

## Event Staging | SAFE WORK METHOD STATEMENT (SWMS)

### TASK OR ACTIVITY: Event Staging

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

### THIS SAFE WORK METHOD STATEMENT 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 safe work method statement (SWMS) is prepared before the proposed work starts.

Full Name:		
Signature:	Title:	Date:
Details of the person(s) responsible for ensuring implementation, monitoring compliance of the SWMS as well as reviews and modifications of the SWMS.		
Full Name:	Title:	Phone:

### ALL PERSONNEL PARTICIPATING IN ANY ACTIVITY ON THIS SWMS MUST HAVE THE FOLLOWING COMMUNICATED

Safety meetings or toolbox talks will be scheduled in accordance with legislative requirements to first identify any site hazards, then to communicate those hazards and then to further take steps to either eliminate or control each hazard.

If an incident or a near miss occurs, all work must stop immediately. Depending on the severity of the incident, a meeting will be called with all workers to amend the SWMS if required. The meeting may also be an educational opportunity.

Any changes made to the SWMS after an incident or a near miss must be approved by the Person Conducting Business or Undertaking and communicated to all relevant personnel.

The SWMS must be kept and be available for inspection at least until the work is completed. Where a SWMS is revised, all versions should be kept. If a notifiable incident occurs in relation to which the SWMS relates, then the SWMS must be kept for at least two years from the occurrence of the notifiable incident.

### NAME OF ALL RELEVANT PERSONNEL WHO HAVE BEEN CONSULTED AND COMMUNICATED TO IN THE DEVELOPMENT AND APPROVAL OF THIS SWMS

### CLIENT OR PRINCIPAL CONTRACTOR DETAILS

Client:	SCOPE OF WORKS
Project Name:	
Project Address:	
Project Manager:	
Contact Phone:	
Date SWMS supplied to Project Manager:	

### ANY HIGH-RISK CONSTRUCTION WORK BEING CARRIED OUT

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> involves a risk of a person falling more than 2 meters  | <input type="checkbox"/> is carried out on or near pressurised gas mains or piping                                     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> is carried out on a telecommunication tower   | <input type="checkbox"/> is carried out on or near chemical, fuel or refrigerant lines                                 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> involves demolition of an element of a structure that is load-bearing                           | <input type="checkbox"/> is carried out on or near energised electrical installations or services                      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> involves demolition of an element related to the physical integrity of a structure              | <input type="checkbox"/> is carried out in an area that may have a contaminated or flammable atmosphere                |
| <input type="checkbox"/> involves, or is likely to involve, disturbing asbestos  | <input type="checkbox"/> involves tilt-up or precast concrete  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> involves structural alteration or repair that requires temporary support to prevent collapse    | <input type="checkbox"/> is carried out on, in or adjacent to a road, railway, shipping lane or other traffic corridor |
| <input type="checkbox"/> is carried out in or near a confined space  | <input type="checkbox"/> is carried out in an area of a workplace where there is any movement of powered mobile plant  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> is carried out in/near a shaft or trench deeper than 1.5m or tunnel involving use of explosives | <input type="checkbox"/> is carried out in areas with artificial extremes of temperature.                              |
| <input type="checkbox"/> is carried out in or near water or other liquid that involves a risk of drowning.               | <input type="checkbox"/> involves diving work.   |

