Cement Rendering

Business Name:	ABN:	
Business Address:		
Contact Person:	Phone:	Email:

THIS RISK ASSESSMENT IS APPROVED BY THE PCBU OF THE 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:

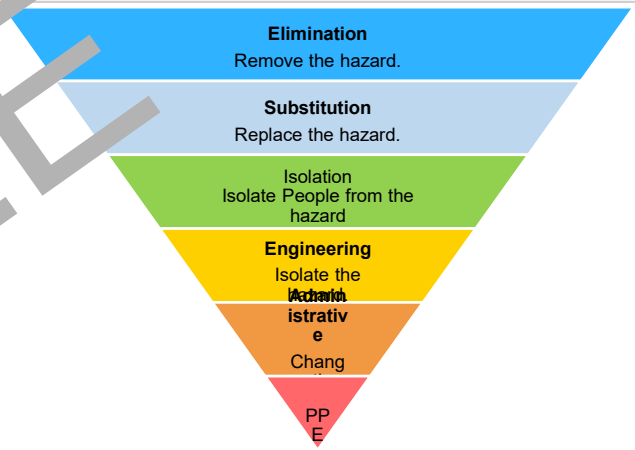
CLIENT OR PRINCIPAL CONTRACTOR DETAILS

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
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	Rev before work
UNLIKELY	1 LOW	1 LOW	2 MODERATE	3 HIGH	4 ACU	2M MO RATE	Ensure control measures in place.
RARE	1 LOW	1 LOW	2 MODERATE	3 HIGH	3 H	1L LOW	Monitor and keep records.

HIERARCHY OF CONTROLS



Risk Rating & Required Action:

4A	Stop work. The risk is intolerable. E inate the hazar redesign the activity before proceeding. A Safe Work Method Statement (SWMS) or hi er-level authorisati is required.
3H	Review and approve additional c rols b ask arts. Senior supervisor sign-off needed.
2M	Ensure all nominated controls are in ace and effe ive. 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 Governance, Roles and Consultation for Cement Rendering Operations	• Absence of a documented WHS management system specific to cement rendering activities (column rendering, mortar spraying, external walls, screeds, plant use) • Unclear WHS roles, responsibilities and accountability for supervisors, leading hands and subcontractors • Inadequate worker consultation mechanisms leading to poor reporting of hazards (e.g. dust exposure, manual handling, plant defects) • Failure to integrate WHS Act 2011 duties (PCBU, officers, workers, subcontractors) into contracts and site management plans • Lack of due diligence by officers in monitoring safety performance of rendering activities across multiple sites • Inconsistent application of client principal contractor WHS requirements to rendering subcontractors	High	• Develop and implement a documented WHS Management Plan for cement rendering operations that specifically addresses column rendering, mortar sprayers, external wall rendering, rendering plant and screed preparation before tiling, aligned to the WHS Act 2011 and WHS Regulations • Define and document WHS roles, responsibilities and authority for officers, project managers, site supervisors, leading hands, HSRs and workers involved in rendering, including authority to cease or modify unsafe work • Establish formal consultation arrangements (e.g. toolbox talks, pre-start meetings, safety committees, HSR network) that specifically include cement rendering risks such as silica dust, hazardous substances, working at height and plant use • Embed WHS requirements for rendering work into procurement and subcontractor agreements, including mandatory compliance with specific WHS plans, permits and reporting obligations • Implement an ongoing due diligence framework (e.g. quarterly WHS performance reviews, site inspections, WHS KPI dashboard) that includes leading and lagging indicators for rendering work (dust monitoring results, incident trends, training completion, inspection close-out rates) • Ensure alignment of company WHS systems with principal contractor and client WHS expectations via pre-start coordination meetings, documented interface agreements and periodic joint audits of rendering activities • Maintain and regularly review WHS policies (e.g. fitness for work, drugs and alcohol, PPE, consultation, incident reporting) to ensure they remain current and are communicated and explained to all workers and subcontractors	Medium
2. Procurement and Management of Materials, Plant and Equipment for Rendering	• Procurement of cement, lime, sand, premix render and admixtures without reviewing safety data sheets (SDS) for health classifications (e.g. crystalline silica content) • Selection of rendering equipment (mortar sprayers, mixers, pumps, trowelling machines) without considering safety features, guarding and dust control options • Use of incompatible or non-compliant scaffolds, mobile platforms or mechanical aids for external wall and column rendering • Inadequate specification of vacuum extraction and water suppression systems for cutting, mixing or grinding associated with rendering and screeds	High	• Establish a formal procurement procedure requiring WHS review and approval of all rendering materials (cement products, additives, premix bags) and verification that current SDS (within 5 years) are obtained and stored in a central register • Standardise selection of rendering plant and equipment (mortar sprayers, pumps, mixers, grinders, screed machines) with minimum WHS specifications including guarding, emergency stops, noise and vibration performance, and dust control capability • Specify and procure dust control systems (e.g. H-class vacuums, on-tool extraction, water suppression) and compatible accessories as part of any purchase or hire of cutting, grinding and mixing equipment associated with rendering and screed preparation • Implement a pre-qualification checklist for all hired plant (scaffolds, EWPs, hoists, mixers, sprayers) that includes evidence of inspection, compliance plates, manuals, and safe operating procedures from suppliers • Develop an approved products list for rendering materials and plant, with WHS criteria (low dust formulations where practicable, reduced chromate cement where relevant, ergonomic tool design) and require project managers to purchase only from this list • Include lifecycle cost and WHS performance (maintenance, breakdown history, incident/near miss history) in procurement decisions for key rendering equipment rather than initial purchase price alone	Medium

