

## Use Of Mechanical Drain Cleaners 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			<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>	
<b>Risk Rating &amp; Required Action:</b>								<b>Notes on Hierarchy of Controls:</b>	
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. <b>Eliminate</b>	
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	
								4. Engineering	
								5. Administrative	
								6. PPE	
<b>Consequence Scale:</b>								Always document <b>why</b> a lower-order control is accepted if elimination or substitution is not reasonably practicable.	
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				
								<i>aligned with Safe Work Australia's Managing the risk of fatigue at work (2023) and ISO 45001:2018 clauses 6–8.</i>	

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	Electric shock, Equipment malfunction	3H	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Ensure all personnel are trained in the use of mechanical drain cleaners</li> <li>- Conduct regular equipment inspections before use</li> <li>- Use insulated gloves when handling electrical components</li> <li>- Setup the workspace ensuring adequate lighting and workspace</li> <li>- Verify that all parts and cables are in good condition</li> <li>- Follow manufacturer's operating manual</li> <li>- Implement tagging system for defective equipment</li> <li>- Maintain a safe environment around the machine</li> <li>- Use portable residual current device (RCD) to prevent electric shocks</li> <li>- Conduct pre-start safety briefing with all operators</li> </ul>	2M
2. Site Assessment	Unidentified hazards, Inadequate access	3H	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Conduct a thorough site inspection before work begins</li> <li>- Identify and document any existing site-specific hazards</li> <li>- Ensure safe access paths and egress are in place</li> <li>- Communicate any site-specific hazards to the team</li> <li>- Delineate restricted areas with barricades and signage</li> <li>- Confirm site condition matches pre-assessment documentation</li> <li>- Use high visibility safety apparel on site</li> <li>- Verify access areas accommodate equipment dimensions</li> <li>- Update the assessment if site conditions change</li> <li>- Use mobile communication devices for site updates</li> </ul>	1L
3. Equipment Setup	Improperly secured machinery, Trip hazards	3H	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Place equipment on stable, level ground</li> <li>- Use wheel chocks or stabilizing devices for mobile units</li> <li>- Position cables and hoses away from walkways</li> <li>- Secure loose parts to prevent movement</li> <li>- Conduct a checklist verification prior to operation</li> <li>- Ensure caution signs are visible in equipment zones</li> <li>- Utilize cable protectors across walkways</li> <li>- Avoid running hoses across hot pathways</li> </ul>	2M

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			- Double-check that all equipment attachments are securely fastened - Communicate the location of trip hazards to all personnel	
4. Operation of Equipment	Mechanical injury, Noise pollution	4A	[Redacted]	2M
5. Blockage Clearing	Pressure build-up, Chemical exposure	4A	[Redacted]	2M
6. Equipment Maintenance	Pinch points, Slips and falls	3H	[Redacted]	1L

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7. Incident Response	Mishandled incidents, Inadequate first aid	3H		1L
8. Task Demobilisation	Residual waste, Decontamination hazards	3H		1L
9. Tool Return	Accidental damage, Misplacement	3H		2M

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10. Worker De-brief	Incomplete information relay, Low morale	2M		1L
11. Record Keeping	Data inaccuracy, Unauthorised access	2M		1L
12. Supervisor Review	Misjudgement in assessments, Undetected oversights	3H		2M

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13. Staff Training	Outdated training materials, Training neglect	3H		1L
14. Customer Interaction	Miscommunication, Service dissatisfaction	2M		1L
15. Follow-Up	Unsolved issues, Delayed actions	3H		1L

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16. Noise Management	Hearing damage, Inability to communicate	4A		2M
17. Emergency Planning	Emergency response delay, Poor evacuation procedures	4A		2M
18. Disposal	Hazardous waste, Environmental harm	3H		1L



3H

Fines and penalties

## 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.