

Work At Heights Without Personal Protective Equipment 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 | 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 | Incorrect PPE selection, Poor weather conditions | 3H | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Conduct thorough risk assessment before work commences - Review weather forecasts and plan work accordingly - Provide training on PPE selection - Ensure workers understand work procedures - Equip workers with appropriate communication devices - Establish emergency procedures - Keep first aid kit accessible - Secure tools and equipment - Assess worker fitness for task - Prepare rescue plan | 2M |
| 2. Tool Inspection | Faulty tools, Unfamiliar tool usage | 3H | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Conduct regular tool maintenance and inspections - Provide training for tool usage - Promptly remove damaged tools - Familiarise workers with tool manuals - Keep records of tool checks - Substitute tools with safer alternatives if possible - Attach safety labels and instructions to tools - Report defective tools immediately - Use appropriate tools for each task - Store tools safely when not in use | 1L |
| 3. Ladder Setup | Improper ladder angle, Ladder instability | 4A | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Verify ladder meets Australian standards - Inspect ladder for damage before use - Follow manufacturer guidelines for ladder angle - Ensure stable ground before setting up ladder - Use non-slip devices at ladder feet - Extend ladder three rungs above the height being accessed - Place ladder on level surface - Secure ladder at top and bottom | 2M |

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| | | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Designate a spotter to hold ladder steady - Limit usage to one person at a time on ladder | |
| 4. Scaffolding Erection | Scaffolding failure, Unqualified erection personnel | 4A | <p>[REDACTED]</p> | 2M |
| 5. Performing Task at Height | Worker disorientation, Unsuitable fall protection | 4A | <p>[REDACTED]</p> | 2M |
| 6. Material Handling at Height | Dropped objects, Overloading work platforms | 4A | <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> | 2M |

SAMPLE

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| | | | [REDACTED] | |
| 7. Working Near Power Lines | Electrical shock, Inducing power line sway | 4A | [REDACTED] | 2M |
| 8. Weather Condition Monitoring | Rain causing slips, Strong winds affecting balance | 4A | [REDACTED] | 2M |
| 9. Emergency Response Planning | Delay in emergency response, Inadequate first aid knowledge | 3H | [REDACTED] | 2M |

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| | | | [REDACTED] | |
| 10. Debrief and Review | Overlooking incidents, Insufficient feedback loop | 3H | [REDACTED] | 1L |
| 11. Site Setup Verification | Unclear work zones, Missing safety signage | 3H | [REDACTED] | 1L |
| 12. Worker Training and Competency | Lack of work-specific training, Misunderstanding safety protocols | 3H | [REDACTED] | 1L |

SAMPLE

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| | | | [REDACTED] | |
| 13. Equipment Maintenance | Equipment malfunction, Improper maintenance procedures | 3H | [REDACTED] | 1L |
| 14. Fatigue Management | Reduced concentration, Increased reaction times | 3H | [REDACTED] | 2M |
| 15. Crisis Communication Plan | Misinformation spread, Delayed information relay | 3H | [REDACTED] | 1L |

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| | | | <div style="background-color: black; height: 15px; width: 100%;"></div> <div style="background-color: black; height: 15px; width: 80%;"></div> <div style="background-color: black; height: 15px; width: 90%;"></div> <div style="background-color: black; height: 15px; width: 95%;"></div> <div style="background-color: black; height: 15px; width: 100%;"></div> <div style="background-color: black; height: 15px; width: 90%;"></div> <div style="background-color: black; height: 15px; width: 85%;"></div> | |
| | | | | |
| | | | | |

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.