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	• Supply chain pressure leading to use of cheaper materials that create higher dust, fume or skin irritation risk • Lack of standardisation in plant and equipment across projects, making training, maintenance and inspection inconsistent		• Periodically review procurement outcomes with supervisors and workers to capture feedback on safety, usability and reliability of rendering materials and equipment and adjust preferred supplier arrangements accordingly	
3. Competency, Licensing and Training for Rendering Personnel	• Workers performing cement rendering, mortar spraying and screed installation without verified competency or trade qualifications • Inadequate training on health risks associated with respirable crystalline silica, cement burns, hazardous chemicals and noise from rendering plant • Lack of formal training and verification of competency for operating mortar sprayers, mixers, pumps, scaffolds, EWPs and other powered plant used in rendering external walls and columns • Supervisors not trained in risk management, WHS legislation and incident investigation s[illegible]o high-ris[illegible] construction tasks • Inconsistent indu[illegible]on proce[illegible] subcontracted rend[illegible]d short-t[illegible]n workers across multiple sites • No structured refresher training program leading to skill fa[illegible]d normalisation of deviance in work practices	High	• Implement a com[illegible]manag[illegible]ent system for rendering roles that specifies minimum qualifications, licences and ex[illegible]ience fo[illegible]ender[illegible] screeder[illegible] plant operators and supervisors and requires documented [illegible]rification pri[illegible]to alloca[illegible]n of[illegible]ties • Provi[illegible] target[illegible] traini[illegible] covering healt[illegible] hazards of cement products and silica (asthma, COPD, silicos[illegible], skin burn[illegible] equired control measures, and legislative duties under the WHS Act 2011 and releva[illegible] R[illegible]ulation[illegible]nd Codes of Practice • Ensur[illegible] wor[illegible]rs ope[illegible]g mortar sprayers, mixers, pumps, hoists, scaffolds and EWPs hold appropriate licences[illegible]r evi[illegible]nce of competency, and maintain a central register of licences, VOCs and expiry dates • D[illegible]lop[illegible]nd deliver supervisor training modules on WHS risk management for rendering, including how to cond[illegible]isk assessments, verify implementation of controls (e.g. dust control, fall prevention), and [illegible]spond to incidents or non-conformances • S[illegible]ndardise project and site-specific WHS inductions for all rendering personnel, including subcontractors, to cover hazards and controls for column rendering, external wall rendering, screed preparation and plant operations • Introduce periodic refresher training (e.g. annually or when new plant/process introduced) on key topics such as silica control hierarchy, manual handling for rendering, working at heights, and emergency response to chemical exposures • Maintain attendance records, assessment outcomes and VOC documentation in a learning management system and use this data to trigger reminders for expiring licences and overdue refreshers	Medium
4. Planning, Design and Methodology for Rendering Activities	• Rendering methodology not planned in consultation with design, engineering and principal contractor, leading to unsafe access, inadequate working platforms or congested workspaces • Failure to integrate cement rendering (including columns and external walls) and screed works into the overall construction program, causing time pressure and overlapping trades in confined areas	High	[redacted]	Medium

