



Falling Objects and Drop Zo	ne Safety SAFE WORK M	ETHOD STATEMENT (SWMS)
TASK OR AC	CTIVITY: Falling Objects and Dro	p Zone Safety	
Business Name:		ABN:	SWMS#
Business Address:			
Contact Person:	Phone:	E ail:	
THIS SAFE WORK METHOD	STATEMENT IS APPROVED BY	THE PCL OF THE ROJECT	
Under the Work Health and Safety Regulation (WHS Regulation), a person conduct the proposed work starts.	cting a business or undo	required to en. ethat a safe work method s	statement (SWMS) is prepared before
Full Name:			
Signature:		Title:	Date:
Details of the person(s) responsible for ensuring implementation, monitoring	roliance the VMS a well as review	s and modifications of the SWMS.	
Full Name:		Title:	Phone:
ALL PERSONNEL PARTICIPATING IN ANY ACTIVITY ON THIS 5 MS M HAVE THE FOLLOWING COMMUNICATED	NALE OF ALL RELEVANT PERSONN EVELOPMENT AND APPROVAL OF	EL WHO HAVE BEEN CONSULTED AND CO THIS SWMS	OMMUNICATED TO IN THE
Safety meetings or toolbox talks will be sched and in accomply with gislative requirements to first identify any site hazards, and then to further take steps to either eliminate or continuous each hazard.			
If an incident or a near miss occurs, all work must sto, quately. 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.			

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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 CONSTRUCTOR	ON WO K BEIN O KRIED OUT
☐ involves a risk of a person falling more than 2 meters	☐ is carried out on or near pressurised gas mains or piping
☐ is carried out on a telecommunication tower	carried out on or near chemical, fuel or refrigerant lines
☐ involves demolition of an element of a structure that is load-bearing	☐ is carried out on or near energised electrical installations or services
☐ involves demolition of an element related to the physical integration of a ructure	☐ is carried out in an area that may have a contaminated or flammable atmosphere
☐ involves, or is likely to involve, disturbing asb	☐ involves tilt-up or precast concrete
☐ involves structural alteration or repair that — quires term — ov sup — rt to prevent collapse	☐ is carried out on, in or adjacent to a road, railway, shipping lane or other traffic corridor
is carried out in or near a confined space	☐ is carried out in an area of a workplace where there is any movement of powered mobile plant
☐ is carried out in/near a shaft or trench deeper tha tunnel involving use of explosives	☐ is carried out in areas with artificial extremes of temperature.
☐ is carried out in or near water or other liquid that involves a risk of drowning.	☐ involves diving work.
ANY HIGH-RISK MACHINER	RY OR EQUIPMENT NEARBY

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	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	SCORE	ACTION		Elimination Remove the hazard.		
LIKELY	2 MODERATE	3 HIGH	3 HIGH	4 ACUTE	4 ACUTE	4A ACUTE	DO NOT PROCE		Substitution		
POSSIBLE	1 LOW	2 MODERATE	3 HIGH	4 ACUTE	4 ACUTE	3H HIGH	Review befor work starts.		Replace the hazard.		
UNLIKELY	1 LOW	1 LOW	2 MODERATE	3 HIGH	4 ACUTE	2M MODERATE	Ensure control measures in place.		Isolate People from the hazard		
RARE	1 LOW	1 LOW	2 MODERATE	3 HIGH	3 HIGH	1L LOW	nitor and		Engineering Isolate the hazard.		
is the second m	rchy of Controls: ost effective metho nging the work is th	d of controlling a	hazard. Enginee	ring by isolati		et. 'ive, while	rd. Substitution Administrative effective		Administrative Change the work. PPE		

