

Pallet Jack Powered SAFE WORK METHOD STATEMENT (SWMS)			
TASK OR ACTIVITY: Pallet Jack Powered			
Business Name: [Company Name]		ABN: [ABN]	SWMS#
Business Address: [Company Address]			
Contact Person:	Phone: [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 THE FOLLOWING COMMUNICATED		NAME AND DATED SIGNATURE OF ALL RELEVANT PERSONNEL WHO HAVE BEEN CONSULTED AND 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.	NAME	SIGNATURE	DATE
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

Client:	SCOPE OF WORKS Provide a detailed description of the specific work being carried out (otherwise known as scope of works).
Project Name:	
Project Address:	
Project Manager:	
Contact Phone:	
Project Manager Signature:	
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

<input type="checkbox"/> Forklift	<input type="checkbox"/> Crane/s	<input type="checkbox"/> Hoist/s	<input type="checkbox"/> Excavator	<input type="checkbox"/> Backhoe/Loader	<input type="checkbox"/> Boom Lift	<input type="checkbox"/> EWP	<input type="checkbox"/> Genie Lift
<input type="checkbox"/> Trencher	<input type="checkbox"/> Drilling Rig	<input type="checkbox"/> Trucks	<input type="checkbox"/> Formwork	<input type="checkbox"/> Bobcat	<input type="checkbox"/> Flammable Gas	<input type="checkbox"/> Fuel	<input type="checkbox"/> Dozer
<input type="checkbox"/> High Voltage	<input type="checkbox"/> Mulcher	<input type="checkbox"/> Tilt-up Panels	<input type="checkbox"/> Roller	<input type="checkbox"/> Scissor Lift	<input type="checkbox"/> Tractor	<input type="checkbox"/> Other -	

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			Elimination Remove the hazard.
LIKELY	2 MODERATE	3 HIGH	3 HIGH	4 ACUTE	4 ACUTE	4A ACUTE	DO NOT PROCEED	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. PPE

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.

PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT (PPE)

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"/>

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

Note: A SWMS must be reviewed regularly to make sure it remains effective. A SWMS 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 subcontractors) who may be affected by the operation of the SWMS and their health and safety representatives who represented that work group at the workplace.

When a SWMS has been revised, the person conducting a business or undertaking must ensure all:

1. persons involved in the work are advised that a revision has been made and how they can access the revised SWMS;
2. 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; and,
3. workers that will be involved in the work are provided with the relevant information and instruction that will assist them to understand and implement the revised SWMS.

JOB STEP	POTENTIAL HAZARDS	IR	CONTROL MEASURES	RR	RESPONSIBLE PERSON
SPECIFIC WORK STEPS	HAZARDS THAT MAY ARISE	INITIAL RISK	SPECIFIC MEASURES TO BE PUT IN PLACE TO ELIMINATE OR CONTROL THE RISKS	RESIDUAL RISK	NAME OF PERSON
1. Preparation	Incorrect equipment selection, Inadequate workspace	3H	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Proper Equipment Selection: Ensure that the powered pallet jack model is suitable for the task at hand and is within its load capacity to prevent overloading and potential accidents. - Equipment Inspection: Regularly inspect the powered pallet jack, including all tires, forks, battery and controls, to ensure it's in good working order before use. - Workspace Assessment: Identify any obstructions, walkways or uneven surfaces in the workspace that may interfere with safe operation of the powered pallet jack. - Training and Certification: Ensure that all operators have received adequate training and hold a valid certification to operate the powered pallet jack safely and efficiently. - Workspace Organisation: Plan the work area to create clear paths for transporting goods and minimise the potential for accidents or collisions during operation. - Housekeeping: Maintain clean, clutter-free floors and walkways in the work area to reduce slipping, tripping, and falling hazards around the powered pallet jack. - PPE: Ensure that workers wear appropriate personal protective equipment, such as steel-toe boots, gloves, and high-visibility vests, to minimise exposure to hazards while operating the device. - Limit Speeds: Establish maximum speed limits for the powered pallet jack within the workspace to avoid unsafe operation, especially when turning or navigating congested areas. - Pre-task Assessment: Communicate with team members about the task at hand, potential risks, and any additional information to effectively manage the hazards associated with the work step. - Emergency Response Plan: Develop a detailed emergency response plan outlining the steps to follow if an accident or incident occurs, including how to shut down the powered pallet jack, notify supervisors, and provide medical support if necessary. 	2M	
2. Pre-Operation Check	Mechanical failure, Missing safety features	3H	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ensure a thorough visual inspection of the pallet jack is conducted before use, checking for damages or wear and tear that may affect its operation, such as cracks in the frame or faulty wheels. - Confirm all safety features, such as the emergency stop button, warning alarms, and safety guards are present and functioning properly. - Verify there are no leaks, particularly in the hydraulic system, which may lead to a loss of lifting power or increased risk of slippage during operation. - Check that all nuts, bolts, and fasteners are tightened securely and ensure none are missing or loose. If any need replacement, do so before using the powered pallet jack. 	2M	