### ANY HIGH-RISK MACHINERY OR EQUIPMENT NEARBY

### RISK MATRIX

LIKELIHOOD	INSIGNIFICANT	MINOR	MODERATE	MAJOR	CATASTROPHIC	SCORE	ACTION	HEIRARCHY OF CONTROLS
ALMOST CERTAIN	3 HIGH	3 HIGH	4 ACUTE	4 ACUTE	4 ACUTE			<b>Elimination</b> Remove the hazard.
LIKELY	2 MODERATE	3 HIGH	3 HIGH	4 ACUTE	4 ACUTE	4A ACUTE	DO NOT PROCEED	<b>Substitution</b> Replace the hazard.
POSSIBLE	1 LOW	2 MODERATE	3 HIGH	4 ACUTE	4 ACUTE	3H HIGH	Review before work starts.	<b>Isolation</b> Isolate People from the hazard
UNLIKELY	1 LOW	1 LOW	2 MODERATE	3 HIGH	4 ACUTE	2M MODERATE	Ensure control measures in place.	<b>Engineering</b> Isolate the hazard.
RARE	1 LOW	1 LOW	2 MODERATE	3 HIGH	3 HIGH	1L LOW	Monitor and keep records	<b>Administrative</b> Change the work.
<b>Notes on Hierarchy of Controls:</b> Elimination methods are the most effective and preferred when controlling a hazard. Substitution is the second most effective method of controlling a hazard. Engineering by isolation is the third most effective, while Administrative Controls by changing the work is the fourth most effective method. PPE (Personal Protective Equipment) is the least effective method.								<b>PPE</b>

### PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT (PPE)

Select the appropriate PPE above suitable for the equipment used or the job task being performed (if applicable).

FOOT PROTECTION	HAND PROTECTION	HEAD PROTECTION	HEARING PROTECTION	EYE PROTECTION	RESPIRATORY PROTECTION	FACE PROTECTION	HIGH-VIS CLOTHING	PROTECTIVE CLOTHING	FALL PROTECTION	SUN PROTECTION	HAIR/JEWELLERY SECURED
											
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Other PPE Required:

### Permit or Licenses Requirements

### Mandatory Qualifications and Training

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
Pre-start planning and approvals	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Inadequate site information</li> <li>Unclear roles and responsibilities</li> <li>Conflicting work activities</li> <li>Insufficient emergency access</li> <li>Unverified contractor competence</li> </ul>	3H	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Obtain current site plans, event layout drawings and utility service locations from the client or venue manager before commencing work</li> <li>Review WHS Regulations, local council requirements and venue conditions of entry specific to temporary structures and event staging</li> <li>Develop and approve a site-specific Event Staging, SWMS and Construction Management Plan prior to mobilising to site</li> <li>Conduct a pre-start meeting with workers to explain work scope, sequencing, SWMS controls, exclusion zones and communication methods</li> <li>Verify high risk construction work activities such as working at heights, scaffolding and dogging/rigging are identified and authorised</li> <li>Confirm that all contractors hold relevant high risk work licences, VOCs and tickets for rigging, scaffolding, cones and elevated work platforms</li> <li>Coordinate work schedules with other contractors to eliminate overlap where possible and minimise simultaneous operations in shared areas</li> <li>Establish emergency response procedures for falls, crush injuries, electrical shock and structural collapse and display site emergency contacts</li> <li>Nominate a site supervisor with authority to stop work if SWMS controls are not implemented or conditions change</li> <li>Record attendance at pre-starts and toolbox talks and keep copies of licences, SWMS and permits available on site for inspection</li> </ul>	2M
Site inspection and ground preparation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Uneven or unstable ground</li> <li>Subsurface services strike</li> <li>Uncontrolled vehicle movement</li> <li>Slip trip and fall hazards</li> <li>Poor lighting or visibility</li> </ul>	3H	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Walk the entire work area with the venue representative to identify gradients, soft spots, pits, drains and overhead obstructions</li> <li>Review Dial Before You Dig information and any venue service plans before driving stakes, pins or ground anchors</li> <li>Mark known underground services on the ground using high visibility paint or flags and establish no-penetration exclusion zones over them</li> <li>Level minor ground undulations using suitable fill or proprietary levelling systems before placing stage modules or scaffold bases</li> <li>Install timber sole plates, base plates or spreader beams under scaffolds, grandstands and bleachers on soft or paved surfaces</li> <li>Set up designated plant and delivery vehicle access routes with cones and barrier mesh to separate vehicles from pedestrians</li> <li>Install temporary lighting towers or portable work lights where natural light is inadequate for safe assembly and inspections</li> </ul>	2M