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	• Lack of consideration for structural capacity of substrates, formwork or temporary supports when applying heavy render or screeds prior to tiling • Inadequate planning for mixing locations, waste handling, slurry management and water runoff control • Insufficient planning of ventilation and dust management for internal rendering or screed works in partially enclosed spaces • Failure to plan for safe delivery, storage and movement of bulk materials (cement, sand, premix) to elevated work areas		[redacted]	
5. Exposure to Silica Dust, Cement and Other Hazardous Substances	• Uncontrolled respirable crystalline silica exposure during mixing, spraying, trowelling, cutting or grinding associated with rendering and screed preparation • Skin and eye irritation or chemical burns from contact with wet cement, lime and admixtures • Inhalation of ceme dust and additives during handling of y bags and loading of mixers or morta prayers • Lack of up-to-date SDS, hazardous chemicals registers and risk assessments for rendering prod s across sites • Inadequate implementation of health monitoring for workers with potential significant silica exposure • Poor housekeeping resulting in build-up of dust on surfaces, equipment and clothing and secondary exposure	High	[redacted]	Medium
6. Plant and Equipment Management for Rendering Operations	• Use of uninspected or poorly maintained mortar sprayers, mixers, pumps and other plant causing mechanical failure, entanglement, electric shock or pressure injuries	High	[redacted]	Medium

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SPECIFIC WORK STEPS	HAZARDS THAT MAY ARISE	INITIAL RISK	SPECIFIC MEASURES TO BE PUT IN PLACE TO ELIMINATE OR CONTROL THE RISKS	RESIDUAL RISK
	• Lack of lock-out/tag-out systems for faulty rendering plant and equipment • Inadequate guarding and interlocks on moving parts of mixers and sprayers • Electrical hazards from extension leads, temporary power supplies and wet environments around rendering and screed mixing areas • Inconsistent pre-use inspection practices and undocumented defect reporting for rendering plant • Noise and vibration exposure from continuous operation of rendering machinery without management controls		[redacted]	
7. Working at Height and Access Systems for External and Column Rendering	• Inadequate planning and control of scaffolds, mobile platforms or EWPs used for rendering exte[illegible]ls and columns • Poor interface m[illegible]agement b[illegible]n rendering crews ar[illegible]ers lea[illegible]g to uncontrolled alterations of scaffold configurations • Use of improvised acce[illegible]ods (e.g. ladders used as work platforms) due to schedule pressure or lack of suitable access systems • Insufficient supervision of fall prevention systems and edge protection during rendering and screed works at height • Overloading of platforms or scaffolds with bags of cement, sand, plant and waste materials • Limited emergency and rescue planning for falls or access system failures during rendering activities	High	[redacted]	Medium

