

Chain Blocks and Hoists Risk Assessment

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

THIS RISK ASSESSMENT IS APPROVED BY THE PCBU ON THE 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:	

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			Elimination Remove the hazard.
LIKELY	2 MODERATE	3 HIGH	3 HIGH	4 ACUTE	4 ACUTE	4A ACUTE	DO NOT PROCEED	Substitution 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.	Engineering 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:

4A	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.
3H	Review and approve additional controls before task starts. Senior supervisor sign-off needed.
2M	Ensure all nominated controls are in place and effective. Proceed with caution; monitor conditions.
1L	Proceed, following standard operating procedures. Monitor and keep records.

Consequence Scale:

Consequence	People (injury/illness)	Project / Assets	Compliance / Reputation
Catastrophic	Fatality or permanent total disability	project shutdown	Significant regulator intervention; criminal prosecution
Major	Serious injury/illness (hospital > 5 days)	critical delay	Improvement notice; major media coverage
Moderate	Medical-treatment injury; lost-time > 1 day	moderate delay	Minor breach; adverse client comment
Minor	First-aid only, no lost time	negligible delay	Isolated non-conformance
Insignificant	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	incorrect PPE selection, lack of familiarity with equipment	3H	- Conduct a pre-work briefing to familiarise the team with equipment use and hazards. - Select appropriate PPE such as gloves and helmets. - Ensure all personnel have received training on chain block and hoist operation. - Check all PPE is in serviceable condition before use. - Review safe work procedures with all personnel. - Verify that the chosen PPE matches the specific task requirements. - Ensure a first aid kit is available on site. - Confirm communication methods for coordinating team actions. - Inspect tools and equipment for defects before using. - Ensure an emergency plan is discussed and understood by all.	2M
2. Site Inspection	uneven surfaces, inadequate lighting	2M	- Perform a walk-around of the site to identify uneven ground and other tripping hazards. - Ensure adequate lighting is available in all work areas. - Remove or mark any irregular surfaces to prevent trips and falls. - Install temporary lighting where permanent lighting is insufficient. - Check that all pathways are clear of obstacles. - Use portable lighting equipment if necessary, focusing on key working areas. - Conduct discussions with site management regarding any persisting site conditions. - Secure cables and wires to prevent tripping. - Communicate the findings of the site inspection to the team. - Introduce barriers or signage to warn about potential hazards.	1L
3. Equipment Inspection	mechanical failure, degraded lifting chains	4A	- Conduct a visual inspection of the hoists and chain blocks for visible damage. - Perform load testing to ensure equipment is operating within its designed capacity. - Check lifting chains for wear, corrosion or elongation. - Ensure all equipment has been inspected and certified by a qualified person. - Have a maintenance team on standby in case of equipment issues. - Record each equipment check to provide a documented inspection trail. - Apply lubricants to moving parts to ensure smooth operation. - Verify the presence of current inspection tags on all equipment.	2M

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			- Replace any components that appear degraded or damaged. - Keep a record of when equipment inspections are due to keep to regular maintenance schedules.	
4. Rigging	incorrect rigging, overhead load risk	3H	[REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]	1L
5. Load Securement	improper load balance, load shifting	3H	[REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]	2M
6. Lifting Operations	unauthorised personnel, lifting beyond capacity	4A	[REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]	2M

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7. Handling Loads	manual handling injuries, load collision	3H		2M
8. Use of Hoist Controls	operator error, electrical fault	4A		2M

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9. Noise Management	hearing damage, miscommunication	2M		1L
10. Climate Conditions	extreme temperatures, weather changes	2M		1L
11. Load Lowering	uncontrolled descent, impact injuries	3H		2M

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12. Emergency Procedures	inadequate emergency response, panic	4A		2M
13. Equipment Storage	tripping over equipment, unauthorised access	2M		1L

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14. Housekeeping	slip and trip hazards, falling objects	2M	- Establish designated storage areas for tools and materials. - Use proper lifting techniques to avoid injury. - Keep walkways clear of debris and clutter. - Use ladders safely, ensuring they are fully extended and opened. - Wear slip-resistant footwear. - Secure all equipment and materials before moving. - Use caution when working near overhead structures. - Implement a "clean as you go" policy. - Use proper housekeeping techniques. - Establish a safety protocol for handling materials. - Use appropriate PPE (hard hat, safety glasses).	1L
15. Final Checks	forgotten procedures, incomplete documentation	1M	- Review all work completed against the checklist. - Verify that all equipment is properly shut down. - Ensure all documentation is complete and accurate. - Conduct a final safety inspection. - Obtain necessary approvals before leaving the site. - Review the work area for any remaining hazards. - Ensure all tools and materials are accounted for. - Confirm that all safety protocols have been followed. - Review the work area for any remaining hazards. - Ensure all tools and materials are accounted for. - Confirm that all safety protocols have been followed.	1L
16. Post-Operation Maintenance	equipment failure, prolonged downtime	3H	- Perform routine maintenance on all equipment. - Replace worn parts and components. - Test equipment functionality after repairs. - Keep spare parts inventory up to date. - Establish a preventive maintenance schedule. - Train personnel on proper equipment use. - Document all maintenance activities. - Conduct regular safety inspections. - Ensure all equipment is properly stored. - Review maintenance records for trends.	1L

outdated procedures 2M

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19. Community and Environmental Considerations	environmental contamination, community disruption	2M		1L
20. Record Keeping	data loss, non-compliance	2M		1L

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 IF 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>

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/laws-and-codes-of-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/workplace-safety/laws>

Codes of Practice NT: <https://worksafe.nt.gov.au/for-employers-and-resources/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>

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.

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>

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>

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>

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