



RISK ASSESSMENT

RA003-CEN USE OF POWER TOOLS

HATTON TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT LTD
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PREFACE

Power tools make work quicker and require less physical effort from the user. However, with these benefits also comes risk. Power tools are powerful, and when accidents happen, they can cause serious injuries.

Power tools create hazards such as noise, vibration, electrical, moving parts and projectiles. They have the power to cause severe and even fatal injury if used incorrectly.

When mistakes or accidents happen with power tools, they often cause serious injuries.

Power tools are involved in many accidents and fires each year. Before you start working with one, consider safe use so that you don't add to the injury statistics.

The safe use of power tools is covered under the Provision and Use of Work Equipment Regulations (PUWER). Employers have a legal duty to comply with these regulations when using power tools and other equipment within their organisation.

A dynamic risk assessment **MUST** be completed before the use of a power tool that is required for the works you are to undertake.

If any risks operational or environmental are identified outside this generic risk assessment, then you **MUST** inform your supervisor immediately.

If at any point throughout your work an unsafe situation is identified **STOP WORK** and contact your Supervisor immediately for guidance.

This risk assessment **MUST** be communicated through a TBT to all personnel undertaking works that involve the use of power tools.

LINKED DOCUMENTS

All linked documents are held on the field Service tablets and on the QHSE shared drive and are accessible to all personnel that may use power tools.

The linked documents are to be read in conjunction with this Risk Assessment before any work is carried out.

All Linked Documents to be listed here E.g.

- PY036-CEN Health & Wellbeing Policy
- PY013-Manual Handling Policy
- RA016-CEN Manual Handling

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RISK ASSESSMENT INFORMATION

- If ANY risk is **HIGH**, **do not proceed with the operation**, abandon the job or look into doing it a different way.
- If ANY risk is **MEDIUM**, **proceed only with caution**, introduce additional controls, where possible.
- If ALL risk is **LOW**, **proceed with work**.

RISK ASSESSMENT KEY

Likelihood Categories		Severity Score				
Category	Description	1	2	3	4	5
A	Extremely Likely					
B	Unlikely					
C	Occasional					
D	Likely					
E	Expected					
Severity Score Descriptions						
1	Minor Injuries/inconveniences. Employee can continue to work. Short term local damage					
2	Minor Injuries. Operative requires first aid treatment. Stops work. Medium term local/short term regional damage.					
3	Reportable/LTI or illness Long term local/regional damage					
4	Major injury or illness with long term effects Long term widespread damage					
5	Fatalities Widespread permanent damage					
Action Required						
Low Risk	Check that no other risks can be eliminated by modifications of design then proceed with design. Record residual risks					
Medium Risk	Reduce risks as far as reasonably practical. Consider alternative design or construction method. If alternatives are not available, specify precautions to be adopted. Record residual risks.					
High Risk	Seek alternative solutions. If alternatives are not available, specify precautions to be adopted & advise Senior Management & Supervisor (if appropriate). Record residual risks					
Hazard Phase Codes				Examples of Persons at Risk		
SIS	Site Investigation/Survey			Inexperienced		
OD	Outline Design			Disabled		
DD	Detailed Design			Public		
C	Construction			Visitors		
CMT	Commissioning /Testing			Lone workers		
O	Operation			Operative		
M	Maintenance			Sign Technician (ST)		
D	Demolition/Decommissioning/Dismantling			All		

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RISK ASSESSMENT

Item	Activity	Phase Code(s)	Hazard(s)	Person(s) at Risk	Risks	PRE-Risk Control Measures			Risk Control Measures	POST-Risk Control Measures		
						Likelihood	Severity	Risk		Likelihood	Severity	Risk
1	Use of Power Tools	O/M	Un-trained or Incompetent Operative	All	1. Fatal injuries to all due to Operator not being trained.	D	3	H	a. Only trained & competent Operators to carry out works that involve the use of power tools. b. Line Manager to ensure Operators are trained and competent to use the power tools that are required for their works. c. All trained Operators to be listed on the training matrix through HR & QHSE departments. d. All power tools to be locked away and to be signed out by the Supervisor.	A	3	L
2	Use of Power Tools	O/M	Slips, Trips & Falls	All	1. Injuries due to employees tripping over objects or slipping on spillages.	C	2	M	a. General good housekeeping undertaken. b. All cables are to be protected from causing a trip hazard. c. All areas are well lit. d. Trailing leads are moved or protected. e. Staff to keep work areas clear and tidy. f. Staff to mop up or report spillages. g. If working at height is needed, then a site specific RA to be completed. h. Wear Safety Boots with a good grip and steel toe cap.	A	2	L
3	Use of Power Tools	O/M	Manual Handling	O	1. Muscular-skeletal injuries. 2. Potential injury to hands or body whilst handling	B	2	L	a. Only carry power tools that you can comfortably lift. b. Always determine weight of power tool before attempting to move or handle it.	A	2	L

