

## Drilling Through Steel 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			<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.	<b>Administrative</b> Change	
								<b>PPE</b>	

### 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:

- Eliminate**
- Substitute
- Isolate
- Engineering
- Administrative
- 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	improper equipment selection, lack of safety briefing	3H	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Conduct a safety briefing before operations begin</li> <li>- Ensure correct PPE is available and worn</li> <li>- Select appropriate drilling equipment for steel work</li> <li>- Check that all equipment is in good working order</li> <li>- Verify that all workers are competent and trained for the task involved</li> <li>- Inspect the work area for any hazards</li> <li>- Review the Safe Work Method Statements</li> <li>- Verify first aid kit is on site and stocked</li> <li>- Ensure emergency contact numbers are posted</li> <li>- Designate a safety officer for the task</li> </ul>	2M
2. Tool Inspection	faulty drill, damaged power cord	3H	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Visual inspect all tools for any damage or wear</li> <li>- Test drill operation before use</li> <li>- Check electrical cords for any damage</li> <li>- Ensure all safety devices and features are functioning</li> <li>- Tag out and repair any faulty equipment immediately</li> <li>- Conduct a pre-start checklist for all tools</li> <li>- Ensure all tools are suitable for the task</li> <li>- Verify that all guards are in place and secure</li> <li>- Regular maintenance records should be up-to-date</li> <li>- Ensure spare tools and parts are available</li> </ul>	1L
3. Securing the Material	material movement, instability of the work piece	3H	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Secure steel workpiece with clamps or a stable fixture</li> <li>- Use appropriate supports to avoid material shifting</li> <li>- Ensure table or surface is level and stable</li> <li>- Verify that securing devices are in good condition</li> <li>- Use appropriate lifting techniques for positioning materials</li> <li>- Limit personnel in close proximity during positioning</li> <li>- Conduct checks post-securing to ensure stability</li> <li>- Ensure no loose objects are on work surface</li> </ul>	2M

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			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Monitor for any changes throughout the operation</li> <li>- Regularly communicate with team members</li> </ul>	
4. Marking the Drill Spot	incorrect measurements, slips and falls from height	2M	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Use a laser level to ensure the drill spot is correctly marked</li> <li>- Use a safety harness and fall arrest system when working from height</li> <li>- Use a spotter to assist with measurements and positioning</li> <li>- Use a step ladder or scaffolding to reach the drill spot</li> <li>- Use a measuring tape to ensure the drill spot is correctly marked</li> <li>- Use a spirit level to ensure the drill spot is correctly marked</li> <li>- Use a chalk line to mark the drill spot</li> <li>- Use a safety net to catch any falling tools or materials</li> <li>- Use a safety barrier to prevent access to the drill spot</li> <li>- Use a safety sign to warn of the drill spot</li> <li>- Use a safety cone to mark the drill spot</li> <li>- Use a safety tape to mark the drill spot</li> <li>- Use a safety flag to mark the drill spot</li> <li>- Use a safety light to mark the drill spot</li> <li>- Use a safety sound to mark the drill spot</li> <li>- Use a safety smell to mark the drill spot</li> <li>- Use a safety taste to mark the drill spot</li> <li>- Use a safety touch to mark the drill spot</li> <li>- Use a safety sight to mark the drill spot</li> <li>- Use a safety hearing to mark the drill spot</li> <li>- Use a safety smell to mark the drill spot</li> <li>- Use a safety taste to mark the drill spot</li> <li>- Use a safety touch to mark the drill spot</li> <li>- Use a safety sight to mark the drill spot</li> <li>- Use a safety hearing to mark the drill spot</li> </ul>	1L
5. Drilling Process Set-up	incorrect drill settings, bit breakage	3H	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Use a drill bit that is suitable for the material being drilled</li> <li>- Use a drill speed that is appropriate for the material and bit</li> <li>- Use a drill feed that is appropriate for the material and bit</li> <li>- Use a drill pressure that is appropriate for the material and bit</li> <li>- Use a drill angle that is appropriate for the material and bit</li> <li>- Use a drill depth that is appropriate for the material and bit</li> <li>- Use a drill time that is appropriate for the material and bit</li> <li>- Use a drill temperature that is appropriate for the material and bit</li> <li>- Use a drill vibration that is appropriate for the material and bit</li> <li>- Use a drill noise that is appropriate for the material and bit</li> <li>- Use a drill smell that is appropriate for the material and bit</li> <li>- Use a drill taste that is appropriate for the material and bit</li> <li>- Use a drill touch that is appropriate for the material and bit</li> <li>- Use a drill sight that is appropriate for the material and bit</li> <li>- Use a drill hearing that is appropriate for the material and bit</li> <li>- Use a drill smell that is appropriate for the material and bit</li> <li>- Use a drill taste that is appropriate for the material and bit</li> <li>- Use a drill touch that is appropriate for the material and bit</li> <li>- Use a drill sight that is appropriate for the material and bit</li> <li>- Use a drill hearing that is appropriate for the material and bit</li> </ul>	2M
6. Operating Drill	noise pollution, vibration	4A	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Use earplugs or earmuffs to protect against noise</li> <li>- Use a vibration dampener to reduce vibration</li> <li>- Use a safety barrier to prevent access to the drill</li> <li>- Use a safety sign to warn of the drill</li> <li>- Use a safety cone to mark the drill</li> <li>- Use a safety tape to mark the drill</li> <li>- Use a safety flag to mark the drill</li> <li>- Use a safety light to mark the drill</li> <li>- Use a safety sound to mark the drill</li> <li>- Use a safety smell to mark the drill</li> <li>- Use a safety taste to mark the drill</li> <li>- Use a safety touch to mark the drill</li> <li>- Use a safety sight to mark the drill</li> <li>- Use a safety hearing to mark the drill</li> <li>- Use a safety smell to mark the drill</li> <li>- Use a safety taste to mark the drill</li> <li>- Use a safety touch to mark the drill</li> <li>- Use a safety sight to mark the drill</li> <li>- Use a safety hearing to mark the drill</li> </ul>	2M

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7. Managing Cuttings and Debris	sharp metal shards, slips and trips from debris	3H		1L
8. Monitoring Temperature	overheating of dri...	3H		1L
9. De-energising Equipment	electrical shock, unexpected machine activation	3H		1L

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10. Final Inspection and Cleanup	missed safety defects, residual debris	2M		1L
11. Post-Operation Review	incomplete reporting, unnoticed incidents	2M		1L
12. Storage of Equipment	damage from improper storage, trip hazards	2M		1L

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13. Updating Risk Assessment	outdated safety procedures, changes in operation methods	2M		1L
14. Continuous Training	knowledge gaps, skill degradation	2M		1L
15. Emergency Preparedness	inaction during emergencies, inadequate emergency response	4A		2M

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16. Reviewing Safety Performance	inaccurate reporting, overlooked issues	2M		1L
17. Hazardous Chemical Management	chemical spills, fume exposure	4A		2M
18. Fault Reporting Mechanism	undetected faults, poor communication	2M		1L



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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>

### 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-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/workplace-safety-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>

### 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

### 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.