

Insights from Evidence-based Safety Analyses

M Hassall¹

1. Professor and Director, Minerals Industry Safety and Health Centre, Sustainable Minerals Institute, The University of Queensland, Brisbane, Queensland, 4072. Email: m.hassall1@uq.edu.au

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ABSTRACT

There is a plethora of activities that have been and continue to be performed to improve the health, safety and wellbeing of those involved in resource industry activities. These activities include implementation of risk management, critical control, personal, process and functional safety, psychological health and industrial hygiene initiatives. Understanding and utilising the evidence bases that exist can provide insights that help leaders identify opportunities to improve the effectiveness of initiatives and reveal limitations and gaps in current knowledge and programs. Examples of such evidence-based analysis that cover front-line risk assessments, process safety maturity, critical control management, incident investigation quality, psychosocial risk controls and future strategies for WHS will be presented. The examples illustrated what evidence-based analyses are possible as well as the knowledge that can be gleaned from such analyses and how it can be used to inform initiative selection and improvement activities. They will also be used to show how such analysis can highlight areas requiring further research. A decision tree is then presented to help leaders navigate decisions associated with critiquing and gaining insights from evidence-based safety analyses.