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			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Examine the battery level, charging status, and connections to confirm the electric-powered pallet jack has sufficient power to complete the required tasks without interruption. - Test the brakes and steering for proper functioning, ensuring smooth and efficient maneuvering and stopping capabilities during operation. - Regularly review and maintain a maintenance log for each powered pallet jack, documenting service dates, repairs made, and other relevant information to ensure equipment is well-maintained and suitable for continued use. - Always follow the manufacturer's guidelines and recommendations for regular maintenance checks. Schedule these checks accordingly to ensure preventative measures and minimise the risk of mechanical failures. - Provide necessary training to operators on correct pre-operation check procedures, hazard identification, and control measures, fostering a safe work environment. - Enforce strict documentation procedures where operators must sign off that they have completed a pre-operation check. Implement penalties for failing to comply with this requirement. <p>In case of any issues found during the pre-operation check, tag the equipment as "out-of-service" and notify the supervisor immediately. Do not operate the equipment until the issue is resolved by a qualified technician.</p>		
3. Loading Pallets	Unbalanced load, Manual handling injuries	2M	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ensuring all staff operating the powered pallet jack are trained and competent in its use, with regular refresher courses provided. - Establishing safe zones around the pallet jack loading area and ensuring employees who are not directly involved maintain a safe distance while observing work activities. - Properly inspecting pallets for signs of damage or instability before loading onto the pallet jack, rejecting any that may pose a safety hazard. - Utilising clear signage and communications to inform employees about potential hazards associated with unbalanced loads and manual handling injuries during pallet transfer. - Implementing load limits on each powered pallet jack based on manufacturer's specifications, to prevent overloading and unbalanced load scenarios. - Encouraging proper lifting techniques among employees, such as bending at the knees and using a firm grasp, to minimise the risk of manual handling injuries. - Routinely assessing the condition of powered pallet jacks, braking systems and other components, to ensure optimal functionality and reduce the risk of accidents. - Promoting ongoing open dialogue between employees and supervisors regarding potential hazards in the workplace, establishing a culture of shared responsibility for identifying and addressing safety concerns. 	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	NAME OF PERSON
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Providing personal protective equipment (PPE), such as work gloves and back support belts to protect against manual handling injuries during pallet loading tasks. - Ensuring sufficient lighting is available in the pallet loading area to allow workers to safely navigate their surroundings and identify potential hazards. - Incorporating ergonomic features into the design of powered pallet jacks, including adjustable controls and comfortable handles, to reduce strain on workers' bodies during use. - Employing mechanical aids such as pallet tilters or scissor lifts when possible, to reduce the need for manual handling and lower the risk of injury. - Regularly reviewing and updating the SWMS for powered pallet jacks, incorporating feedback from employees to continuously improve safety practices and procedures within the workplace. 		
4. Maneuvering	Slips, trips and falls, Struck by a moving vehicle	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> <p>[REDACTED]</p>	1L	

JOB STEP	POTENTIAL HAZARDS	IR	CONTROL MEASURES	RR	RESPONSIBLE PERSON
SPECIFIC WORK STEPS	HAZARDS THAT MAY ARISE	INITIAL RISK	SPECIFIC MEASURES TO BE PUT IN PLACE TO ELIMINATE OR CONTROL THE RISKS	RESIDUAL RISK	NAME OF PERSON
5. Stacking	Collapse of pallet truck, Operator error	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	NAME OF PERSON
6. Unloading the Jack	Manual handling injuries, Falling objects	2M		1L	

hydraulic fluid leakage 3H

4A

in transit. Insufficient

3H

ge, improper
on

2M

3H

JOB STEP	POTENTIAL HAZARDS	IR	CONTROL MEASURES	RR	RESPONSIBLE PERSON
SPECIFIC WORK STEPS	HAZARDS THAT MAY ARISE	INITIAL RISK	SPECIFIC MEASURES TO BE PUT IN PLACE TO ELIMINATE OR CONTROL THE RISKS	RESIDUAL RISK	NAME OF PERSON
			<div></div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div>		
12. Emergency Procedures	Unprepared operators, Delay in response time	2M	<div></div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div>	1L	

A large, light blue rectangular area with a faint, diagonal watermark reading "SAMPLE" across it. The watermark is in a bold, sans-serif font and is oriented from the bottom-left towards the top-right. The background of the rectangle is a solid light blue color.

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 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>

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 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-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) Regulations 2011

Legislation NT: <https://worksafe.nt.gov.au/laws-and-compliance/workplace-safety-laws>

Codes of Practice NT: <https://worksafe.nt.gov.au/laws-and-compliance/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

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	Position	Signature	Date	Time	Supervisor
			Date:		
			Date:		
			Date:		
			Date:		
			Date:		
			Date:		
			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 needed. The review process should be carried out in consultation with workers (including contractors and subcontractors) who may be affected by the operation 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 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	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5	<input type="checkbox"/> 6	<input type="checkbox"/> 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	TO BE DONE	COMMENTS
The company details have been entered, including the project name and address.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Names and signatures of all relevant personnel consulted during the development of the SWMS.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Name, signature, position and date signed of the person approving the SWMS.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Specific personnel and qualifications, experience is noted in the SWMS.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Provides a step-by-step process of tasks required to carry out the activity or task.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Adequate risk assessment of any identified hazards has been completed.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Foreseeable hazards are identified and documented for each step.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Any hazards listed in any site risk assessments have been added to the SWMS.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
SWMS initial risk (IR) column as well as residual risk (RR) columns completed.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Check control measures added to the SWMS are the most effective solutions.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Responsible person is assigned and listed on the SWMS for the implementation of control measures.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Permit requirements specified, such as Hot Work, Electrical Work, Work at Heights etc.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
SWMS identifies plant and equipment to be used.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Details of inspection checks required for any equipment listed are noted on the SWMS.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Describes any mandatory qualifications, experience, training, skills required to perform the work.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Applicable personal protective equipment is selected on the SWMS.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Lists any required permits or licenses.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Reflects and documents any legislative references and/or Australian Standards.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Identifies any hazardous substances used with specific control measures in line with any SDS.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
REVIEWED BY		DATE REVIEWED	
SIGNATURE		DATE COMPLETED	