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						Likelihood	Severity	Risk		Likelihood	Severity	Risk
					heavy power tools.				c. Wear appropriate gloves or PPE to protect hands and exposed body parts			
4	Use of Power Tools	O/M	The Tool	O	1. Using the wrong tool/attachment for a task can create mechanical and electrical stress that causes the equipment to become unsafe resulting in significant injuries to the Operator.	B	5	H	a. Operator to ensure that the correct power tool attachments are used for the job. b. Operator is to check that the power tool has been checked over to ensure there is no damage to the tool and its accessories. c. All hand guards and handles are to be fitted before the power tool is used. d. Operator is not to use the power tool if it is damaged or has any faults with it. e. The Power tool is to be taken out of service if damaged, reported to their line manager. f. The power tool is PAT tested and maintained. g. Any attachment expiry dates are adhered to.	A	3	L
5	Use of Power Tools	O/M	Electricity	O	1. Electric Shocks cab cause severe and permanent injury.	B	5	H	a. Power tool is to be visually inspected before use. b. Any signs of electrical faults the power tool is to be taken out of service until repaired. c. Any signs of damage to casings, covers or cables the power toll is to be taken out of service until repaired. d. Any signs of scorching, burn marks or staining the power tool is to be taken out of service until repaired.	A	5	M

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6	Use of Power Tools	O/M	Flammable, Explosive Atmosphere	All	1. Fire or explosion.	C	3	M	a. Flammable and combustible materials must be removed from the operational area to prevent a fire hazard. (Flammable and combustible materials could include open paint/glue pots, oil, paper, rags, solvents, insulation panels, etc.) b. Keep area clean and tidy. c. Heat guards are to be used to prevent sparks hot particles from causing fire or explosion. d. If working outside, then a site specific RA to be completed.	A	3	L
7	Use of Power Tools	O/M	Moving Parts	O	1. Entanglement of 2. Clothing/Hair. 3. Jamming of fingers.	C	3	M	a. Use guards as intended, no power tool is to be used if handles and guards are not fitted. b. Loose clothing, jewellery and long hair to be kept clear of moving parts. c. Wear protective at all times when using the power tool.	A	3	L
8	Use of Power Tools	O/M	Flying Debris	O	1. Eye, Hand or facial injuries.	C	3	M	a. Protective eyewear (close fitting) to be worn. b. Protective full face, face shield (along with close fitting eyewear) to be worn (when using an angle grinder) c. Protective gloves to be worn. d. Power tool not to be used if accessories are worn/Damaged, i.e., worn cutting discs, damaged drill bits.	A	3	L

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						Likelihood	Severity	Risk		Likelihood	Severity	Risk
9	Use of Power Tools	O/M	Noise	All	1. Hearing Damage can be permanent and disabling.	C	3	M	a. Isolate area, advise nearby persons of hazard, anyone entering the hazard area to wear ear protection. b. Screening to be placed around working area. c. The exposure limit is not exceeded <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ 85 decibels for daily or weekly personal noise exposure. ➤ 140 Decibels for peak sound pressure. d. Ear defenders or suitable disposable ear plugs mandatory and to be worn at all times when exposure limits are exceeded when using power tools. e. Supervisor or Line Manager to carry out spot checks of those using the power tool and of the serviceability of the ear protection. f. Operators to report any defects to their hearing protection to their Supervisor or Line Manager.	A	3	L
10	Use of Power Tools	O	Battery Operated Tools	O	1. Fires 2. Irritation to skin and burns.	B	2	L	a. Batteries undergo a first use check. b. Ensure battery is only charged as per manufacturer's instructions. c. Batteries that require charging more than normal need to be disposed of correct through the WEEE waste. d. Battery packs are kept away from metal objects to prevent arcing/shorting.	A	2	L

