

# Calculates Residual Risk

- IF you follow my recommendations for mitigation, your residual risk will be:
  - Extreme
  - High
  - Moderate
  - Low



# Client is Provided:

- Verbal Report &/or  
Written report with  
assessment &  
recommendations

## Purpose:

- Inform client
- Scheduling work
- Legal protection





# Client/Manager Determines:

- Their risk tolerance
- Work (mitigation) that is to be done and when



# Data Collection & Analysis

## ISA Basic Tree Risk Assessment Form

Client \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_ Time \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address/Tree location \_\_\_\_\_ Tree no. \_\_\_\_\_ Sheet \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_  
 Tree species \_\_\_\_\_ dbh \_\_\_\_\_ Height \_\_\_\_\_ Crown spread dia. \_\_\_\_\_  
 Assessor(s) \_\_\_\_\_ Time frame \_\_\_\_\_ Tools used \_\_\_\_\_

### Target Assessment

Target number	Target description	Target zone			Occupancy rate 1 - rare 2 - occasional 3 - frequent 4 - constant	Practical to move target?	Restriction practical?
		Target within drip line	Target within 1x Ht.	Target within 1.5x Ht.			
1							
2							
3							
4							

### Site Factors

History of failures \_\_\_\_\_ Topography Flat ☐ Slope ☐ \_\_\_\_\_ % Aspect \_\_\_\_\_  
 Site changes None ☐ Grade change ☐ Site clearing ☐ Changed soil hydrology ☐ Root cuts ☐ Describe \_\_\_\_\_  
 Soil conditions Limited volume ☐ Saturated ☐ Shallow ☐ Compacted ☐ Pavement over roots ☐ \_\_\_\_\_ % Describe \_\_\_\_\_  
 Prevailing wind direction \_\_\_\_\_ Common weather Strong winds ☐ Ice ☐ Snow ☐ Heavy rain ☐ Describe \_\_\_\_\_

### Tree Health and Species Profile

Vigor Low ☐ Normal ☐ High ☐ Foliage None (seasonal) ☐ None (dead) ☐ Normal \_\_\_\_\_ % Chlorotic \_\_\_\_\_ % Necrotic \_\_\_\_\_ %  
 Pests \_\_\_\_\_ Abiotic \_\_\_\_\_  
 Species failure profile Branches ☐ Trunk ☐ Roots ☐ Describe \_\_\_\_\_

### Load Factors

Wind exposure Protected ☐ Partial ☐ Full ☐ Wind funneling ☐ \_\_\_\_\_ Relative crown size Small ☐ Medium ☐ Large ☐  
 Crown density Sparse ☐ Normal ☐ Dense ☐ Interior branches Few ☐ Normal ☐ Dense ☐ Vines/Mistletoe/Moss ☐ \_\_\_\_\_  
 Recent or planned change in load factors \_\_\_\_\_

### Tree Defects and Conditions Affecting the Likelihood of Failure

#### — Crown and Branches —

Unbalanced crown ☐ LCR \_\_\_\_\_ % Cracks ☐ \_\_\_\_\_ Lightning damage ☐  
 Dead twigs/branches ☐ \_\_\_\_\_ % overall Max. dia. \_\_\_\_\_ Codominant ☐ \_\_\_\_\_ Included bark ☐  
 Broken/Hangers Number \_\_\_\_\_ Max. dia. \_\_\_\_\_ Weak attachments ☐ \_\_\_\_\_ Cavity/Nest hole \_\_\_\_\_ % circ.  
 Over-extended branches ☐ Previous branch failures ☐ \_\_\_\_\_ Similar branches present ☐  
 Pruning history Dead/Missing bark ☐ Cankers/Galls/Burls ☐ Sapwood damage/decay ☐  
 Crown cleaned ☐ Thinned ☐ Raised ☐ Conks ☐ Heartwood decay ☐ \_\_\_\_\_  
 Reduced ☐ Topped ☐ Lion-tailed ☐ Response growth \_\_\_\_\_  
 Flush cuts ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_  
 Main concern(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Load on defect N/A ☐ Minor ☐ Moderate ☐ Significant ☐ \_\_\_\_\_  
 Likelihood of failure Improbable ☐ Possible ☐ Probable ☐ Imminent ☐ \_\_\_\_\_

