

**Bumping Into Unsecured Material. Risk Assessment**

Business Name:		ABN:
Business Address:		
Contact Person:	Phone:	Email:

**THIS RISK ASSESSMENT IS APPROVED BY THE PCBU ON THIS PROJECT**

Under the Work Health and Safety Regulation (WHS Regulation), a person conducting a business or undertaking (PCBU) is required to ensure that a RISK ASSESSMENT is prepared before the proposed work starts.

Full Name:		
Signature:	Title:	Date:

**CLIENT OR PRINCIPAL CONTRACTOR DETAILS**

Client:	SCOPE OF WORKS
Project Name:	
Project Address:	
Project Manager:	
Contact Phone:	
Date Risk Assessment supplied to Project Manager:	

SAMPLE

RISK MATRIX									
LIKELIHOOD	INSIGNIFICANT	MINOR	MODERATE	MAJOR	CATASTROPHIC	SCORE	ACTION	HIERARCHY OF CONTROLS	
ALMOST CERTAIN	3 HIGH	3 HIGH	4 ACUTE	4 ACUTE	4 ACUTE			<b>Elimination</b> Remove the hazard.	
LIKELY	2 MODERATE	3 HIGH	3 HIGH	4 ACUTE	4 ACUTE	4A ACUTE	DO NOT PROCEED	<b>Substitution</b> Replace the hazard.	
POSSIBLE	1 LOW	2 MODERATE	3 HIGH	4 ACUTE	4 ACUTE	3H HIGH	Review before work starts.	Isolation Isolate People from the hazard	
UNLIKELY	1 LOW	1 LOW	2 MODERATE	3 HIGH	4 ACUTE	2M MODERATE	Ensure control measures in place.	<b>Engineering</b> Isolate the hazard	
RARE	1 LOW	1 LOW	2 MODERATE	3 HIGH	3 HIGH	1L LOW	Monitor and keep records.	Administrative Change	
								PPE	

  

Risk Rating & Required Action:	
<b>4A</b>	Stop work. The risk is intolerable. Eliminate the hazard or redesign the activity before proceeding. A Safe Work Method Statement (SWMS) or higher-level authorisation is required.
<b>3H</b>	Review and approve additional controls before task starts. Senior supervisor sign-off needed.
<b>2M</b>	Ensure all nominated controls are in place and effective. Proceed with caution; monitor conditions.
<b>1L</b>	Proceed, following standard operating procedures. Monitor and keep records.

  

Consequence Scale:			
Consequence	People (injury/illness)	Project / Assets	Compliance / Reputation
<b>Catastrophic</b>	Fatality or permanent total disability	project shutdown	Significant regulator intervention; criminal prosecution
<b>Major</b>	Serious injury/illness (hospital > 5 days)	critical delay	Improvement notice; major media coverage
<b>Moderate</b>	Medical-treatment injury; lost-time > 1 day	moderate delay	Minor breach; adverse client comment
<b>Minor</b>	First-aid only, no lost time	negligible delay	Isolated non-conformance
<b>Insignificant</b>	No injury	no schedule impact	Deviation caught and corrected on site

  

**Notes on Hierarchy of Controls:**  
Remember to apply controls in the preferred order shown by the coloured pyramid:

1. **Eliminate**
2. **Substitute**
3. **Isolate**
4. **Engineering**
5. **Administrative**
6. **PPE**

Always document **why** a lower-order control is accepted if elimination or substitution is not reasonably practicable.