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8. Manual Handling, Ergonomics and Workload Management in Rendering	• Repetitive manual handling of cement bags, sand, premix render, buckets and tools leading to musculoskeletal disorders • Awkward postures and sustained overhead work during column and external wall rendering • Inadequate planning for mechanical aids or material hoists resulting in excessive carrying of loads over distance or up stairs • Time pressure and unrealistic productivity targets encouraging unsafe lifting and handling practices • Lack of structured rotation of tasks between heavy manual and lighter duties, increasing cumulative strain • Insufficient consideration of ergonomic design when procuring plant, tools and accessories for rendering and screed operations	High	[redacted]	Medium
9. Environmental, Housekeeping and Waste Management in Rendering Works	• Uncontrolled slurry, wash-water and cement waste disposal leading to slip hazards and environmental harm • Poor housekeeping around mixing areas, hoses and plant causing trip hazards and restricted emergency access • Inadequate segregation and containment of render and screed waste resulting in airborne dust and contamination of other work areas • Blocked access to emergency equipment (fire extinguishers, eye wash stations) due to accumulation of materials and waste • Lack of systematic cleaning schedule for rendering plant and work zones leading to build-up of residues and increased risk of slips, trips and falls	Medium	[redacted]	Low

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SPECIFIC WORK STEPS	HAZARDS THAT MAY ARISE	INITIAL RISK	SPECIFIC MEASURES TO BE PUT IN PLACE TO ELIMINATE OR CONTROL THE RISKS	RESIDUAL RISK
	• Non-compliance with client or regulatory environmental requirements for stormwater, sediment and waste control from rendering operations		[redacted]	
10. Contractor, Subcontractor and Labour Hire Management for Rendering	• Use of subcontracted renderers and screed installers without adequate pre-qualification of their WHS systems and competencies • Inconsistent communication of site-specific rendering hazards and controls to subcontractors and labour hire workers • Gaps in supervision and monitoring where multiple subcontractors are engaged across adjoining rendering workfaces • Unclear allocation of WHS responsibilities between PCBU, principal contractor and subcontracted rendering companies • Subcontractors using their own plant and materials that do not meet the principal contractor's or PCBU's WHS requirements • Labour hire work[redacted]s not integrated into incident reporting, [redacted]nsulta[redacted] training systems for [redacted]ing activit[redacted]	High	[redacted]	Medium
11. Incident Management, Reporting and Corrective Actions in Rendering Operations	• Under-reporting of near misses, [redacted]or injuries and unsafe condi[redacted]ing rendering and screed works • Inadequate investigation of incidents involving rendering plant, silica exposure, falls or manual handling, leading to repeat events • Lack of a structured process for implementing and tracking corrective actions arising from incidents and inspections • Failure to notify regulators of notifiable incidents as required under the WHS Act 2011	Medium	[redacted]	Low

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SPECIFIC WORK STEPS	HAZARDS THAT MAY ARISE	INITIAL RISK	SPECIFIC MEASURES TO BE PUT IN PLACE TO ELIMINATE OR CONTROL THE RISKS	RESIDUAL RISK
	• Poor feedback loops to workers and subcontractors on lessons learned and changes to rendering procedures • Inconsistent record keeping of incidents, health monitoring outcomes and exposure data related to rendering hazards		[redacted]	
12. Emergency Preparedness and Health Management for Rendering Activities	• Lack of tailored emergency procedures for cement rendering incidents such as chemical splashes, dust inhalation events or plant entrapment • Insufficient availability and maintenance of first aid equipment relevant to rendering hazards (eye wash, burn treatment, respiratory distress) • Workers unaware of emergency response roles, assembly points and communication protocols while performing rendering and screed tasks • Inadequate planning fo[redacted]stress, dehydration and fati[redacted]among rendering crews w[redacted]king outdoors or in enclosed spaces • No integration of hea[redacted]monitoring, fitness for work and return-to-work processes with the specific risks [redacted] rendering tasks • Limited coordination of emergency arrangements with principal contractor and other PCBUs on multi-employer sites	Me[redacted]	[redacted]	Low

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

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-of-codes-of-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/forms-and-resources/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

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.

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

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

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