



Sequencing Excavation P	rojects SAFE WORK MET	HOD STATEMENT (SWMS)	
TASK OR	ACTIVITY: Sequencing Excavation	on Projects	
Business Name:		ABN:	SWMS#
Business Address:			
Contact Person:	Phone:	E fil:	
THIS SAFE WORK METHOD	STATEMENT IS APPROTO 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 under the (PC 1) is	required to en that a safe work method s	statement (SWMS) is prepared before
Full Name:			
Signature:	NY	Title:	Date:
Details of the person(s) responsible for ensuring implementation, monitoring	opliance the VMS a vell as review	s and modifications of the SWMS.	
Full Name:		Title:	Phone:
ALL PERSONNEL PARTICIPATING IN ANY ACTIVITY ON THIS MISS MISS MISS MISS MISS MISS MISS M	NA, ¿ OF ALL RELEVANT PERSONNI 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 alately. 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 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

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RISK MATRIX										
LIKELIHOOD	INSIGNIFICANT	MINOR	MODERATE	MAJOR	CATASTROPHIC	SCORE	ACTION	HEI	RARCHY 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	e 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	ropriate PPŁ	abo v uitab	cor the equi	pment used or	the job task	being perforr	ned (if applica	ıble).	
FOOT PROTECTION	HAND PROTECTION	HEAD PROTECTION	HEARING ETION	P ECTION	PROTECTION	FACE PROTECTION	HIGH-VIS CLOTHING	PROTECTIVE CLOTHING	FALL PROTECTION	SUN PROTECTION	HAIR/JEWELLERY SECURED
Other PPE R	equired:										
	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
1. Preparation	Trips, Falls, Heavy machinery accidents	4A	 Conduct a pre-start safety briefing with allow wers to discuss the specific risks associated with trips, falls, and heavy machinery. Clearly mark and illuminate designated walks or a prevent trips and falls in the work area. Ensure that all workers were appropriate person protective andipment, including steel-capped boots and high-visibility clothing. Regularly inspect to the for pointial trip hazards such as debris or uneven surfaces and address them immediately. Implement to flusion zone around to transpractions of machinery and communicate these clearly to all personnel on-sit. Proving a oper training to operators of heavy machinery to ensure they are competent and aware of safe operating a cedure. Use splitters then more enviring heavy machinery near workers or other equipment to enhance safety rough ear or imunication. Institute the increase and signage to alert workers and visitors of hazardous areas and restrict unauthorized access. Inforce strict enforcement of no-go zones beneath or near raised loads from machinery to protect agunst falling objects. Schedule regular maintenance checks on all machinery to ensure they are in good working condition and minimise mechanical failures. Utilise anti-slip flooring materials where slippery conditions may occur, especially in wet weather. Keep work areas tidy by regularly disposing of waste and storing tools and materials neatly to reduce clutter and potential tripping points. Develop an emergency response plan specifically for incidents involving heavy machinery and practice drills regularly. Assign a safety officer to monitor activities and enforce compliance with health and safety protocols throughout the project preparation phase. 	2M
2. Site Setup	Misplacement of equipment, Exposure to sun	ЗН	 Implement clear signage to indicate equipment storage areas to prevent misplacement. Conduct a pre-site setup meeting to allocate specific zones for equipment placement and communicate this to all team members. Use GPS or other tracking technology to monitor equipment locations regularly. Apply shade structures or erect temporary shelters where workers frequently access the site to reduce sun exposure. 	1L



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			- Enforce mandatory use of broad-brimmed hats, long-sleeved clothing, and sunglasses as part of the PPE to protect against UV radiation.	
			- Schedule site setup activities during early morning late afternoon when sunlight is less intense.	
			- Provide sunscreen with a high SPF rating an all tiple accessible stations around the site for workers to apply throughout the day.	
			- Assign a designated safety officer responsible for suring compliance with sun protection guidelines and properly positioned equipment.	
			- Ensure all workers are trained on the correct hand ag appropriate procedures to minimise equipment loss or damage.	
			- Regularly inspectionage reas verify that emigment is correctly placed according to site plan and address any erepancies media of	
			- Cor the athors of the eassessment to identify potential hazards and establish clear demarcation required it as before starting work.	
			- Use or about high-viry litty materials for marking such as cones, flags, or barrier tapes to ensure they are easily so in by porkers and operators.	
			- ce a quate gnage around the site to alert workers and machinery operators of marked boundaries and have a zones.	
			mplement a colour-coding system for markings to differentiate between specific areas such as e, vation zones, pathways, and no-go zones.	
			Assign a trained spotter to oversee vehicle paths and ensure machinery adheres to designated routes.	
			- Regularly inspect and maintain all demarcations throughout the project, adjusting as necessary due to site changes or weather conditions.	
Demarcation	Incorrect markings, hits from vehicle	3H	- Brief all personnel on site regarding the significance of demarcations and the importance of observing them consistently.	2M
			- Use ground stakes or weighted bases for markings to prevent displacement by wind or contact from machinery.	
			- Schedule regular check-ins with key personnel to review the placement and condition of demarcations, ensuring they remain accurate as the project progresses.	
			- Enforce strict speed limits for vehicles operating near demarcated areas to minimize the risk of collisions.	
			- Integrate GPS technology or other tracking systems in vehicles to monitor adherence to demarcated routes.	
			- Provide adequate lighting for demarcations during low-light conditions or nighttime operations to ensure visibility.	
			- Develop an emergency response plan specifically addressing scenarios involving breaches of the demarcated areas.	



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4. Machine Checks	Faulty machinery, Accidental starts	ЗН		1L
5. Excavation Planning	Improper planning, Information gaps	4A		2M



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6. Soil Testing	Naturally Occurring biohazards	DOH!		2M



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7. PPE Check	Inadequate protection, Worn out PPE	ЗН		1L
8. Soil Removal	Dust hazards, Noise pollution	3Н		2M



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9. Trench digging	Cave-ins, Engulfme	JA		3H
10. Debris Management	Debris injuries, improper disposal	2M		1L



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11. Barrier setup	Failure of barriers, slip and fall	ЗН		2M



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12. Utility checks	Electrical shocks, gas leaks			3H
13. Documenting processes	Data loss, Miscommunication	2M		1L



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14. Backfilling	Dust hazards, machinery malfunction	ЗН		2 M



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15. Clean up & restoration	Tool misplacement, ant hazard	ъН		2M



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16. Review and feedback	Miscommunication, Lack of attention to feedback	ЗН		2M
17. Security checks after work hours	Unauthorized access, Theft	3Н		I 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
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				•
18. Waste disposal	Environmental risk handling	1A		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. Reporting & paperwork	Misreporting, Loss of important documents	ЗН		1L
20. Closeout meeting	Neglecting issues discussed, rushed meetings	2M		1L



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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/legislatide

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/wo_place-

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							

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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.		
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 pleted.		
Check control measures added to the SWMS are the most effective selections		
Responsible person is assigned and listed on the part the important control measures.		
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 an inoted 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 REVIEWE	D
SIGNATURE	DATE COMPLET	ED