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

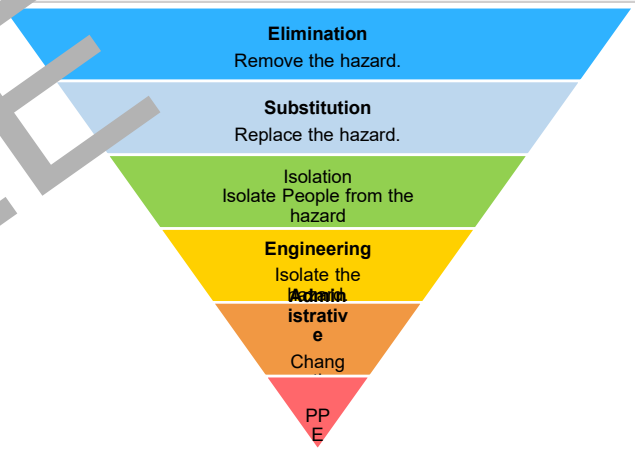
THIS RISK ASSESSMENT IS APPROVED BY THE PCBU OF THE PROJECT		
Under the Work Health and Safety Regulation (WHS Regulation), a person conducting a business or undertaking (PCBU) is required to ensure that a RISK ASSESSMENT is prepared before the proposed work starts.		
Full Name:		
Signature:	Title:	Date:

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 & Legislative Compliance	• Lack of clear WHS responsibilities for cladding activities under WHS Act 2011 and WHS Regulations • Inadequate understanding of duties for PCBUs, officers, workers and subcontractors in relation to cladding systems • Failure to integrate cladding risks into the overarching WHS management system and project WHS plan • Non-compliance with National Construction Code (NCC), relevant Australian Standards and state-based cladding requirements • Poor consultation mechanisms with Health and Safety Representatives (HSRs) and workers involved in cladding works • Inadequate WHS monitoring, auditing and management review of cladding-related risks	4A	• Develop and maintain a project-specific WHS Management Plan that explicitly identifies cladding-related activities including external wall cladding, façade cladding, polystyrene cladding installation, and cladding removal using EWP, rope access and swing stage • Assign clear WHS roles, responsibilities and accountabilities for cladding system design, procurement, installation, maintenance and removal, documented in position descriptions and project organisational charts • Ensure officers exercise due diligence by regularly reviewing cladding risk registers, audit outcomes and legal obligations, and by allocating sufficient resources for safe cladding operations • Reference and comply with the National Construction Code, relevant Australian Standards (e.g. AS 1562 for cladding, AS 1891 for fall protection, AS 2550 for EWPs, AS 1576 for scaffolds) and applicable state cladding guidelines within company procedures • Embed mandatory WHS consultation processes (toolbox talks, safety committees, pre-start briefings) focused on cladding and façade works, capturing feedback from workers and subcontractors • Schedule periodic internal and external WHS audits targeting cladding governance, including review of permits, competency records, inspection reports and incident investigations • Maintain a cladding-specific risk register at project and organisational level, reviewed at set intervals and after any incident, design change or significant weather event • Implement a documented contractor management procedure that requires all cladding contractors to demonstrate WHS systems aligned with WHS Act 2011 obligations	3H
2. Design, Engineering & Product Selection for Cladding Systems	• Use of non-compliant combustible cladding products that do not meet NCC or performance requirements • Inadequate structural design for cladding on façades and high surfaces leading to panel failure or detachment • Poor integration of building wrap, vapour barriers and insulation resulting in condensation, mould and degradation • Insufficient consideration of wind loads and securing methods for panels, especially when securing panels on windy days and at height • Lack of engineered details for corners, junctions and penetrations requiring trimming cladding to fit corners and sealing cladding edges • Failure to consider future maintenance, access and safe removal/installation	4A	• Implement a formal design management procedure requiring competent registered design practitioners to sign off cladding and façade designs, including external wall cladding, polystyrene cladding installation and building wrap integration • Specify only NCC-compliant cladding products with documented fire performance, durability and structural properties, supported by third-party certification and traceable product documentation • Require structural engineering certification for cladding support systems, fixings and interfaces, including for fixing cladding to high surfaces and façades exposed to high wind loads • Ensure design documentation includes detailed drawings and specifications for positioning cladding, preparing surfaces for cladding, sealing cladding edges, trimming to fit corners and securing panels on windy days • Incorporate maintenance and access requirements into the design (e.g. safe anchor points, EWP reach zones, swing stage systems, rope access provisions) and document them in the building's Safety in Design report • Use a formal design review and Design Risk Register process involving engineers, fire engineers and WHS representatives to identify and document inherent cladding risks and controls • Mandate design change control procedures, ensuring any substitution of cladding materials or fixing systems is reviewed and approved by competent designers and fire engineers before implementation	2M

