

Sandblasting | SAFE WORK METHOD STATEMENT (SWMS)

TASK OR ACTIVITY: Sandblasting

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 and 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 BEEN COMMUNICATED TO IN THE DEVELOPMENT AND APPROVAL OF THIS SWMS

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.

CLIENT OR PRINCIPAL CONTRACTOR DETAILS		SCOPE OF WORKS
Client:		
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 a telecommunication tower <input type="checkbox"/> involves demolition of an element of a structure that is load-bearing <input type="checkbox"/> involves demolition of an element related to the physical integrity of a structure <input type="checkbox"/> involves, or is likely to involve, disturbing asbestos <input type="checkbox"/> involves structural alteration or repair that requires temporary support to prevent collapse <input type="checkbox"/> is carried out in or near a confined space <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 or near water or other liquid that involves a risk of drowning.		
<input type="checkbox"/> is carried out on or near pressurised gas mains or piping <input type="checkbox"/> is carried out on or near chemical, fuel or refrigerant lines <input type="checkbox"/> is carried out on or near energised electrical installations or services <input type="checkbox"/> is carried out in an area that may have a contaminated or flammable atmosphere <input type="checkbox"/> involves tilt-up or precast concrete <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 an area of a workplace where there is any movement of powered mobile plant <input type="checkbox"/> is carried out in areas with artificial extremes of temperature. <input type="checkbox"/> involves diving work.		
ANY HIGH-RISK MACHINERY OR EQUIPMENT NEARBY		
<input type="checkbox"/> high-risk machinery or equipment is present in the vicinity		

RISK MATRIX								HEIRARCHY OF CONTROLS	
LIKELIHOOD	IN SIGNIFICANT	MINOR	MODERATE	MAJOR	CATASTROPHIC	SCORE	ACTION		
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 PROCE	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 the work.	
Notes on Hierarchy of Controls: 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.								PPE	

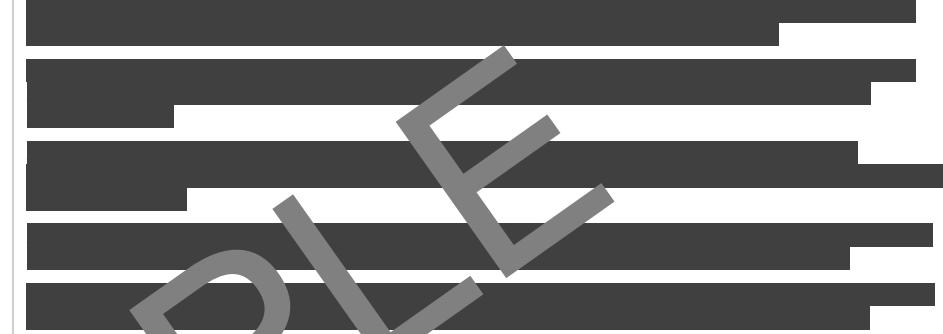
PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT (PPE)											
Select the appropriate PPE above suitable for the equipment used or the job task being performed (if applicable).											
FOOT PROTECTION	HAND PROTECTION	HEAD PROTECTION	HEARING PROTECTION	FACE PROTECTION	RESPIRATORY PROTECTION	FACE PROTECTION	HIGH-VIS 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
1. Preparation	Inhalation of dust, insufficient PPE	3H	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Conduct a thorough risk assessment to identify the specific hazards associated with sandblasting and develop appropriate control measures. - Ensure all workers involved in sandblasting are trained in safe use of equipment, potential hazards, and emergency procedures. - Use water-based sandblasting systems or wet blasting techniques to minimise dust generation at the source. - Implement suitable dust suppression methods such as local exhaust ventilation at the point of operation to capture airborne dust particles. - Conduct fit testing for all personnel required to use respiratory protective equipment to ensure an airtight seal is achieved. - Equip workers with appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE) including N95 or higher grade respirators, goggles or face shields, gloves, and coveralls. - Regularly inspect and maintain sandblasting equipment and PPE to ensure it is in good working condition and provide replacements as necessary. - Establish and clearly define exclusion zones using barriers or signage to keep non-essential personnel away from work areas. - Use automated or remote-controlled blasting systems where possible to minimise direct exposure of workers to hazardous environments. - Provide adequate ventilation in enclosed spaces where sandblasting is performed to ensure continuous airflow and reduction of airborne contaminants. - Schedule routine medical examinations for workers frequently exposed to sandblasting operations to monitor respiratory health. - Develop and communicate emergency response plans that include procedures for managing incidents of excessive dust exposure. 	2M
2. Inspection	Equipment malfunction, structural instability	4A	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Conduct thorough pre-use check of all sandblasting equipment, including hoses, nozzles, and blast pots to ensure they are in proper working condition. - Verify that all safety devices and emergency shut-off controls on the equipment are functional and easily accessible. - Regularly maintain and service equipment according to the manufacturer's specifications and keep maintenance records up-to-date. - Inspect connections and fittings for signs of wear or damage that could lead to air or abrasive leaks. - Ensure adequate lighting in the work area to improve visibility during inspection and operation. 	3H