*aligned with Safe Work Australia's Managing the risk of fatigue at work (2023) and ISO 45001:2018 clauses 6–8.*

JOB STEP	POTENTIAL HAZARDS	IR	CONTROL MEASURES	RR
SPECIFIC WORK STEPS	HAZARDS THAT MAY ARISE	INITIAL RISK	SPECIFIC MEASURES TO BE PUT IN PLACE TO ELIMINATE OR CONTROL THE RISKS	RESIDUAL RISK
1. Preparation	unsecured tools, inadequate lighting	3H	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Conduct a visual inspection of the work area for unsecured materials</li> <li>- Ensure adequate lighting is available</li> <li>- Remove or secure any loose tools before starting</li> <li>- Use signage to indicate hazard areas</li> <li>- Wear appropriate PPE, including helmets and gloves</li> <li>- Designate walkways and keep them clear</li> <li>- Brief workers on potential hazards</li> <li>- Implement a tool storage system with secure boxes</li> <li>- Engage in proper housekeeping practices regularly</li> <li>- Ensure workers are trained in hazard identification</li> </ul>	2M
2. Site Inspection	unmarked hazards, cluttered pathways	3H	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Schedule regular site inspections</li> <li>- Use hazard marking tape for identified risks</li> <li>- Develop a checklist for specific hazard inspection</li> <li>- Instruct workers to report any new hazards immediately</li> <li>- Ensure pathways are kept clear of debris</li> <li>- Position bins and skips in convenient locations for waste disposal</li> <li>- Regularly review and update site hazard markings</li> <li>- Assign a site safety officer to oversee inspections</li> <li>- Engage with workers through active safety conversations</li> <li>- Implement a colour-coded system for hazard identification</li> </ul>	2M
3. Material Handling	heavy lifting, improper stacking	4A	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Train workers in proper manual handling techniques</li> <li>- Use mechanical aids such as trolleys and forklifts</li> <li>- Establish safe stacking protocols</li> <li>- Ensure materials are stacked away from walkways</li> <li>- Regular supervision during material handling operations</li> <li>- Limit load weights to prevent strain injuries</li> <li>- Conduct risk assessments for new materials to be handled</li> <li>- Communicate safe handling procedures clearly</li> </ul>	2M

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			- Use pallet racking systems for storage - Regular safety audits on material handling processes	
4. Equipment Operation	equipment failure, unauthorised use	4A	[REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]	2M
5. Clean-Up	slippery surfaces, sharp debris	3H	[REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]	1L
6. Operation Shut Down	residual unsecured materials, power overloads	2M	[REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]	1L



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			[REDACTED]	
7. Emergency Procedures	panic, delayed response	4A	[REDACTED]	2M
8. Training and Induction	incomplete training, low awareness of safety protocols	3H	[REDACTED]	2M
9. Communication Protocols	miscommunication, incomplete information distribution	3H	[REDACTED]	1L

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			[REDACTED]	
10. Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)	inadequate PPE, improper usage	3H	[REDACTED]	1L
11. Monitoring and Review	overlooked hazards, non-compliance	3H	[REDACTED]	2M
12. Use of Hand Tools	tool misuse, lack of maintenance	3H	[REDACTED]	2M

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			[REDACTED]	
13. Vehicular Movement	collisions, obstructed pathways	4A	[REDACTED]	2M
14. Hazardous Substances	exposure to chemicals, incorrect handling	4A	[REDACTED]	2M
15. Work Area Design	congested workspaces, restricted access	3H	[REDACTED]	1L

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			<div style="background-color: black; height: 15px; width: 100%;"></div> <div style="background-color: black; height: 15px; width: 90%;"></div> <div style="background-color: black; height: 15px; width: 95%;"></div> <div style="background-color: black; height: 15px; width: 90%;"></div> <div style="background-color: black; height: 15px; width: 80%;"></div> <div style="background-color: black; height: 15px; width: 95%;"></div>	

SAMPLE



**EMERGENCY RESPONSE – CALL 000 FOR EMERGENCIES**

Ensure to have an Emergency Management Plan in place as well as adequate numbers of trained first aid staff with easy access to fully stocked first aid kits, rescue equipment, material safety data sheets, adequate access to emergency communication equipment and fire-fighting equipment suitable for all classes of fire and ignition sources.