				PERS		TIVE EQUIPM					
		Select the app	ropriate PPL	abo. ~uitab	ic or the equip	oment used or	the job task	being perform	ned (if applica	able).	
FOOT PROTECTION	HAND PROTECTION	HEAD PROTECTION	ARING STION	F' CTIO	RL PIRATORY PROTECTION	FACE PROTECTION	HIGH-VIS CLOTHING	PROTECTIVE CLOTHING	FALL PROTECTION	SUN PROTECTION	HAIR/JEWELLERY SECURED
Other PPE R	dequired:										
	Pe	ermit or Licen	ses Requirem	ents		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 consultation	Unidentified falling object hazards Uncoordinated high-risk work Conflicting trades overhead Unplanned crane and EWP movements Inadequate emergency response planning	4A	 Hold a pre-start meeting with all relevant traces to identify tasks involving dropped object risks, falling debris hazards and struck-by hazards Review Safe Work Method Statements, lift present artraffic management plans to confirm controls for falling object protection are consistent and compable Map all work at height areas as a site plan and memory and drop zones, exclusion zones and designated material for two arc. Schedule high suck overhal task to avoid confirm two k beneath or adjacent where practicable Consult the incipal confictor and the presentative about any design or sequencing changes need to be eliminate or acceptabling object risks Iden in actions the emergency access routes and ensure they are kept clear of potential falling object paths Brief a work is and accontractors that tools, fixings and loose materials must never be stored on andralis scafic ingle edges, ladders or plant decks Esc. Isia a process for workers to report new dropped object hazards immediately to the supervisor NO NO commence overhead work until planning, consultation and drop zone arrangements are firmed by the supervisor 	2M
Site inspection and hazard identification	Unsecured overhead s Loose façade and cladding elements Deteriorated scaffold components Unstable stacked materials Windborne loose materials	4A	 Walk the entire work area and surrounding impact zones to identify any potential falling object sources above work areas, access ways and amenities Inspect existing structures, balconies, facades and awnings for loose fixings, cracked components or corroded brackets that could detach Inspect scaffolds, working platforms, penetrations and formwork decks for loose planks, kickboards, mesh and missing ties in accordance with AS/NZS 1576 Check overhead services, pipework, light fittings and signage for insecure fixings or temporary supports that could fail Inspect material stacks, pallets and stillages to confirm they are stable, restrained and not overhanging edges Identify potential wind tunnels or exposed edges where lightweight materials, insulation, sheet goods or packaging could become airborne Record all falling object and drop zone hazards in a site risk register and photograph critical items for follow-up Tag out or barricade any area directly under identified unstable elements until they are removed, repaired or secured by competent persons 	2M



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 • DO NOT allow pedestrian or plant access under visibly loose or damaged overhead elements until	RESIDUAL RISK
Establishing drop zones and exclusion zones	Unauthorised entry to drop zone Struck by falling tools or materials Falling debris onto public areas Inadequate barricading Vehicle encroachment into exclusion zone	4A	Determine vertical and lateral reach of potent calling objects and set drop zone boundaries to extend at least 1.5 times the working height or as sponsed by the site lift plan Install rigid barricades, mesh panels or solid parding around the drop zone where practicable, ensuring they are secured and cannot be easily moved Use high-visibility bunting, ones and warning tale only as secondary control, not as the sole barrier in high traffic or high-risk areas Post clear drop and an open signage at all likely entry points in accordance with AS 1319 Designate solific access bints for authorism workers and spotters to enter the drop zone under controlled controlled controls. Code to the with a management personnel to reroute vehicles and mobile plant away from exclusion zones in verhead work areas. Install velocated protein structures, gantries, catch platforms or debris fans where pedestrian or public access in head work of not be eliminated. Install velocated derived and access to work decks above active public walkways unless overhead protein in place. Install a spotter during critical lifts or when multiple trades are working vertically to prevent unauthorised envinted drop zones. DO NOT store materials, waste skips, amenities or lunch rooms within designated drop zones.	2M
Securing materials and loose items	Loose materials in wind Unrestrained sheet goods Falling small parts and fixings Unstable stacked bundles Uncontrolled movement of waste	ЗН		2M



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
Tool tethering and dropped object prevention	Dropped hand tools Falling power tools Dislodged attachments and accessories Falling measuring devices Struck-by hand tool	4A		2M
Working at heights with falling object controls	Objects knocked from platforms Materials kicked off edges Falling debris during installation Struck-by hazards from overhead work Uncontrolled removal of fixings	4A		2M



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
Lifting, cranage and hoisting operations	Load shift during that Dropped loads from slings Falling loose items from loads Crane hook or block strike Struck by suspended load	4A		2M
Managing wind and adverse weather	Windborne debris	3Н		1L