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			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Remove loose debris, rubbish, cords and offcuts from walkways and work platforms as part of continuous housekeeping</li> <li>Erect warning signage at ramps, changes in level and restricted access areas</li> <li>DO NOT position structures in swales, over service pits or on areas identified as unstable by the venue engineer</li> </ul>	
Material delivery and manual handling	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Falling objects from vehicles</li> <li>Crush injury from shifting loads</li> <li>Musculoskeletal strain</li> <li>Uncontrolled pallet movement</li> <li>Hand and foot impact injuries</li> </ul>	3H	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Schedule deliveries during low pedestrian activity and use spotters to keep the load/unload zone clear of bystanders</li> <li>Verify that utes, trucks and trailers are parked on level ground with park brake applied and wheels chocked if required</li> <li>Inspect load restraints before releasing chains, straps or dog clips and only release restraints from the non-load side where practicable</li> <li>Use mechanical aids such as pallet jacks, trolleys, dollies and forklifts to move staging decks, truss, bleacher components and AV racks</li> <li>Team lift stage deck, truss sections and grandstand frames where weight or bulk exceeds one-person safe handling limits</li> <li>Wear cut resistant gloves and steel capped safety boots when handling metal edges, pins, clamps and heavy components</li> <li>Store materials in stable, interlocked stacks not higher than shoulder level unless racked or mechanically handled</li> <li>Secure tall or narrow items such as scenic flats, billboards and screens with chocks or restraints to prevent toppling</li> <li>Keep forklift and telehandler operations within designated zones and use a spotter when manoeuvring near structures or people</li> <li>DO NOT climb on pallets, stillages or stacked stage decks to gain height or access loads</li> </ul>	2M
Erect staging and scaffolding platforms	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Platform collapse</li> <li>Component misassembly</li> <li>Falls from unprotected edges</li> <li>Pinch points at connections</li> <li>Overloaded decks</li> </ul>	4A	<div></div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div>	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
Assembly of temporary structures and grandstands	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Structural instability</li> <li>• Collapse during erection</li> <li>• Falling components</li> <li>• Wind loading on frames</li> <li>• Entrapment between members</li> </ul>			2M
Entertainment rigging and overhead truss	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dropped tools or components</li> <li>• Suspension failure</li> <li>• Swinging loads</li> <li>• Uncontrolled hoist movement</li> <li>• Electrical contact with rigging</li> </ul>	4A		2M



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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Crush injury during tilting</li> </ul>		<div>SAMPLE</div>	
Marquee, ice rink and special installations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Canopy or marquee collapse</li> <li>Ice surface slip hazards</li> <li>Cold exposure from refrigeration</li> <li>Trip hazards at transitions</li> <li>Water and electricity interaction</li> </ul>	3H	<div>SAMPLE</div>	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
Bleacher and seating set-up and tear-down	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Collapse of seating tiers</li> <li>• Falls from elevated rows</li> <li>• Finger and hand crush points</li> <li>• Overturning mobile seating</li> <li>• Uncontrolled seating movement</li> </ul>	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> <p>[REDACTED]</p>	2M
Public interface and crowd management controls	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Unauthorised public access to work areas</li> <li>• Crowd surges near structures</li> <li>• Obstructed emergency egress</li> <li>• Interaction with mobile plant</li> <li>• Patron injury from temporary works</li> </ul>	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> <p>[REDACTED]</p>	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
Event monitoring and change management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Progressive structural deterioration</li> <li>• Weather-related loading changes</li> <li>• Unapproved modifications</li> <li>• Fatigue of workers</li> <li>• Lighting and visibility changes</li> </ul>	3H		2M
Dismantling stages and temporary structures	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Uncontrolled collapse during dismantle</li> <li>• Dropped components from height</li> <li>• Residual electrical energy</li> <li>• Hidden sharp edges</li> <li>• Reversing vehicles at pack down</li> </ul>	3H		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
Post-event review and documentation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Unreported incidents or near misses</li> <li>• Repeat of uncontrolled risks</li> <li>• Loss of inspection records</li> <li>• Incomplete handover to venue</li> <li>• Residual site hazards</li> </ul>	2M		1L

