



Maintaining Balance On Narro	w Surfaces   SAFE WORK	METHOD STATEMENT (SWM	IS)
TASK OR ACT	IVITY: Maintaining Balance On N	arrow Surfaces	
Business Name:		ABN:	SWMS#
Business Address:			
Contact Person:	Phone:	E fil:	
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	apliance the VMS a well as review	es and modifications of the SWMS.	
Full Name:		Title:	Phone:
ALL PERSONNEL PARTICIPATING IN ANY ACTIVITY ON THIS S /MS M HAVE THE FOLLOWING COMMUNICATED	NA, 2 OF ALL RELEVANT PERSONN EVELOPMENT AND APPROVAL OF	EL WHO HAVE BEEN CONSULTED AND CO	OMMUNICATED TO IN THE
Safety meetings or toolbox talks will be sched ed in accomply with gislative requirements to first identify any site hazards, hazards and then to further take steps to either eliminate or continuate hazard.			
If an incident or a near miss occurs, all work must sto, an atately. 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.			

Version 2.5 Authorised by Review # Date of Issue: Review Date: 1





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 BIOK CONSTRUCTOR	NAME OF THE POLIT
ANY HIGH-RISK CONSTRUCTOR	N WC & BEIN C ARIED 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	$\square$ is carried out on or near energised electrical installations or services
☐ involves demolition of an element related to the physical integral of a functure	☐ 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 — v 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 that. tunnel involving use of explosives	☐ is carried out in areas with artificial extremes of temperature.
$\square$ is carried out in or near water or other liquid that involves a risk of drowning.	☐ involves diving work.
ANY HIGH-RISK MACHINER	Y OR EQUIPMENT NEARBY

Version 2.5 Authorised by Review # Date of Issue: Review Date: 2



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 before 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	ering by isolati	on is the in ost e	en 'ive, while	rd. Substitution Administrative effective	Administrative Change the work.  PPE	

				PERS		TIVE EQUIPM					
		Select the app	propriate PPL	abo√ ≃uitab	ic or the equi	pment used or	the job task	being perforr	ned (if applica	ıble).	
FOOT PROTECTION	HAND PROTECTION	HEAD PROTECTION	HEARING ETION	P ECTION	R PIRATORY PROTECTION	FACE PROTECTION	HIGH-VIS CLOTHING	PROTECTIVE CLOTHING	FALL PROTECTION	SUN PROTECTION	HAIR/JEWELLERY SECURED
Other PPE R	Required:										
	Pe	ermit or Licen	ses Requirem	ents			Ma	andatory Qual	ifications 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
1. Preparation	Incorrect footwear, work platform defect	2M	<ul> <li>Select and wear footwear with non-slip solve, o improve grip and prevent slips.</li> <li>Ensure footwear is well-fitted, provides add to ate sure or, and does not restrict movement.</li> <li>Conduct a visual inspection of the work platfore of to use, checking for any signs of damage or wear such as cracks, rust, or loose components.</li> <li>Use safety barriers or railings a narrow surfaces in cossible to provide additional stability.</li> <li>Clean work platforms regularly to move debrishoil, or other materials that could cause slipping.</li> <li>Schedule in allar maintering centre check of an quipment and work platforms to ensure they meet safety standards.</li> <li>Promore raining to oper footwear selection and the importance of using appropriate gear for specific tasks.</li> <li>Implement to botwear eplacement policy to ensure worn-out footwear is replaced immediately.</li> <li>Massign quality person to oversee and approve the condition of work platforms before they are used.</li> <li>Manufactive equipment clearly with tags to ensure it is not used until repaired.</li> <li>Set up a sign-off system where workers confirm having checked their equipment and footwear before by inning their task.</li> <li>Equip workers with safety harnesses or fall arrest protection if working at significant heights on narrow surfaces.</li> <li>Use temporary anti-slip coverings or mats on surfaces identified as particularly slick or hazardous.</li> <li>Educate employees about recognising platform defects and encourage prompt reporting to supervisors for corrective action.</li> </ul>	1L
2. Inspection of work area	Possible trip hazards, unstable narrow surface	2M	<ul> <li>Conduct a thorough pre-inspection of the work area to identify and remove any trip hazards such as debris, tools, or materials.</li> <li>Ensure all narrow surfaces are stable and secure, performing checks for loose fittings or supports that could cause instability.</li> <li>Clearly mark all potential trip hazards in the work area with high-visibility tape or signage.</li> <li>Use barricades or safety cones to create a clear path free from obstacles around the narrow surface.</li> <li>Implement a clean-as-you-go policy to minimise the risk of trips due to accumulating materials or waste.</li> <li>Provide adequate lighting in the work area to ensure visibility and reduce risks associated with unseen hazards.</li> <li>Train workers in identifying and mitigating hazards related to narrow surfaces before beginning their tasks.</li> </ul>	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
			- Equip workers with appropriate footwear that provides good grip and is suitable for the specific type of narrow surface.	
			- Use handrails or temporary barriers where feasible offer additional support and stability to workers on narrow surfaces.	
			- Regularly review and update the hazard in stification accountrol measures based on feedback and incidents, ensuring continuous improvement.	
			- Ensure workers maintain a two-point contact it keeping at least two feet or one foot and one hand on stable surfaces at all times to revent balance los	
			- Conduct a pre-tage one of the risks associated with maintaining because on nation with summer summer summer.	
			- Utilise a quant dispecial to conduct imprehensive risk assessment tailored to the specific task and environment.	
			- Imply to a step t-step checklist to guide workers through the identification of potential hazards, ensuring the teps at a kipped or measures missed.	
	Risks not correctly identified, safety measures missed		- Review and state the xisting Safety Data Sheets (SDS) to identify any materials or substances that int poor additional hazards while working at heights or in narrow areas.	
Risk assessment			- Establish a buddy system where workers can spot each other, ensuring an extra set of eyes to identify nd mitig	2M
			- ploy temporary barriers or warning signs around high-risk areas to alert workers and ensure they are mindful of their surroundings.	
			- Introduce regular refresher training sessions focusing on hazard recognition and risk assessment specific to narrow surface work.	
			- Engage workers in interactive simulations or role-playing exercises to practice identifying potential hazards in a controlled environment.	
			- Maintain open lines of communication, encouraging workers to report newly identified risks immediately so control measures can be updated accordingly.	
			- Conduct regular audits and inspections of the worksite to ensure compliance with established safety protocols and to identify any new or overlooked hazards.	
4. Planning of work path	Unexpected obstacles, uneven surface	2M		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
5. Sequential task start	Distraction, rush to finish task	ЗН		2M