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	methods (EWP, rope access, swing stage) • Design not accounting for differential movement, thermal expansion or building tolerances, resulting in cladding misalignment or cracking		• Document and communicate design limitations and installation tolerances (e.g. acceptable misalignment limits for checking cladding alignment and fit wall cladding requirements) to installers and supervisors	
3. Procurement, Supply Chain & Product Verification	• Procurement of inferior, non-compliant or counterfeit cladding materials due to cost pressures or poor supplier vetting • Lack of traceability of cladding products, including polystyrene cladding, fixings and building wraps • Inadequate verification of compatibility between cladding panels, building wrap, sealants and fixing systems • Incomplete or inaccurate documentation (e.g. material data sheets, fire ratings, installation manuals) • Failure to control product substitution during the project lifecycle • Logistics issues leading to damaged or warped cladding panels installation	3H	• Establish a cladding procurement procedure that requires pre-qualification of suppliers based on compliance with NCC, Australian Standards and fire performance criteria • Require all cladding products, building wraps, fixings and sealants to be supported by certificates of conformity, fire test reports and manufacturer installation instructions before purchase • Implement a product approval process where proposed cladding systems are reviewed and endorsed by the project engineer, fire engineer and [redacted] manager prior to ordering • Maintain a product traceability system (e.g. batch numbers, delivery dockets, product registers) that links installed cladding to specific documentation and supplier details • Prohibit unapproved product substitutions by requiring formal change requests, risk assessments and designer sign-off for any change in material, thickness, fixing method or sealant type • Develop and enforce goods receipting and inspection procedures to identify damaged, non-conforming or incorrectly labelled cladding products upon delivery, with quarantine and non-conformance reporting • Include compatibility checks for building wraps, vapour barriers, adhesives and sealants with the selected cladding material to prevent degradation or loss of performance over time • Train procurement and site management personnel on cladding-specific compliance requirements and red flags for non-compliant products	2M
4. Cladding Installation Planning & Coordination	• Lack of integrated planning for multiple cladding activities (preparing surfaces, building wrap installation, positioning cladding, fixing cladding [redacted] surfaces, sealing edges) • Poor sequencing with other trades leading to congestion, rework, and unsafe interfaces on façades and perimeters • Inadequate planning for weather conditions, particularly wind and rain during securing panels on windy days and building wrap installation • Failure to allocate sufficient time and resources, resulting in rushed installation and compromised quality	3H	[redacted]	2M

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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
	• Inadequate planning for removal and replacement of existing cladding using EWP, rope access or swing stage • No formal system to manage high-risk construction work (HRCW) associated with cladding at height and near live edges		[redacted]	
5. Competency, Licensing & Training for Cladding Works	• Workers performing cladding installation, cutting and removal tasks without appropriate competency or supervision • Inadequate training for EWP, rope access and swing stage operations associated with cladding removal and installation • Lack of specific training on handling polystyrene cladding, combustible materials and building wrap systems • Poor understanding of tolerances for checking cladding alignment, trimming to fit corners and sealing edges • Insufficient training in hazard identification and risk management for cladding works at height and along façades • Supervisors not competent in reviewing quality of fit wall cladding and securing panels on windy days	3H	[redacted]	2M
6. Site Access, Work at Height & Façade Access Systems	• Inadequate design, installation or inspection of EWPs, rope access and swing stages used for cladding removal and installation • Poor planning of anchor points and rope access systems for cladding façades and high surfaces	4A	[redacted]	2M

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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
	• Failure of guardrails, scaffolds or edge protection where external wall cladding and fit wall cladding are carried out • Unsafe access routes to work zones for positioning cladding and securing panels on windy days • Overloading of swing stages or EWPs with cladding panels, tools and personnel • Inadequate emergency and rescue provisions for workers suspended on rope access or swing stages		[redacted]	
7. Surface Preparation, Building Wrap & Substrate Management	• Inadequate preparing surfaces for cladding leading to poo[illegible]ion, fixings failure or wa[illegible]ingress • Incorrect or incon[illegible]lete buildi[illegible]p installation, causing[illegible], mould[illegible]r reduced thermal performance • Failure to identify and rectify str[illegible]ural substrate defects before [illegible]g structural cladding or external wall cladding • Improper handling or storage of building wrap and substrate materials leading to damage or contamination • Lack of system to verify that penetrations and junctions are sealed before cladding installation proceeds	3H	[redacted]	2M

