

The 'Bow Tie' Model

The 'Bow Tie' Model illustrates the importance of both preventive and recovery measures in dealing with risk. Risk is defined as the likelihood that a Top Event (hazard release) will occur, combined with the severity of the consequences of the event:



Hazard:

Potential to cause harm.

Threat:

A possible cause that will potentially release a hazard and produce a 'Top Event'.

Control Barriers:

Measure to prevent threats from releasing a hazard.

Top Event:

The 'release' of the hazard, i.e. the first consequence.

Recovery Measures:

Limit the consequences arising from Top Event.

Consequence:

Event(s) that result from the release of a hazard.