

Electric Powered Hand Tools 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:	



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	Electrical shock, Slips, trips, and falls	3H	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Conduct a pre-work inspection of the area and tools - Ensure all tools are properly maintained and tagged - Wear appropriate PPE, including rubber-soled shoes and insulating gloves - Clear the work area of unnecessary objects and clutter - Ensure proper lighting in the workspace - Use non-slip mats or footwear to prevent slipping - Ensure all workers are trained and competent - Designate a supervisor to oversee preparation - Verify emergency contact numbers are easily accessible - Ensure first-aid kits are available on site 	2M
2. Tool Selection	Improper tool selection, Manual handling injuries	2L	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Match the tool to the task and material being worked on - Ensure tools comply with Australian standards - Check for damage or wear before use - Conduct manual handling training for workers - Use mechanical aids for tool transport when necessary - Label tools with their intended use - Provide guidance on tool selection and use - Arrange tool selection scrutiny by a qualified person - Store tools securely to prevent unauthorised access - Rotate tasks to minimise repetitive strain 	1L
3. Tool Inspection	Faulty equipment, Sharp edges	3H	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Implement a tool inspection checklist before each use - Report and tag defective tools immediately - Ensure blades, cords, and plugs are intact - Maintain a schedule for regular inspection and servicing - Use non-conductive tools where possible - Educate workers on recognising sharp edges - Provide protective cases for sharp tools - Display safety posters on tool maintenance 	2M

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			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Encourage workers to report potential defects - Implement lock-out/tag-out procedures for unsafe tools 	
4. Electric Connection	Electric shock, Overloading circuits	3H	<p>[REDACTED]</p>	2M
5. Worksite Setup	Obstructions, Inadequate ventilation	3H	<p>[REDACTED]</p>	2M
6. Operational Training	Inexperienced operators, Lack of awareness	3H	<p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p>	1L

SAMPLE

JOB STEP	POTENTIAL HAZARDS	IR	CONTROL MEASURES	RR
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			[REDACTED]	
7. Correct PPE Usage	Inadequate protection, Improper PPE fit	3H	[REDACTED]	1L
8. Tool Use	Operator fatigue, Improper handling	4A	[REDACTED]	2M
9. Hazardous Environments	Noise, High temperatures	4A	[REDACTED]	2M

SAMPLE

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			[REDACTED]	
10. Emergency Procedures	Inadequate first aid, Delayed response	4A	[REDACTED]	2M
11. Cable Management	Trip hazard, Cable damage	3H	[REDACTED]	1L
12. Continuous Monitoring	Incident delay, Failure to identify hazards	4A	[REDACTED]	2M

SAMPLE

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			[REDACTED]	
13. Noise Control	Hearing damage, Communication barriers	3H	[REDACTED]	2M
14. Cleaning and Storage	Trip hazard from debris, Improper storage	3H	[REDACTED]	1L
15. Communication	Miscommunication, Unclear instructions	3H	[REDACTED]	1L

SAMPLE

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			[REDACTED]	
16. Scheduled Maintenance	Equipment breakdown, Lack of required parts	3H	[REDACTED]	1L
17. Accident Reporting	Underreporting, Incomplete documentation	3H	[REDACTED]	2M
18. Worker Feedback	Ignored safety concerns, Productivity impact	3H	[REDACTED]	1L

SAMPLE

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			[REDACTED]	
19. Decommission	Residual energy, Improper disposal	4A	[REDACTED]	2M

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.

