

Container Handling 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:								Notes on Hierarchy of Controls:	
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.						Remember to apply controls in the preferred order shown by the coloured pyramid:	
3H		Review and approve additional controls before task starts. Senior supervisor sign-off needed.						1. Eliminate	
2M		Ensure all nominated controls are in place and effective. Proceed with caution; monitor conditions.						2. Substitute	
1L		Proceed, following standard operating procedures. Monitor and keep records.						3. Isolate	
Consequence Scale:								4. Engineering	
Consequence	People (injury/illness)		Project / Assets		Compliance / Reputation		5. Administrative		
Catastrophic	Fatality or permanent total disability		project shutdown		Significant regulator intervention; criminal prosecution		6. PPE		
Major	Serious injury/illness (hospital > 5 days)		critical delay		Improvement notice; major media coverage		Always document why a lower-order control is accepted if elimination or substitution is not reasonably practicable.		
Moderate	Medical-treatment injury; lost-time > 1 day		moderate delay		Minor breach; adverse client comment		<i>aligned with Safe Work Australia's Managing the risk of fatigue at work (2023) and ISO 45001:2018 clauses 6–8.</i>		
Minor	First-aid only, no lost time		negligible delay		Isolated non-conformance				
Insignificant	No injury		no schedule impact		Deviation caught and corrected on site				

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	Slips, Falls	3H	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Conduct a safety briefing prior to task commencement - Ensure personal protective equipment (PPE) worn at all times - Inspect equipment and tools before use - Keep work area clean and free from obstructions - Ensure adequate lighting in work areas - Have spill kits readily available - Limit access to authorised personnel only - Regular breaks to avoid fatigue - Organise tools and equipment efficiently - Provide training on hazard awareness 	2M
2. Assess Load	Musculoskeletal injuries	3H	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Use mechanical aids where possible - Engage a team for heavy lifting - Use correct manual handling techniques - Conduct a pre-lift hazard assessment - Limit weight per manual lift according to guidelines - Ensure workers are physically fit for task - Rotate tasks to reduce fatigue - Detailed assessment of load weight and shape - Ensure clear communication among team - Regular training on manual handling 	2M
3. Plan Lift	Crush injuries, Struck by moving object	3H	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Develop a written lifting plan - Use spotters for guidance - Ensure clear visibility around load - Plan route to avoid obstacles - Securely fasten loads - Maintain a safe loading and exclusion zone - Communicate plan to all involved workers - Confirm means of communication in noisy environments 	2M

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			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Have contingency plans for unexpected situations - Regular reviews of lifting plan based on observations 	
4. Equipment Check	Equipment failure, Electrocution	3H	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Verify that all equipment is in good working order before use - Ensure that all personnel are trained and certified to operate the equipment - Implement a strict safety protocol for equipment use - Regularly inspect and maintain all equipment - Use proper lifting techniques to avoid injury - Ensure that all personnel are aware of the location of the equipment - Implement a clear communication system between all personnel - Use appropriate PPE (hard hats, safety glasses, etc.) - Establish a safe work area and clear the area of obstacles - Follow the manufacturer's instructions for equipment use - Implement a strict safety protocol for equipment use - Regularly inspect and maintain all equipment - Use proper lifting techniques to avoid injury - Ensure that all personnel are aware of the location of the equipment - Implement a clear communication system between all personnel - Use appropriate PPE (hard hats, safety glasses, etc.) - Establish a safe work area and clear the area of obstacles - Follow the manufacturer's instructions for equipment use 	2M
5. Loading	Falling loads, Overloading	3H	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ensure that all loads are properly secured and balanced - Use proper lifting techniques to avoid injury - Ensure that all personnel are aware of the location of the loads - Implement a clear communication system between all personnel - Use appropriate PPE (hard hats, safety glasses, etc.) - Establish a safe work area and clear the area of obstacles - Follow the manufacturer's instructions for equipment use - Implement a strict safety protocol for equipment use - Regularly inspect and maintain all equipment - Use proper lifting techniques to avoid injury - Ensure that all personnel are aware of the location of the equipment - Implement a clear communication system between all personnel - Use appropriate PPE (hard hats, safety glasses, etc.) - Establish a safe work area and clear the area of obstacles - Follow the manufacturer's instructions for equipment use 	2M
6. Transport	Traffic accidents, Load shift	4A	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ensure that all loads are properly secured and balanced - Use proper lifting techniques to avoid injury - Ensure that all personnel are aware of the location of the loads - Implement a clear communication system between all personnel - Use appropriate PPE (hard hats, safety glasses, etc.) - Establish a safe work area and clear the area of obstacles - Follow the manufacturer's instructions for equipment use - Implement a strict safety protocol for equipment use - Regularly inspect and maintain all equipment - Use proper lifting techniques to avoid injury - Ensure that all personnel are aware of the location of the equipment - Implement a clear communication system between all personnel - Use appropriate PPE (hard hats, safety glasses, etc.) - Establish a safe work area and clear the area of obstacles - Follow the manufacturer's instructions for equipment use 	3H

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7. Unloading	Falling objects, Crush injuries	3H		2M
8. Documentation	Data entry errors, inadequate keeping	2M		1L
9. Container Inspection	Punctures, Serious injury from structural failure	3H		2M

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10. Maintenance	Chemical exposure, Equipment malfunction	3H		2M
11. Cleaning	Slips, Chemical exposure	3H		2M
12. Emergency Response	Delayed response, Injury exacerbation	4A		3H

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13. Waste Management	Contamination, Spills	3H		2M
14. Worker Training	Inadequate skills, Non-compliance with protocols	3H		2M
15. Safety Audits	Overlooking potential risks, Non-compliance	3H		2M

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16. Communication	Misunderstandings, Information loss	3H		2M
17. Supervision	Oversight, Inadequate mentoring	3H		2M
18. Reporting	Delayed issue resolution, Unreported incidents	3H		2M

distance to change

3H

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 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/list-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/laws-and-compliance/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