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						Likelihood	Severity	Risk		Likelihood	Severity	Risk
									e. Cracked/Damaged Batteries are to be disposed of as hazardous waste.			
11	Use of Power Tools	O	Vibration	O	1. Hand-arm vibration syndrome (HAVS). 2. Carpal tunnel syndrome (CTS).	B	3	M	f. Minimise the time Operators use the equipment (e.g., job rotation). g. Restrict use of vibration inducing tools to recommended times (see Departmental guidance, manufacturer's information, local risk assessment or label on equipment/box). h. Those that use power tools can be provided with a suitable health surveillance.	A	3	L
12	Use of Power Tools	O	Dust	All	1. Respiratory illness/Reduced visibility/Skin irritation	B	2	L	a. Use Respiratory PPE (check for fit). b. Ensure that the area is well ventilated. c. Advise nearby persons of hazard, anyone entering the hazard area to wear respiratory PPE or work is to stop immediately.	A	2	L
13	Use of Power Tools	O	Unfit Operator	O	1. Personnel injury due to Operator not being fit for work.	B	2	L	a. Operator to ensure they are fit and well to undertake operations with any power tool. b. Operator to capable and alert at all times when using power tools. c. Operator to maintain safe and stable posture during the operation of the power tool. d. Operator to stop works immediately if feeling unwell when operating the power tool and report to their Line Manager.	A	2	L

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ENVIRONMENTAL RISK ASSESSMENT INFORMATION

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- If ANY risk is **MEDIUM**, **proceed only with caution**, introduce additional controls, where possible.
- If ALL risk is **LOW**, **proceed with work**.

ENVIRONMENTAL RISK ASSESSMENT KEY

Control		Severity Score				
		Insignificant /Positive	Minor	Moderate	Major	Severe
Category	Rating Description	1	2	3	4	5
A	High degree of control					
B	Medium degree of control					
C	Moderate degree of control					
D	Slight degree of control					
E	Negligible degree of control					
Severity Score Descriptions						
1	All aspects fully controlled or have negative effect upon the environment					
2	Aspects exist at recognisable levels, which may impact on the environment; but any change is easily recoverable with no lasting effect					
3	Will have an effect on the environment. Damage is short term and is always recoverable					
4	Major Impact. Damage is not permanent, but may take some time to remedy					
5	High Impact. Risk of severe environmental damage					
Action Required						
Low Risk	Low impact identified - Control measure to be adopted and monitored					
Medium Risk	Medium impact identified - Ensure that the aspect & impact assessment is reviewed, further controls may be necessary					
High Risk	High impact identified - Re-evaluate the aspect & impact assessment and develop / determine greater controls					
Hazard Phase Codes				Examples of Receptor		
SIS	Site Investigation/Survey			Air (A)		
OD	Outline Design			Land (L)		
DD	Detailed Design			Water (W)		
C	Construction			Natural Resources (NR)		
CMT	Commissioning /Testing			Community/Residence/Pedestrians (CRP)		
O	Operation			Operative (O)		
M	Maintenance			Ecology /Habitat (EH)		
D	Demolition/Decommissioning/Dismantling			All		
Key Environmental Issues						
Local effects of Pollution (air quality, noise, waste, lighting, odour)				Carbon emissions and greenhouse effect global warming		
Water source and ocean Pollution				Deforestation, soil erosion and land quality		
Material resources & Land despoliation, supply chain issues & inequal disruption to impacts				Energy Supplies, innovations in food and fuel		
Waste and International waste trade				Agricultural issues arising from global trade		
Climate change and extreme weather events				Biodiversity loss		

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Item	Activity	Phase Code(s)	Aspect	Receptor	Potential Impact	PRE-Risk Control Measures			Risk Control Measures	POST-Risk Control Measures		
						Control	Severity	Risk		Control	Severity	Risk
1	Use of Power Tools	O/M	1. Noise, Dust & Light Pollution, Visual impact, Disruption to Neighbours / Local Community	CRP	1. Nuisance to local residents / pedestrians.	B	2	L	a. Power tool operations to be undertaken within a controlled environment. b. Dust compression to be used on works that produce the risk of dust. c. Screens to be used when carrying out power tool operations on site. d. Power tool Operations to be minimised after the hours of 8PM	A	2	L
2	Use of Power Tools	M	1. Emissions to land, air and water from waste disposal	EH	1. Waste materials not being disposed of correctly, potential for fly tipping and land/water contamination.	B	2	L	a. Waste Electrical & Electronic Equipment (WEEE) to be disposed of correctly through GoGreen waste Management Supplier. b. All Waste transfer notes to be forwarded to the QHSE Manager. c. Routine walk around checks to be undertaken of waste receptacles from cross contamination. d. Keep Power tools maintained correctly to reduce waste.	A	2	L

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