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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
8. Cladding Alignment, Positioning & Fixing Systems	• Incorrect positioning cladding and checking cladding alignment leading to panel misalignment, structural stress and aesthetic defects • Inadequate fixing design or installation for fixing cladding to high surfaces and façades • Failure to follow manufacturer torque, spacing and fixing pattern requirements for securing panels • Improper use of temporary supports or restraints during positioning and securing panels on windy days • Lack of system to verify fixings and alignment prior to closing in the façade • Insufficient consideration of differential movement and expansion joints during fit wall cladding	3H	[redacted]	2M
9. Cutting, Trimming & Finishing of Cladding Materials	• Uncontrolled cutting cladding materials and trimming cladding to fit corners generating dust, noise and offcuts • Lack of engineering controls for dust from cutting fibre cement or similar materials, increasing respiratory risks • Inadequate systems for managing combustible dust or static from polystyrene cladding installation • Poor control over sharp edges and burrs created during trimming and cutting, leading to laceration risks during handling and fit wall cladding • Inadequate segregation of cutting areas from public or other worker access routes	3H	[redacted]	2M

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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 documented procedures for safe use, inspection and maintenance of cutting equipment		[redacted]	
10. Environmental, Weather & Site Condition Management	• High winds affecting positioning cladding and securing panels on windy days, increasing risk of dropped objects or loss of control • Rain and moisture compromising building wrap installation, surface preparation and sealant curing • Temperature extremes affecting sealant performance, polystyrene cladding installation and handling of materials • Lack of procedures for stopping or modifying cladding work during adverse weather conditions • Wind tunnelling and [illegible] effects unique to high-rise façades during cladding removal and installation via EWP, rope access or swing [illegible]	3H	[redacted]	2M
11. Fire, Combustibility & Emergency Preparedness	• Use or retention of combustible external wall cladding or polystyrene cladding that does not meet current fire performance requirements • Ignition sources present during cutting cladding materials and trimming polystyrene cladding, creating fire risk • Inadequate separation of hot works from cladding tasks, particularly around façades and building wraps • Lack of emergency procedures specific to façade and cladding work zones, including EWP, rope access and swing stages	4A	[redacted]	2M

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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
	• Inadequate egress routes for workers operating on façades, leading to delayed evacuation in an emergency		[redacted]	
12. Health Hazards, Ergonomics & Manual Handling	• Manual handling risks from lifting, positioning and securing large cladding panels on façades and high surfaces • Cumulative strain from repetitive tasks such as fixing, sealing cladding edges and trimming cladding to fit corners • Exposure to dust, noise and vibration from cutting cladding materials without adequate controls • Inadequate systems to manage respiratory hazards from fibre cement or similar products during cutting and drilling • Poor ergonomics associated with working in awkward postures when fitting wall cladding or preparing surfaces for cladding	3H	[redacted]	2M
13. Quality Assurance, Inspection & Defect Management	• Lack of systematic inspection for cladding alignment, fixing integrity and sealing of cladding edges • Failure to detect defects in building wrap installation or substrate preparation before cladding installation • Inadequate documentation of inspections for façade and external wall cladding	3H	[redacted]	1L

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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
	• Pressure to conceal or ignore defects due to program or cost constraints • No structured process for managing and rectifying defects in installed cladding, including high-rise façades		[redacted]	
14. Contractor Management & Interface with Other Trades	• Cladding contractors operating under inconsistent WHS standards compared to principal contractor systems • Poor coordination between cladding teams and other trades working on façades, roofs and perimeters • Inadequate communication about changes affecting cladding works, such as design changes or sequencing adjustments • Confusion over responsibilities for inspection, maintenance and operation of EWPs, rope access systems and swing stages shared by multiple contractors • Risk of simultaneous operations (SIMOPS) around cladding work areas leading to falling object or collision hazards	3H	[redacted]	2M
15. Documentation, Records & Continuous Improvement	• Incomplete or poorly maintained records relating to cladding design, installation, inspection and maintenance • Loss of critical documentation necessary for future verification of cladding compliance or remediation	2M	[redacted]	1L

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	• Failure to capture and act on lessons learned from cladding incidents, near misses or defects • Lack of integration between WHS records, quality records and asset management systems for cladding		[redacted]	

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