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6. Establish support points	Misjudgement of balance, slipping off edge	ЗН		2M
7. Transfer weight	Sudden loss of balance, foot slip	4A		<b>3</b> H



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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. Move to next step	Miss a step, weak grip causing fall	4A		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
9. Continual Balance Maintenance	Muscle strain, vertigo	ЗН		2M
10. Task completion	Miscalculation in final steps, relaxation of safety vigilance	2M		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
11. Removing Protective Equipment	Posture deviation cosing imbalance, stumbling on equinent	2M		1L
12. Tool and equipment storage	Trips and falls over tools, reaching for high storage causing imbalance	2M		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
13. Site Clean Up	Falls from scattered materials, improper lifting leading to imbalance	2M		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
14. Report Writing	Poor sitting posture, RSI from repetitivickeyboard use	1L		1
15. Reviewing Work Process	Overlooking of crucial steps leading to repeat mistakes, distraction during review process	2M		1L



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16. Staff Debriefing	Inattentiveness due to fat underappreciation of recommendations	2M		<b>1</b> L



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
17. Team Dismissal	Hurrying to leave site, complacency with final inspections	2M		1L
18. Follow Up	Neglecting to monitor recovery and learning from mishaps, poor handover communication causing misunderstandings	ЗН		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
19. Administrative Closure	Missed documentation of safety incidents, overlooking minus ents	2M		<b>1</b> L



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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
20. Equipment Maintenance	Faulty equipment causing unexpected accidents, lack of regular checks leading to higher risks	ЗН		2M



#### **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 OF 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 2017

Legislation NSW: https://www.safework.nsw.gov.au/legal-obligations/legislative

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

#### **Northern Territory**

Work Health and Safety (National Uniform Legislation) Act 2011

Work Health and Safety (National Uniform Legislation) Regulation 201

Legislation NT: https://worksafe.nt.gov.au/laws-and-compliance/worksafe.nt.gov.au/laws-and-compl

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/legislation

Codes of Practice for SA: https://www.safework.sa.gov.au/work\_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

Occupational Health al. Safety Act

Occupational Health and affety gulations 2017

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

gulat

des on actice VI autros://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	Date

#### SAFE WORK IN THE STATEMENT MONITORING AND REVIEW

The SWMS must be reviewed regularly to make sure it remains a fective of must be reviewed (and revised if necessary) if relevant control measures are revised. The view process should be carried out in consultation with workers (including contractors 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 mast ensure that 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 rest of the review are advised of the changes in a way that will enable them to implement their duties and the 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.
- 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							

Version 2.5 Authorised by Review # Date of Issue: Review Date: 18





### 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.		
Adequate risk assessment of any identified hazards has been completed.		
Foreseeable hazards are identified and documented for each step.		
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) column mpleted.		
Check control measures added to the SWMS are the most effective selective.		
Responsible person is assigned and listed on the person is as a person is a pers		
Permit or licenses requirements specified, sur as Hot Work, Electric Work, Work at Heights etc.		
SWMS identifies plant and equipment to be us		
Details of inspection checks required for any equipment listed a noted on the SWMS.		
Describes any mandatory qualifications, experience, and or skills required to perform the work.		
Applicable personal protective equipment is selected on the SWMS.		
Reflects and documents any legislative references and/or Australian Standards.		
Identifies any hazardous substances used with specific control measures in line with any SDS.		
REVIEWED BY	DATE REVIE	WED
SIGNATURE	DATE COMPL	ETED