

(Effective December 27, 2024)

WAC 296-67-379 Human factors. (1) The employer must develop, implement and maintain an effective written human factors program within 18 months following the effective date of Part B of this chapter.

(2) The employer must include a written analysis of human factors, where relevant, major changes, incident investigations, PHAs, MOOCs, and HCAs. The analysis must include a description of the selected methodologies and criteria for their use.

(3) The employer must assess human factors in existing operating and maintenance procedures and must revise these procedures accordingly. The employer must complete 50 percent of assessments and revisions within three years following the effective date of Part B of this chapter, and 100 percent within five years.

(4) The human factors analysis must apply an effective method in evaluating at least the following:

- (a) Staffing levels;
- (b) Complexity of tasks;
- (c) Length of time needed to complete tasks;
- (d) Level of training, experience and expertise of employees;
- (e) Human-machine and human-system interface;
- (f) Physical challenges of the work environment in which the task is performed;
- (g) Employee fatigue and other effects of shiftwork and overtime;
- (h) Communication systems; and
- (i) The understandability and clarity of operating and maintenance procedures.

(5) The human factors analysis of process controls must include:

- (a) Error-proof mechanisms;
- (b) Automatic alerts; and
- (c) Automatic system shutdowns.

(6) The employer must include an assessment of human factors in new and revised operating and maintenance procedures.

(7) The employer must train affected operating and maintenance employees in the written human factors program.

(8) The employer must make available, and provide upon request, a copy of the written human factors program to affected employees and their representatives, and affected contractors, employees of contractors, and contractor employee representatives, pursuant to WAC 296-67-315.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 49.17.010, 49.17.040, 49.17.050, 49.17.060, and chapter 49.17 RCW. WSR 24-02-037, § 296-67-379, filed 12/27/23, effective 12/27/24.]