

Non-Destructive Testing

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 Governance, Legal Compliance & Due Diligence	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Inadequate understanding of WHS Act 2011 and WHS Regulations as they relate to non-destructive testing (NDT), radiography, corrosion testing and magnetic particle / electromagnetic testing Lack of clear roles, responsibilities and accountability for WHS in NDT operations (PCBU, officers, workers, contractors) Failure of officers to exercise due diligence in relation to radiation safety, hazardous chemicals, confined spaces and plant used for NDT Weak WHS management system integration between client, principal contractor and NDT service provider Inadequate consultation, co-operation and co-ordination of activities between multiple PCBUs at shared worksites No formal review of WHS performance for NDT activities (audits, inspections, incident trends) 	4A	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establish and maintain a documented WHS Management System aligned to WHS Act 2011, WHS Regulations, relevant Codes of Practice and AS/NZS standards for NDT and radiation safety Define and document WHS roles, responsibilities and delegated authorities for company officers, NDT supervisors, radiation safety officers (RSOs), and workers Implement an office due diligence program including WHS briefings, performance reports, and periodic verification of NDT risk controls (e.g. site visits, audits, leadership walks) Develop and enforce a WHS legal register covering radiation, pressure equipment, hazardous chemicals, electrical safety, confined spaces and plant relevant to NDT services Put in place formal consultation arrangements such as WHS committees, toolbox meetings and pre-start coordination meetings with all PCBUs on site Conduct scheduled internal and external WHS audits of NDT operations, including radiation safety audits and licence / registration compliance checks Implement a structured management review process (at least annually) to evaluate WHS performance, incidents and emerging risks in NDT and to update policies and procedures 	3H
2. NDT Method Selection, Job Planning & Engineering Review	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Selection of inappropriate NDT method (e.g. radiography where ultrasonic or magnetic testing would provide lower risk and equivalent outcome) Inadequate engineering review of component design, access, materials leading to unsafe testing conditions Failure to consider interaction between strong magnetic fields, ferrous structures and other plant or medical implants Insufficient planning for work at height, inside confined spaces, in hazardous areas, or near pressurised systems during testing Commercial pressure driving unsafe timeframes or method selection without adequate risk assessment 	4A	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Implement a formal NDT method selection procedure that considers technical suitability, radiation/field exposure, access constraints, environmental conditions and client requirements Require engineering review and sign-off by a competent NDT Level 3 or equivalent technical authority for complex or high-risk tasks (e.g. radiography, strong magnetic field use, critical structural inspections) Mandate pre-job risk assessments and job-specific WHS plans that identify hazards such as height, confined space, electrical, pressure, flammable atmospheres and magnetic interference risks Integrate WHS considerations into all NDT instructions and techniques, including clear limitations and preconditions (e.g. isolation, exclusion zones, ventilation) Introduce a formal variation / change management process where method, access or plant conditions change from the original plan Include explicit criteria to consider non-radiographic alternatives where reasonably practicable to reduce radiation risks Set clear policies around refusal of unsafe work and escalation pathways when commercial or schedule pressures conflict with WHS requirements 	2M

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3. Radiation Safety & Regulatory Control (Industrial Radiography)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Uncontrolled exposure to ionising radiation from radiography sources or X-ray generators due to poor systems or supervision Inadequate licensing and registration of radiation sources, operators and premises as required under state/territory radiation laws Failure to establish and maintain effective exclusion zones and warning systems around radiography activities Loss, theft or misplacement of radioactive sources due to inadequate security arrangements and inventory control Inadequate monitoring of cumulative dose for radiation workers and absence of dosimetry program Poor emergency preparedness for radiation incidents, including source damage, stuck sources or unexpected exposure 	4A	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maintain a Radiation Management Plan and associated procedures compliant with WHS Regulations and applicable state/territory radiation legislation for industrial radiography Ensure all radiographers, assistants and Rooms hold relevant licences/authorisations and that all sources/equipment are registered as required by regulators Implement robust systems for planning and controlling exclusion zones (e.g. barrier design, access control, radiation warning lights/sirens and signage) for each radiography job Maintain a strict radioactive source security protocol including locked storage, transport security, key control, seal integrity checks and real-time inventory tracking Implement a personal dosimetry program for all radiation workers including regular review of dose records, investigation thresholds and specialist health monitoring where required Conduct periodic leak tests and performance checks of radiation sources and X-ray equipment with documented records Develop and test a radiation emergency response plan including stuck source procedures, evacuation, dose assessment, regulator notification and post-incident medical review Conduct independent radiation safety audits at defined intervals and after any significant incident 	2M
4. Strong Magnetic Fields & Electromagnetic Testing Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Adverse interaction between strong magnetic fields and workers with pacemakers, implanted medical devices or metallic implants Attraction of loose ferromagnetic tools or components leading to impact or crush injuries near powerful magnets Interference with nearby electrical or electronic equipment (e.g. control systems, instrumentation) during magnetic particle and electromagnetic testing Inadequate demagnetisation processes leading to downstream hazards (e.g. lifting, machining, instrumentation malfunction) Uncontrolled exposure to strong magnetic fields due to poorly defined exclusion zones and access controls 	3H	<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