#### — Trunk —

Dead/Missing bark ☐ Abnormal bark texture/color ☐  
 Codominant stems ☐ Included bark ☐ Cracks ☐  
 Sapwood damage/decay ☐ Cankers/Galls/Burls ☐ Sap ooze ☐  
 Lightning damage ☐ Heartwood decay ☐ Conks/Mushrooms ☐  
 Cavity/Nest hole \_\_\_\_\_ % circ. Depth \_\_\_\_\_ Poor taper ☐  
 Lean \_\_\_\_\_ \* Corrected? \_\_\_\_\_  
 Response growth \_\_\_\_\_  
 Main concern(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Load on defect N/A ☐ Minor ☐ Moderate ☐ Significant ☐ \_\_\_\_\_  
 Likelihood of failure Improbable ☐ Possible ☐ Probable ☐ Imminent ☐ \_\_\_\_\_

#### — Roots and Root Collar —

Collar buried/Not visible ☐ Depth \_\_\_\_\_ Stem girdling ☐  
 Dead ☐ Decay ☐ Conks/Mushrooms ☐  
 Ooze ☐ Cavity ☐ \_\_\_\_\_ % circ.  
 Cracks ☐ Cut/Damaged roots ☐ Distance from trunk \_\_\_\_\_  
 Root plate lifting ☐ Soil weakness ☐

Response growth \_\_\_\_\_  
 Main concern(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Load on defect N/A ☐ Minor ☐ Moderate ☐ Significant ☐ \_\_\_\_\_  
 Likelihood of failure Improbable ☐ Possible ☐ Probable ☐ Imminent ☐ \_\_\_\_\_

### Risk Categorization

Condition number	Tree part	Conditions of concern	Part size	Fall distance	Target number	Target protection	Likelihood										Consequences				Risk rating of part (from Matrix 2)			
							Failure				Impact			Failure & Impact (from Matrix 1)										
							Improbable	Possible	Probable	Imminent	Very Low	Low	Medium	High	Unlikely	Somewhat	Likely	Very Likely	Negligible	Minor		Significant	Severe	
1																								
2																								
3																								
4																								

#### Matrix 1. Likelihood matrix.

Likelihood of Failure	Likelihood of Impacting Target			
	Very Low	Low	Medium	High
Imminent	Unlikely	Somewhat likely	Likely	Very likely
Probable	Unlikely	Unlikely	Somewhat likely	Likely
Possible	Unlikely	Unlikely	Unlikely	Somewhat likely
Improbable	Unlikely	Unlikely	Unlikely	Unlikely

#### Matrix 2. Risk rating matrix.

Likelihood of Failure & Impact	Consequences of Failure			
	Negligible	Minor	Significant	Severe
Very likely	Low	Moderate	High	Extreme
Likely	Low	Moderate	High	High
Somewhat likely	Low	Low	Moderate	Moderate
Unlikely	Low	Low	Low	Low

Notes, explanations, descriptions \_\_\_\_\_

Mitigation options \_\_\_\_\_ Residual risk \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_ Residual risk \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_ Residual risk \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_ Residual risk \_\_\_\_\_

Overall tree risk rating Low ☐ Moderate ☐ High ☐ Extreme ☐ Work priority 1 ☐ 2 ☐ 3 ☐ 4 ☐

Overall residual risk Low ☐ Moderate ☐ High ☐ Extreme ☐ Inspection interval \_\_\_\_\_

Data ☐ Final ☐ Preliminary Advanced assessment needed ☐ No ☐ Yes-Type/Reason \_\_\_\_\_

Inspection limitations ☐ None ☐ Visibility ☐ Access ☐ Vines ☐ Root collar buried Describe \_\_\_\_\_



# Basic Tree Risk Assessment Form

- Not provided to client:
  - ◆ inability to understand
  - ◆ desire to manipulate
- Client receives report
- Always discoverable



# Advantage of TRAQ to Malaysia

- Demonstrates that you have a systematic process for assessing risk from tree failures
- Retain trees for their environmental benefits
- Allows you to document changes in risk over time
- Put risk from tree failures into context with other risks associated with urban life.





# Advantage of TRAQ to Malaysia

- Systematic process
- Document changes
- Retain beneficial trees
- Puts risk into context
- Standard for the global arboricultural profession



# TRAQ Cannot:

- Guarantee that there will never be another tree failure/fatality
- Guarantee absolute safety



“Based on my xx years in the profession and training I have received; in my professional opinion from my investigation, I did not think that the tree would fail.”



# Hosting TRAQ?

- Chapter /AO model or
- ISA hosting Model
- Details???
- time-of-year
- plan ahead! (study books)
- 2 courses? Share speaker expenses with Singapore?
- cost???

# Interested???

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# **Fear of tree failures:**

**I am an old man and have  
known a great many troubles,  
but most of them never  
happened.**

**- Mark Twain**