

Art Installation

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. WHS Leadership, Governance & PCBU Duties	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lack of clear WHS accountability for art installation activities under WHS Act 2011 (PCBU duties not defined or understood) Inadequate WHS policy framework specific to public art, large sculptures and temporary installations Insufficient WHS resourcing for planning, consultation, supervision and monitoring of installation works Failure to integrate WHS obligations into contracts with artists, fabricators, installers and transport providers Poor due diligence by officers in verifying that WHS risks for large sculptures are being effectively managed 	4A	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop and endorse a WHS governance framework that explicitly covers public art projects and large sculpture installations in line with WHS Act 2011 and WHS Regulations 2011 Assign and document PCBU roles and responsibilities (client, principal contractor, installation contractor, artist, transport provider) with clear WHS accountability lines and reporting lines Ensure officers exercise due diligence by requiring regular WHS reporting on major installations, including risk profiles, incidents and verification of critical controls Embed WHS requirements for sculpture delivery and installation within procurement, contracts and service agreements, including mandatory compliance with relevant Australian Standards and Codes of Practice Allocate specific WHS budget and competent resources for planning, design review, engineering verification and ongoing WHS coordination for each significant art installation project Implement a structured WHS management plan template for public art projects, including risk assessment, consultation, communication, change management and emergency planning 	3H
2. Design & Engineering of Sculptures and Footings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Inadequate structural design of large sculptures or supporting plinths and footings leading to collapse or component failure Insufficient consideration of wind loading, crowd loading, impact forces, and dynamic loading during installation and in-service life Lack of engineering verification or certification for lifting points, anchor systems and connection details Use of materials not suitable for outdoor exposure, corrosion environment, or expected life of the artwork Design features that create crush, shear, entrapment or impalement hazards to installers or members of the public Failure to consider maintenance access in the design, leading to unsafe future work at height or over public areas 	4A	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establish a formal design review and verification process requiring the engagement of qualified structural engineers experienced with public art and large structures Mandate documented engineering certification for sculpture structural integrity, lifting lugs, anchor systems, footing design and fixings, in accordance with relevant Australian Standards (e.g. AS/NZS 1170, AS 4100, AS 3990, AS 5216, AS 4991) Require early WHS and constructability reviews during concept and detailed design phases to address installation methodology, temporary stability, access and maintenance requirements Specify material standards, corrosion protection systems and design life criteria in design briefs and contracts, with documented engineering assessment of durability and inspection requirements Implement a formal hazard identification process for the completed design (e.g. sharp edges, pinch points, climbability, fall-from-height potential, moving elements) with engineering or design modifications to eliminate or minimise these hazards Ensure design documentation clearly defines safe load paths, approved lifting points, centre-of-gravity information and any temporary propping or bracing required during installation Develop a register of design assumptions and constraints (e.g. ground conditions, allowable loads, vehicle access limits) that must be validated prior to installation 	2M

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3. Site Selection, Planning & Stakeholder Approvals	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Selection of installation locations with inadequate ground bearing capacity or undocumented underground services • Insufficient planning for interaction with existing traffic, pedestrians, nearby businesses and public events • Lack of coordination with asset owners (utilities, councils, building owners) leading to conflict with underground or overhead services • Failure to obtain required planning, building, road occupancy and public space permits before installation activities commence • Crowd mismanagement during high-profile installations or openings, leading to uncontrolled encroachment into work areas 	4A	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implement a formal site selection and feasibility assessment procedure requiring review of survey data, geotechnical information, existing services drawings and site access constraints • Require documented service location activities (e.g. Dig before You Dig enquiries, ground-penetrating radar, potholing) before finalising footing design and installation methodology • Integrate art installation planning into existing traffic and pedestrian management systems, including early consultation with local council, road authorities, facility managers and emergency services • Establish a project approval checklist covering planning permissions, building approvals, road occupancy licence, crane permits, public space hire and event approvals, with clear responsibility and lead times • Develop project-specific stakeholder communication plans covering retailers, residents, building occupants and facility managers, including advance notifications and complaint management channels • Embed crowd management strategies (barriers, marshals, communication, scheduling outside peak periods) into event and installation management procedures, particularly for high-profile sculptures 	2M
4. Procurement & Contract Management (Artists, Fabricators, Installers)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Engagement of artists, fabricators or installers without adequate WHS competence or systems • Contracts that do not clearly allocate WHS responsibilities or require compliance with Work Health and Safety Regulations 2011 • Price-driven procurement that encourages shortcuts in engineering, material quality, transport or installation • Inadequate prequalification and verification of contractor licences, insurance, training and plant certification • Lack of alignment between artist's intent and practical, safe installation and maintenance requirements 	3H	<p>[REDACTED]</p>	2M
5. Fabrication Quality Assurance & Pre-Installation Verification	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Manufacturing defects, poor weld quality or non-conforming materials compromising structural integrity 	4A	<p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p>	2M