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5. Corrosion Testing & Materials Evaluation Systems	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Incorrect interpretation of corrosion or material testing results leading to unsafe plant remaining in service • Lack of systematic inspection intervals for corrosion monitoring and wall thickness testing on critical equipment • Poor traceability and record-keeping of corrosion data, locations and previous inspection outcomes • Failure to integrate corrosion test results into asset integrity / maintenance management systems • Use of incompatible or faulty testing equipment resulting in unreliable readings • No structured peer review or verification process for high-consequence findings 	3H	[REDACTED]	2M
6. Competency, Training & Certification of NDT Personnel	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NDT tasks performed by personnel without appropriate qualifications, certification or supervision (e.g. Level 1 working without Level 2 oversight) • Insufficient training on WHS legislative duties, radiation safety, major hazard and corrosion testing principles • Inadequate competency assessment for new technologies or methods (e.g. phased array, digital radiography) • Training records not maintained or verified, leading to expired certifications or unrecognised gaps • Language, literacy or cultural barriers impacting understanding of procedures and safety requirements 	4A	[REDACTED]	2M
7. Plant, Equipment, Calibration & Maintenance Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Failure of NDT plant or equipment (e.g. radiography cameras, X-ray sets, magnetic yokes, UT units) due to inadequate maintenance systems 	3H	[REDACTED]	2M

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use of out-of-calibration instruments leading to incorrect results and unsafe asset decisions • Lack of formal pre-use inspection and testing regimes for critical NDT equipment and accessories • Use of non-conforming or damaged ancillary equipment (tripods, cables, lifting gear, ladders, scaffolds) during inspections • Inadequate management of obsolete software, firmware or digital imaging systems impacting safety or data integrity 		[REDACTED]	
8. Work Environment, Site Access & Interface with Other Operations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Uncontrolled interaction between NDT activities and concurrent operations (e.g. welding, hot work, crane lifts, process operations) • Poor access to work areas leading to unsafe improvisation for positioning equipment or personnel • Exposure to hazardous atmospheres (flammable, toxic, oxygen-deficient) during NDT in process plants or confined spaces • Environmental extremes (heat, cold, wind, rain) adversely affecting NDT quality and worker safety • Insufficient control of public or third-party access near mobile radiography, magnetic or corrosion testing operations (e.g. in workshops, laydown yards, wharves) 	3H	[REDACTED]	2M
9. Contractor, Subcontractor & Client Interface Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Misalignment between client, principal contractor and NDT provider WHS expectations and standards • Inadequate prequalification of subcontracted NDT providers, including radiation licences and equipment compliance 	3H	[REDACTED]	2M

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Poor communication of site-specific risks, isolation status and emergency procedures to visiting NDT crews Lack of clarity over supervision, authority to stop work and incident reporting responsibilities for contractors Contractual arrangements that incentivise shortcuts or discourage reporting of safety concerns 		[REDACTED]	
10. Fatigue, Remote & After-Hours Work Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fatigue-related errors in NDT interpretation or set-up, especially during night shifts or extended shifts Driving and travel risks to remote or offshore NDT locations without adequate journey management Working alone or in small teams in remote or isolated locations during radiography or magnetic testing Limited access to immediate medical or emergency response for NDT technicians at remote Pressure to continue work when fatigued due to schedule constraints or limited specialist personnel 	3H	[REDACTED]	2M
11. Hazardous Chemicals, Consumables & Waste from NDT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Exposure to hazardous chemicals from penetrant testing, developers, cleaners, corrosion inhibitors and etchants Inadequate labelling, storage and handling of chemical products and radiography processing chemicals (if used) Generation of hazardous waste (e.g. contaminated rags, chemical residues, lead screens) without appropriate disposal systems Chemical incompatibility incidents (e.g. mixing cleaners, use in confined or poorly ventilated areas) 	3H	[REDACTED]	2M

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lack of Safety Data Sheet (SDS) access and training specific to NDT consumables 		[REDACTED]	
12. Information Management, Reporting, Records & Data Integrity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Loss or corruption of NDT records (radiographs, digital images, corrosion data) impacting future asset safety decisions Inadequate traceability between NDT reports, test locations, equipment and personnel Failure to report or analyse near misses, non-conformances and WHS incidents arising from NDT activities Unauthorised access or alteration of NDT results that could compromise plant integrity or regulatory compliance Poor document control leading to use of superseded procedures or techniques 	3H	[REDACTED]	1L
13. Emergency Preparedness & Incident Management for NDT Activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Uncoordinated response to NDT-related emergencies such as radiation overexposure, chemical spills, falls from height or confined space incidents Lack of specific procedures for radioactive sources, damaged X-ray equipment or loss of source containment Inadequate first aid and medical response capability for NDT-related injuries or exposures Poor post-incident investigation and learning processes, leading to recurrence of systemic failures Failure to notify regulators as required for notifiable incidents involving radiation or serious injury 	4A	[REDACTED]	2M
14. Health Monitoring, Radiation Dose &	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Undetected long-term health impacts from chronic low-level ionising radiation exposure in radiography personnel 	3H	[REDACTED]	2M

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Occupational Exposure Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Musculoskeletal disorders from repetitive manual handling of NDT equipment, awkward postures and work in confined spaces • Inadequate health monitoring programs for workers exposed to radiation, noise, chemicals or strong magnetic fields • Failure to recognise and manage individual sensitivity or medical restrictions related to radiation and magnetic fields • Poor linkage between exposure data (dose records, noise monitoring, chemical use) and health monitoring outcomes 		<div style="background-color: black; height: 15px; width: 100%;"></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 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/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.