## 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 IF ANY STATE IS 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>

### 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

### 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.

## SIGNATORIES OF THE SAFE WORK METHOD STATEMENT

The signed and dated personnel listed below have cooperated in the consultation and development of this Safe Work Method Statement which has been approved by the Person/s Conducting a Business or Undertaking (PCBU). In signing this Safe Work Method Statement each individual acknowledges and confirms that they have read this SWMS in full, having raised any questions for items on this Safe Work Method Statement that require clarification, and confirms that they are competent, skilled and knowledgeable for the task assigned to them. Every person acknowledges that they have received the relevant training and qualifications where required, before carrying out any work contained in this Safe Work Method Statement. By signing this Safe Work Method Statement each individual agrees to work safely, to follow any safe work instructions which are provided, and agrees to use all Personal Protective Equipment where appropriate.

Worker Name	Signature	Date

## SAFE WORK METHOD STATEMENT MONITORING AND REVIEW

**The SWMS must be reviewed regularly** to make sure it remains effective and must be reviewed (and revised if necessary) if relevant control measures are revised. The review must be carried out in consultation with workers (including contractors and sub-contractors) who may be affected by the operation of the SWMS and their health and safety representatives who represent that work group at the workplace.

When the SWMS has been revised the PCBU must ensure that all persons involved with the work are advised that a revision has been made and how they can access the revised SWMS, including all persons who will need to change a work procedure or system as a result of the review are advised of the changes in a way that will enable them to implement their duties consistently with the revised SWMS. All workers that will be involved in the work must be provided with the relevant information and instruction that will assist them to understand and implement the revised SWMS.

**The SWMS must be monitored regularly** for the effectiveness of ensuring hazard controls are effective in reducing the risk of incidents, keeping the workplace safe for all personnel. The person responsible for monitoring the effectiveness of the Safe Work Method Statement should employ a multi-faceted approach which includes but is not limited to:

1. Spot Checks.
2. Consultation with workers, contractors and sub-contractors.
3. Internal audits on a continual basis.

An approach of continuous improvement, promptly recording inconsistencies or deficiencies, followed up by immediate corrective action and consultation with all relevant personnel ensures that the PCBU is consistently developing ever-improving systems of safe work principles.

REVIEW NUMBER	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
NAME							
INITIALS							
DATE							

### SAFE WORK METHOD STATEMENT REVIEW CHECKLIST

This Safe Work Method Statement Review Checklist is to be followed and used upon initial development of the SWMS to help ensure that all steps have been adequately taken before work commences. Think of this document as an internal audit review checklist before commencing work, and may form part of a Toolbox Talk (safety meeting) and may be used as an opportunity for education and training.

ITEMS WHICH MUST BE INCLUDED IN THE SWMS	COMPLETED	COMMENTS
The company details have been entered, including the project name and address.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
All relevant personnel consulted during the development of the SWMS.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Name, signature, position and date signed of the person approving the SWMS.	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Specific personnel and qualifications, experience is noted in the SWMS.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Provides a step-by-step process of tasks required to carry out the activity or task.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Adequate risk assessment of any identified hazards has been completed.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Foreseeable hazards are identified and documented for each step.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Any hazards listed in any site risk assessments have been added to the SWMS.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
SWMS initial risk (IR) column as well as residual risk (RR) column completed.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Check control measures added to the SWMS are the most effective selected.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Responsible person is assigned and listed on the SWMS for the implementation of control measures.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Permit or licenses requirements specified, such as Hot Work, Electrical Work, Work at Heights etc.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
SWMS identifies plant and equipment to be used.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Details of inspection checks required for any equipment listed and noted on the SWMS.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Describes any mandatory qualifications, experience, training or skills required to perform the work.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Applicable personal protective equipment is selected on the SWMS.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Reflects and documents any legislative references and/or Australian Standards.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Identifies any hazardous substances used with specific control measures in line with any SDS.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
<b>REVIEWED BY</b>		<b>DATE REVIEWED</b>
<b>SIGNATURE</b>		<b>DATE COMPLETED</b>