**LEGISLATIVE REFERENCES**

RELEVANT LEGISLATION AND CODES OF PRACTICE. DELETE THE LEGISLATIVE REFERENCES FOR ANY STATE THAT ARE NOT APPLICABLE

**Queensland & Australian Capital Territory**

Work Health and Safety Act 2011  
 Work Health and Safety Regulations 2011  
 Legislation QLD: <https://www.worksafe.qld.gov.au/laws-and-compliance/work-health-and-safety-laws>  
 Codes of Practice QLD: <https://www.worksafe.qld.gov.au/laws-and-compliance/codes-of-practice>  
 Legislation ACT: <https://www.worksafe.act.gov.au/laws-and-compliance/acts-and-regulations>  
 Codes of Practice ACT: <https://www.worksafe.act.gov.au/laws-and-compliance/codes-of-practice>

**Victoria**

Occupational Health and Safety Act 2004  
 Occupational Health and Safety Regulations 2017  
 Legislation VIC: <https://www.worksafe.vic.gov.au/occupational-health-and-safety-act-and-regulations>  
 Codes of Practice VIC: <https://www.worksafe.vic.gov.au/compliance-codes-and-codes-practice>

**New South Wales**

Work Health and Safety Act 2011  
 Work Health and Safety Regulations 2017  
 Legislation NSW: <https://www.safework.nsw.gov.au/legal-obligations/legislation>  
 Codes of Practice NSW: <https://www.safework.nsw.gov.au/resource-library/list-of-codes-of-practice>

**Western Australia**

Work Health and Safety Act 2020  
 Work Health and Safety Regulations 2022  
 Legislation Western Australia: <https://www.commerce.wa.gov.au/worksafe/legislation>  
 Codes of Practice WA: <https://www.commerce.wa.gov.au/worksafe/codes-practice>

**Northern Territory**

Work Health and Safety (National Uniform Legislation) Act 2011  
 Work Health and Safety (National Uniform Legislation) Regulations 2011  
 Legislation NT: <https://worksafe.nt.gov.au/laws-and-compliance/workplaces-and-laws>  
 Codes of Practice NT: <https://worksafe.nt.gov.au/laws-and-compliance/codes-of-practice>

**Safe Work Australia Links**

Law and Regulation (All States): <https://www.safeworkaustralia.gov.au/law-and-regulation>  
 Model Codes of Practice: <https://www.safeworkaustralia.gov.au/resources-publications/model-codes-of-practice>

**South Australia**

Work Health and Safety Act 2012 (SA)  
 Work Health and Safety Regulations 2012 (SA)  
 Legislation for SA: <https://www.safework.sa.gov.au/resources/legislation>  
 Codes of Practice for SA: <https://www.safework.sa.gov.au/workplaces/codes-of-practice#COPs>

**Model Codes of Practice**

- Managing noise and preventing hearing loss at work
- Confined spaces
- Labelling of workplace hazardous chemicals
- Managing risks of hazardous chemicals in the workplace
- Welding processes
- First aid in the workplace
- Managing the risk of falls at workplaces
- Hazardous manual tasks
- Managing the risk of falls in housing construction
- Managing electrical risks in the workplace
- Demolition work
- Excavation work
- Work health and safety consultation, cooperation and coordination
- Managing the work environment and facilities
- How to manage work health and safety risks
- Managing risks of plant in the workplace
- Construction work

**Tasmania**

Work Health and Safety Act 2012  
 Work Health and Safety (Transitional and Consequential Provisions) Act 2012  
 Work Health and Safety Regulations 2012  
 Work Health and Safety (Transitional) Regulations 2012  
 Legislation for TAS: <https://worksafe.tas.gov.au/topics/laws-and-compliance/acts-and-regulations>  
 Codes of Practice for TAS: <https://worksafe.tas.gov.au/topics/laws-and-compliance/codes-of-practice>

Details of permits, licenses or access required by regulatory bodies (add or delete as required):

- Permits from local council
- Authorisation to commence work
- Any required documents.