JOB STEP	POTENTIAL HAZARDS	IR	CONTROL MEASURES	RR
SPECIFIC WORK STEPS	Sheets and panels lifting Uncontrolled movement of signage Roofing materials becoming airborne Reduced control of suspended loads	INITIAL RISK	SPECIFIC MEASURES TO BE PUT IN PLACE TO ELIMINATE OR CONTROL THE RISKS	RESIDUAL RISK
Public protection and site perimeters	Falling debris onto footpe. Objects landing in public roads Struck-by hazards to visitors Uncontrolled public access Inadequate overhead protection	4A		2M



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
Housekeeping and waste removal at height	Accumulated offcuts near edges Loose debris on walkways Objects dislodged by foot traffic Manual handling of waste at height Uncontrolled waste chutes discharge	3H		1L
Training, supervision and communication	Uninformed workers at height Improper use of tethers Failure to enforce drop zones Miscommunication between levels Unrecognised struck-by risks	ЗН		2M



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
Inspection, monitoring and maintenance	Deteriorated fall protection Damaged debris mesh Worn tool lanyards Compromised barricades Unnoticed changes in site condition	ЗН		1L
Incident response and review	Uncontrolled site after incident Secondary falling objects Inadequate first aid access Repeat struck-by incidents Unreported near misses	ЗН		1L



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



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. ANY STATE AT 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/legislati

Codes of Practice NSW: https://www.safework.nsw.gov.au/resource-library/lis

Northern Territory

Work Health and Safety (National Uniform Legislation) Act 2011

Work Health and Safety (National Uniform Legislation) Regulation 201

Codes of Practice NT: https://worksafe.nt.gov.au/f

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/le_lation

Codes of Practice for SA: https://www.safework.sa.gov.au/wor/ aces/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

Or pational Health a. Safety Act J4

Occational Health and afety gulations 2017

Legis on VIC: https://www.sksafe.vic.gov.au/occupational-health-and-safety-act-and-

gulat

tes of actice VIC attps://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





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

SAFE WORK IN THE STATEMENT MONITORING AND REVIEW

The SWMS must be reviewed regularly to make sure it remains fective of must be reviewed (and revised if necessary) if relevant control measures are rovised. The view respectively should be carried out in consultation with workers (including contractors as a sub-intractors of the SWMS and their health and safety representatives who represented that work group at the workplace.

When the SWMS has been revised the PCBU must ensure that advised that a revision has been made and how they can acces he revised SWMS, including all persons who will need to change a work procedure or system as a region of the review are advised of the changes in a way that will enable them to implement their duties and 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:

- Spot Checks.
- 2. Consultation with workers, contractors and sub-contractors.
- 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							

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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.		
All relevant personnel consulted during the development of the SWMS.		
Name, signature, position and date signed of the person approving the SWMS.		
Specific personnel and qualifications, experience is noted in the SWMS.	7	
Provides a step-by-step process of tasks required to carry out the activity or task.	k	
Adequate risk assessment of any identified hazards has been completed.	\boxtimes	
Foreseeable hazards are identified and documented for each step.	\boxtimes	
Any hazards listed in any site risk assessments have been added to the SWMS		
SWMS initial risk (IR) column as well as residual risk (RR) colum mpleted.	\boxtimes	
Check control measures added to the SWMS are the most effective selections.	\boxtimes	
Responsible person is assigned and listed on the part of the important of	\boxtimes	
Permit or licenses requirements specified, sur as Hot Work, Electric Work, Work at Heights etc.	\boxtimes	
SWMS identifies plant and equipment to be use	\boxtimes	
Details of inspection checks required for any equipment listed an onthe SWMS.	\boxtimes	
Describes any mandatory qualifications, experience, use or skills required to perform the work.	\boxtimes	
Applicable personal protective equipment is selected on the SWMS.		
Reflects and documents any legislative references and/or Australian Standards.	\boxtimes	
Identifies any hazardous substances used with specific control measures in line with any SDS.	\boxtimes	
REVIEWED BY	DATE REVIEWED	
SIGNATURE	DATE COMPLETED	