

Sewer Drain Installation 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
ALMOST CERTAIN	3 HIGH	3 HIGH	4 ACUTE	4 ACUTE	4 ACUTE		
LIKELY	2 MODERATE	3 HIGH	3 HIGH	4 ACUTE	4 ACUTE	4A ACUTE	DO NOT PROCEED
POSSIBLE	1 LOW	2 MODERATE	3 HIGH	4 ACUTE	4 ACUTE	3H HIGH	Review before work starts.
UNLIKELY	1 LOW	1 LOW	2 MODERATE	3 HIGH	4 ACUTE	2M MODERATE	Ensure control measures in place.
RARE	1 LOW	1 LOW	2 MODERATE	3 HIGH	3 HIGH	1L LOW	Monitor and keep records.

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

Hierarchy of Controls	
Elimination	Remove the hazard.
Substitution	Replace the hazard.
Isolation	Isolate People from the hazard
Engineering	Isolate the hazard
Administrative	Change
PPE	PPE

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. Site Preparation	trip hazards, exposure to utilities	3H	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Conduct a site survey to identify potential hazards - Mark out all existing utility lines clearly - Ensure site is clean and organised - Establish clear communication lines with utility companies - Wear appropriate PPE including high visibility clothing - Install barriers around hazardous zones - Deliver a site induction to all workers - Implement a permit-to-work system - Monitor weather conditions - Schedule regular site inspections 	1L
2. Excavation	cave-ins, striking underground utilities	4M	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Utilise shoring or trench shields for support - Ensure all workers are trained in excavation safety - Use non-destructive methods for utility location - Check excavation equipment functions properly - Designate a spotter when digging near utilities - Establish an exclusion zone around the excavation area - Ensure workers enter trenches after inspection only - Keep spoil piles at a safe distance - Have emergency rescue equipment on standby - Implement a trench inspection plan 	2M
3. Pipe Laying	manual handling injuries, pipe collapse	3H	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Use mechanical aids such as pipe lifters - Train workers in correct manual handling techniques - Inspect pipes before installation for defects - Ensure pipes are stored securely - Use proper lifting equipment - Allocate sufficient personnel for handling tasks - Ensure consistent communication among team members - Have an inspection checklist to verify installation standards 	1L

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			[REDACTED]	
7. Final Inspections	missing documentation, unnoticed defects	2M	[REDACTED]	1L
8. Equipment Retrieval	equipment damage, manual injuries	3H	[REDACTED]	1L
9. Site Cleanup	sharp debris, chemical exposure	4A	[REDACTED]	2M

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			[REDACTED]	
10. Documentation	data inaccuracy, loss of sensitive information	3H	[REDACTED]	1L
11. Emergency Procedures	inadequate response, communication breakdown	3H	[REDACTED]	1L
12. Worker Training	lack of awareness, skill shortfalls	3H	[REDACTED]	1L

SAMPLE

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			[REDACTED]	
13. Access and Egress Management	unauthorised access, blocked pathways	3H	[REDACTED]	1L
14. Environmental Protection	pollution, damage to floor and furniture	3H	[REDACTED]	2M
15. Quality Assurance	non-compliance, unmet specifications	3H	[REDACTED]	1L

SAMPLE

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			[REDACTED]	
16. Signage and Communication	miscommunication, inadequate signage	3H	[REDACTED]	1L
17. Monitoring and Supervision	unidentified risks, lack of oversight	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.

