



**ENGINEERED
LIFTING
SYSTEMS**
& EQUIPMENT INC.

Operating as:
**MENTOR
DYNAMICS**

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About PSR's

What is a PSR?

A Pre-start Health and Safety Review is a specific audit of a process or piece of equipment and the interaction with its surrounding environment. The review seeks to identify safety concerns and evaluate potential hazards. It also defines what measures need to be taken to bring the identified deficiencies into compliance. The results of the PSR are presented to management and the Joint Health and Safety Committee and are used to establish an action plan for the implementation of the measures.

Why do a PSR?

It's required by law! As of October 2000, a Pre-start Health and Safety Review (or PSR) must be performed on any new, modified or relocated equipment, or equipment which has been moved into a new workplace or where a safety control has been added or modified. This is a requirement of the Ontario Health and Safety Act Reg 851 section 7. Failure to comply with this law results in fines.

Who can perform PSR's?

PSR's must be performed by a professional engineer registered in the Province of Ontario. It is strongly recommended that PSR's be assigned to persons who are competent by virtue of education and experience in the respective discipline that the PSR entails. Firms that offer engineering services, including those who perform PSR's, must hold a Certificate of Authorization issued by Professional Engineers Ontario (PEO).

When is a PSR's required?

- Storage and dispensing of flammable liquids
- Guarding when safeguarding devices signal an apparatus to stop
- Racking or Stacking Structure
- Potentially Explosive Processes
- Dust Collectors
- Molten Metal and Foundries
- Lifting Devices – in instances where construction, addition, installation or modification relates to lifting devices, traveling cranes or automobile hoists

Are there Exemptions?

An exemption may apply for lifting devices if the supporting structure was originally designed for the loading. In the case of this exemption, the *Owner, Lessee or Employer* must keep supporting documentation, including:

1. A letter of exemption specifying the specific clause of O.Reg.851
2. Design drawings, containing the design loading of the original support structure, sealed by a Professional Engineer registered in Ontario.

The above documents are over and above any certification for the new and or modified equipment itself.



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What are the benefits of doing a PSR?

There are several benefits. The PSR process identifies safety issues to be corrected in an organized and effective manner. Potential cost savings can result through work efficiencies and proper installation and placement of equipment. Employee morale and respect for management is built when they realize their employer is being proactive towards providing a safer work environment. Certainly, a safer operation reduces the risk of injuries, lost time and offers potential lower insurance premiums by preventing worker injuries.

What if you don't do a PSR?

Whether a PSR is not done because a company is not aware of the law or if they choose to ignore the requirement, the company is at significant risk of having operations come to a halt. A simple visit by the Ministry of Labour to investigate an incident or as a result of a complaint from an employee can quickly stop all production. Failing to observe basic due diligence can also result in personal fines or imprisonment if a serious injury occurs.

What is the cost of having a PSR done?

Pricing of a PSR is based on various factors, such as the type of machine or equipment, type of installation being reviewed, and technical documentation available. Typically, a quote outlining the scope of the review is provided before proceeding.

For Your Reference

- For more information visit: Ontario Ministry of Labour – Pre-Start Health and Safety Review Guidelines
- For a list of additional reference standards, visit: Ministry of Labour's page of recognized standards
- For a list of fines visit Ontario Court of Justice website to review Schedule 76.4
<http://www.ontariocourts.on.ca/ocj/en/setfines/one/schedule67-4.pdf>
- Contact the Ontario Ministry of Labour (MOL) at: 1-800-268-8013