits, egress time studies).

Methodology

Phase	Objective / What It Covers	Deliverable
Pre-Engagement	Scope call, data request, alignment on risk criteria and tolerability thresholds.	Scope memo, document checklist, agreed risk matrix.
On-Site Assessment	Live-operations walkdowns, interviews, sampling and photographic evidence.	Hazard inventory, observation logs, site photos, preliminary risk ratings.
Analysis	Consolidate findings, evaluate risks, review feasibility of controls.	Draft risk register, control recommendations, implementation roadmap.
Validation	Client workshop and leadership review; action prioritisation and ownership.	Finalised risk register, costed action plan, presentation pack.

Pre-Engagement

- Define site profile (GFA, pallet positions, SKUs, throughput, shift pattern).
- Review racking load charts, MHE fleet/maintenance, traffic layouts, mezzanine drawings, emergency plans, incident logs, contractor procedures.

On-Site Assessment

- Observe pedestrian flows at pick faces, cross-aisle overtakes, dock sequences, wrap/palletiser areas, battery swap/charge, waste compaction.
- Check egress signage/lighting, housekeeping for combustible packaging, guardrails/bollards, mezzanine gates, charging-room ventilation; cold-chain icing controls; automation guarding/LOTO/E-stop coverage.

Analysis

- Apply a tailored risk matrix to credible worst-case and most-likely scenarios referencing applicable fire and life-safety expectations.
- Define engineering, administrative, and PPE controls that preserve productivity and align with existing PTW and emergency plans.

Validation

- Workshop with HSE leadership and operations to confirm scoring realism and practicality within staffing and capex constraints.
- Assign owners and target dates; finalise risk register and costed action plan.