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			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Secure the work area to prevent unauthorized access by applying barricades, signage, and tape as needed. - Test structural integrity of the surfaces or structures to be sandblasted, checking for loose material or instability that could pose a risk during the process. - Ensure operators are trained in recognising signs of equipment malfunction and know the immediate steps to take if a malfunction occurs. - Inspect personal protective equipment (PPE), ensuring items like respirators, gloves, and safety glasses are in good condition and properly worn by all workers. - Assess the work environment for any potential external factors, such as weather conditions, that may affect the safety of sandblasting operations. - Clearly label and identify zones for compressed air and abrasives to avoid cross-contamination and ensure proper setup. - Check that communication systems, including radios or hand signals, are in place and understood by all team members for coordination and emergencies. - Develop and review emergency response plans specific to sandblasting activities, ensuring all workers are familiar with procedures in case of equipment failure or structural collapse. 	
3. Isolation	Unauthorised access, inadequate barriers	3H	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Erect clearly visible and durable warning signs around the sandblasting area to alert individuals of ongoing activity. - Install secure and sturdy barriers or fencing to prevent unauthorised access to the work zone. <p>Utilise lockout/tagout procedures for equipment within the sandblasting area to ensure machinery is not accidentally operated.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Implement a strict permit-to-work system, ensuring only authorised personnel enter the isolated area. - Conduct regular training sessions on site induction, emphasising the importance of restricting access and following safety protocols. - Assign a trained safety officer to monitor and control access points during the sandblasting operation. - Ensure all workers wear high-visibility clothing so they are easily identifiable within the isolated area. - Set up access control measures like checkpoints at entry and exit points to verify authorisation. - Use physical barriers such as cones or tape to delineate the sandblasting area clearly. - Integrate communication devices for workers inside the zone to report breaches promptly. - Schedule sandblasting operations during times when fewer people are present in the vicinity to minimise potential interactions. 	2M
4. Surface Covering	Falling objects, tripping hazards	3H	[REDACTED]	2M

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5. Equipment Setup	Incorrect assembly, electrical faults	4A		3H