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Incorrect or undocumented installation of lifting points, connection details or internal stiffening • Lack of traceability for critical components such as bolts, anchors, chains, shackles or slings supplied with the artwork • Inadequate surface treatment or protective coatings leading to premature corrosion and loss of strength • Failure to verify dimensions and tolerances, causing misalignment, forced fitting or unexpected loads during installation 		[REDACTED]	
6. Structural & Geotechnical Verification of Foundations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Footings or foundations not designed or constructed to support the mass and dynamic loads of large sculptures and installation equipment • Undocumented ground conditions leading to settlement, tilting or failure of foundations • Inadequate verification that as-built reinforcement, anchor bolts or concrete strength meet design requirements • Uncontrolled modification of existing structures, slabs or building elements to accept sculpture loads • Lack of consideration of adjacent structures, basements or services that may be affected by footing loads 	4A	[REDACTED]	2M
7. Transport, Loading & Route Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Overloading of transport vehicles or inadequate load restraint for large or irregular sculptures • Unplanned transport routes that conflict with low bridges, tight turns, overhead wires or weak pavements 	4A	[REDACTED]	2M

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Poor coordination between transport schedules and site readiness, causing rushed or out-of-hours operations Lack of permits or escorts for oversize/overmass loads, increasing interaction risks with public traffic Insufficient verification of transport contractor competence, vehicle roadworthiness and driver fatigue management systems 		[REDACTED]	
8. Lifting Operations & Crane Coordination	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Inadequate planning and engineering of lifting operations for heavy, awkward or fragile sculptures Incorrect selection or configuration of cranes, rigging gear or lifting points Poor communication and role clarity between crane operators, riggers, riggers and site management Uncontrolled interaction between crane operations, public traffic, pedestrians or adjacent work activities Failure of temporary stability during intermediate stages of lifting or positioning the sculpture 		[REDACTED]	2M
9. Construction Site Establishment & Public Interface	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Poorly defined site boundaries leading to public entering exclusion zones during delivery and installation Inadequate separation between installation works and live traffic, shared paths or building entrances 	3H	[REDACTED]	2M

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Insufficient signage, lighting or wayfinding for detours and alternative access routes Uncoordinated activities with other contractors or events on or near the site Poor housekeeping creating trip hazards, impalement risks or unauthorised access to tools and plant 		[REDACTED]	
10. Worker Competency, Training & Induction	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Workers and contractors lacking competency in handling large, irregular loads and complex installations Insufficient understanding of specific risks associated with unique sculptures, materials and installation techniques Inadequate induction to site-specific conditions, emergency arrangements and public interface risks Over-reliance on key individuals with specialist knowledge without adequate backup or documentation Language or literacy barriers preventing workers from understanding procedures and control measures 	3H	[REDACTED]	2M
11. Fatigue, Scheduling & Resource Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Compressed programs leading to extended working hours, fatigue and impaired decision-making during critical lifts or installation stages Night-time or weekend work undertaken without adequate supervision, lighting or support services Concurrent deadlines (e.g. public opening events) creating pressure to work in adverse weather or ignore hold points 	3H	[REDACTED]	2M

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Insufficient crew numbers leading to manual handling of heavy items or unsafe short cuts • Poor coordination between multiple contractors causing delays, idle time and rush at key milestones 		[REDACTED]	
12. Change Management & Design Variations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Uncontrolled changes to sculpture design, dimensions, materials or weight after initial engineering and risk assessment • Last-minute changes to installation method, plant or sequencing without re-assessment of risks • Undocumented field modifications to footings, fixings or lifting points • Poor communication of design changes between artist, engineer, fabricator and installer • Inconsistent drawing revisions leading to construction based on superseded information 	3H	[REDACTED]	2M
13. Emergency Planning & Incident Response	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lack of coordinated emergency plans for crane incidents, partial collapse or uncontrolled movement of sculptures during installation • Inadequate integration with local emergency services and facility emergency procedures • Insufficient provision for first aid, rescue from height or recovery of suspended loads • Poor communication systems for rapidly clearing the public from affected areas in an emergency 	3H	[REDACTED]	2M

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Failure to investigate and learn from near misses or minor incidents during deliveries and installations 		[REDACTED]	
14. Environmental, Weather & Site Condition Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Adverse weather (high wind, rain, heat, storms) affecting crane stability, sculpture handling or footing integrity during installation Unexpected ground conditions such as soft spots, voids or underground obstructions identified during works Poor drainage causing erosion or undermining around foundations after installation Environmental controls not aligned with WHS controls, leading to conflicting priorities on site Dust, noise or vibration impacts on neighbours creating pressure to rush or alter work practices unsafely 	3H	[REDACTED]	2M
15. Handover, Documentation & Long-Term Stability Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Insufficient transfer of critical safety information about the sculpture to the asset owner or facility manager Lack of documented inspection, maintenance and re-certification requirements for long-term stability and public safety Unauthorised modifications, relocations or attachments to sculptures after installation (e.g. lighting, signage, climbing features) Inadequate controls over access for future maintenance, cleaning or repairs, leading to unsafe work practices 	3H	[REDACTED]	2M

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Loss of design and engineering records over the life of the artwork, preventing informed decision-making 		[REDACTED]	
16. WHS Performance Monitoring, Audit & Continuous Improvement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lack of systematic monitoring of WHS performance across multiple art installation projects Non-conformances in risk controls not being identified or corrected in a timely manner Repeat incidents or near misses due to poor organisational learning Over-reliance on paperwork (SWMS, risk assessments) without field verification of actual practice Inadequate worker and stakeholder feedback mechanisms on safety issues during installations 	3H	[REDACTED]	1L

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 2025
 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) Regulation 2011
 Legislation NT: <https://worksafe.nt.gov.au/laws-and-compliance/workplace-safety-laws>
 Codes of Practice NT: <https://worksafe.nt.gov.au/factsheets-and-resources/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.