

AU General Risk Assessment

Brief Description of Activity:				Assessor/s:		Date:
MICROWAVE OVENS The use of Microwave Ovens in cooking/food preparation.						
Hazard: <i>List what could cause harm from this activity, use appendix A to assist in identifying hazards</i>	Persons at risk: <i>List who might be harmed eg staff, students, visitors</i>	Risk factor: <i>For each hazard, decide level of risk as if you were to do the activity without controls, see appendix B</i>			Control measures required: <i>For each hazard. List the measures you will be taking to minimise the risk identified, e.g. appointing competent persons, training received, planning and try-outs, use of personal protective equipment</i>	Residual Risk: <i>For each hazard now decide the residual risk after the control measures are in place</i>
		Severity	Likelihood	Risk		
Hot Containers/Food/Liquids	User	Moderate	Possible	Medium	Do not overfill the containbers and leave a gap on lids so that steam can escape, reducing the risk of it exploding in the microwave oven. Do not overheat the containers or allow the contents to overflow. Handle containers with aploprate oven gloves or cloths. Heat containers by labelled instructions and comply by safety notes on containers.	Very Low
Microwave Radiation	User	Very Severe	Very Unlikely	Medium	Ovens must be made to comply with BS3456 Part II for domestic ovens, and BS5175 for commercial ovens. Always use and maintain ovens in accordance with manufacturer instructions. Regularly check the door seal and report for repair if damaged. Do not use if the door seal is damaged. Records of leakage checks must be maintained. Do not attempt to operate the oven with the door open or try to over-ride the interlock mechanism.	Low
Electricity	User	Very Severe	Very Unlikely	Medium	Switch off and unplug after use. Do not operate switches with wet hands. Maintain equipment as per the manufacturer guidelines. If the equipment is more than 2 years old, it should be PAT tested annually. Isolate power supply before cleaning.	Low
Contamination	User	Moderate	Very Unlikely	Low	Clean any spillages immediately and clean the microwave place periodically.	Very Low
Signed:		Date:		Date for review of risk assessment:		

Appendix A

Hazard list – Use this table to help you identify hazards, you may think of others not on this list, use these to complete the risk assessment form					
Situational hazards	Tick	Physical / chemical hazards	Tick	Health hazards	Tick
Assault by person		Contact with cold liquid / vapour		Disease causative agent	
Attacked by animal		Contact with cold surface		Infection	
Breathing compressed gas		Contact with hot liquid / vapour		Lack of food / water	
Cold environment		Contact with hot surface		Lack of oxygen	
Crush by load		Electric shock		Physical fatigue	
Drowning		Explosive blast		Repetitive action	
Entanglement in moving machinery		Explosive release of stored pressure		Static body posture	
High atmospheric pressure		Fire		Stress	
Hot environment		Hazardous substance		Venom poisoning	
Intimidation		Ionising radiation			
Manual handling		Laser light		Environmental hazards	
Object falling, moving or flying		Lightning strike		Litter	
Obstruction / exposed feature		Noise		Nuisance noise / vibration	
Sharp object / material		Non-ionising radiation		Physical damage	
Shot by firearm		Stroboscopic light		Waste substance released into air	
Slippery surface		Vibration		Waste substance released into soil / water	
Trap in moving machinery					
Trip hazard		Managerial / organisational hazards			
Vehicle impact / collision		Management factors			
Working at height					

Appendix B

Risk matrix – use this to determine risk for each hazard i.e. ‘how bad and how likely’	Likelihood of Harm				
	Remote	Very unlikely	Unlikely	Possible	Likely
Severity of Harm					
Negligible e.g. small bruise	Very low	Very low	Very low	Low	Low
Slight e.g. small cut, deep bruise	Very low	Very low	Low	Low	Medium
Moderate e.g. deep cut, torn muscle	Very low	Low	Medium	Medium	High
Severe e.g. fracture, loss of consciousness	Low	Medium	High	High	Extremely high
Very Severe e.g. death, permanent disability	Low	Medium	High	Extremely high	Extremely high