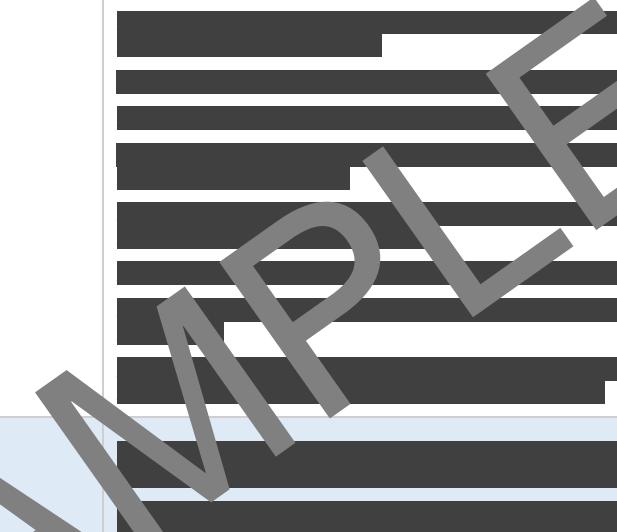
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6. Compressor Check	Pressure release, oil leaks	4A		3H
7. Hose Connection	Detachment under pressure, kinking	3H		2M

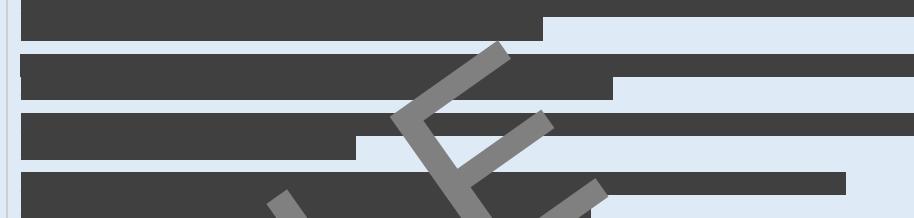
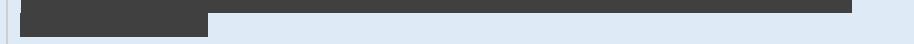
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8. Nozzle Check	Blockage, wear and tear	3H		2M
9. Abrasive Loading	Dust exposure, manual handling injuries	3H		2M

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10. Ventilation Setup	Poor air circulation, noise exhaustion	4A		3H

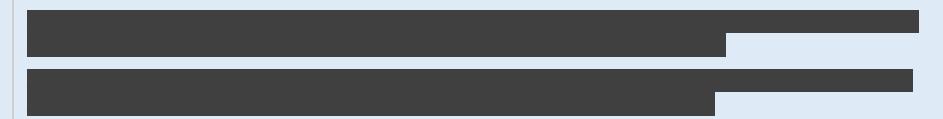
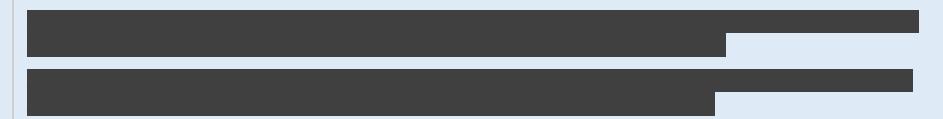
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11. Signage Placement	Poor visibility, incorrect information	2M		1L

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12. PPE Donning	Improper fitting, equipment compatibility issues	3H		2M
13. Test Run	Unexpected operation, vibration	4A		3H

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14. Position Blaster	Ergonomic strain, improper positioning	3H		2M

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15. Start Blast	Flying debris, high pressure exposure	4A		3H
16. Continuous Blast	Fatigue, repetitive motion injury	3H		2M

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17. Dust Management	Poor visibility, respiratory harm	4A		3H

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18. Equipment Monitoring	Overheating, abnormal vibrations	3H	  	2M

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19. Completion	Slip hazards, leftover debris	3H		2M
20. Clean Up	Inadequate waste disposal, chemical spills	3H		2M

SAMPLE

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
21. Equipment Dismantle	Finger injuries, incorrect storage	3H		2M

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22. Final Inspection	Missed defects, environmental compliance	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 TO ANY STATES 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 2017
 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) Regulation 2011
 Legislation NT: <https://worksafe.nt.gov.au/laws-and-compliance/workplace-safety-laws>
 Codes of Practice NT: <https://worksafe.nt.gov.au/resources-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

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 process should 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 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		
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 are 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"/>	
REVIEWED BY		DATE REVIEWED
SIGNATURE		DATE COMPLETED