

Safe Work Method Statement – Work Carried out in a Contaminated Environment

This safe work method statement is generic in nature can be used as a guide in developing your SWMS All PCBU's when undertaking high risk construction work are to have in place a Safe Work Method Statement (SWMS). Where there are differences in the control measures to employed between your and this SWMS the higher of the two control measures are to be implemented – this or your own SWMS. This SWMS needs to be reviewed against site conditions upon commencing work. Where site conditions prevent works to be carried out in accordance with this SWMS than another is to be written and Site Supervisor notified.

Name of PCBU/Principal Builder			Name of Principal Contractor	Bay Building Services	
Work Activity:		Work Carried out in a Contaminated Environment		Work Location:	
High Risk Construction Work:		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Asbestos 		Site Supervisor:	
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fall from height 			
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Falling objects 		Emergency Contact:	1399 766 216
Date of SWMS		02/04/2018		Review Date	
Have workers been consulted about the SWMS?		All workers are required to be consulted with regards to the SWMS and control measures contained in the SWMS.			
Person Responsible for ensuring compliance with SWMS		Different PCBU's/Employers and Contractors will encounter different High Risk activities. All PCBU's/Employers are responsible for reviewing this SWMS against site conditions and ensure work occurs in accordance with the SWMS.			
Person(s) Responsible (for reviewing the SWMS)		PCBU's/Employers should review this SWMS and apply the control measures outlined for the various High Risk activities that they may undertake. Where works cannot occur in accordance with this or your own SWMS contact is to be made with the Site Supervisor.			
Work Step	Hazard for Works	Control Measures for the Hazards			
PCBU's Pre-Start Check at Site	Site hazards may impair works	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Undertake pre-site inspection verify conditions on site will enable works to be carried out in accordance with the SWMS. Discuss site specific works with the Site Supervisor reviewing site signage, Safety Management Plan, for site specific hazards Ensure all employees are made aware of any site specific hazards to works and this SWMS If SWMS are to be changed copy is to be provided to site supervisor and approval obtained 			

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Construction Inducted employees and contractors are only allowed to undertake construction works • Inspect meter box RCD and activate tripping device verifying working condition if using power equipment • Ensure all leads tagging & testing are up to date. • Only certified and/or licensed personnel are to operate mobile equipment
Cutting, sanding, abrasion of cement type products containing silica	Exposure to silica	<p>Risks arise when carrying out works such as cutting or drilling which creates dusts which exposes workers to Crystalline Silica which can be hazardous to health.</p> <p>Dust suppression (wetting down or dry cutting) or dust extraction principles are implemented to avoid the inhalation of silica dust.</p> <p>Where this is not practicable the use of PPE respirators or dusts masks fitted in accordance with the product guidelines are to be used.</p>
Cutting, Sanding, Abrasion of MDF products	Exposure to MDF dusts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dust Creation to be Minimised where Practicable Wherever practicable the cutting and machining of MDF shall be carried out prior to being brought on site. • Cutting and Machining MDF on Site Where cutting and machining has to be carried out on site as in fixing carpentry the following procedures will be implemented. Segregation Wherever practicable cutting and machining of MDF will be performed in an area of the site, as far away from other trade activities as possible. • Dust Collection Where cutting and machining operations are carried out with powered tools, eg. saws, sanders etc, such equipment will be fitted with effective dust collection devices. Such devices shall be fitted and used at all times during cutting and machining operations. Dust collection bags will be regularly emptied to ensure they remain effective Housekeeping All waste MDF off-cuts, dust from dust collection bags and dust collected from sweeping or vacuum cleaning shall be placed into sealable bags and either deposited safely into receptacles provided on site or removed from site to be disposed of by the subcontractor. Areas where cutting and machining is carried out are to be cleaned at regular intervals to remove all dust and offcuts. A final clean-up is to be carried out at the end of every working day. Where a vacuum cleaner is used it must be an approved type (eg. HEPA). • Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) When cutting or machining MDF all workers shall wear suitable, effective and well-maintained PPE. This shall include, as a minimum, protection from inhalation of dust through the nose and mouth and protection for the eyes. Facemasks may be suitable paper-type (eg P1 for low volume exposure or

		<p>P2 for high volume exposure) or a half mask canister respirator-type face mask fitted with disposable filters that can filter dust particles of the specific size for MDF. All respirator/dust PPE shall be correctly maintained, properly fitted and comply with the Australian Standards AS/NZS 1715 and 1716.</p> <p>Eye protection is required to be worn when cutting or machining so that eyes are protected from MDF dust and flying particles. Eye protection must conform with AS/NZS 1337</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ventilation Areas where MDF is cut and/or machined shall be adequately ventilated by having one or more windows open at all times 								
<p>Exposure to Hazardous Substances & Dangerous Goods, lead, PCB's, synthetic mineral fibres</p>	<p>Exposure to hazardous materials adversely effecting health</p>	<p>Hazardous Substances & Dangerous Goods Before starting any demolition work, all areas of the workplace including basements, cellars, vaults and waste dumps, should be examined to determine whether:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • there are any items which could be a fire and explosion risk • any previous use of the site might cause a risk because of the nature of and/or decomposition of materials, and • there are any toxic, radioactive or other hazardous chemicals present. <p>Any hazardous materials including explosives, should be clearly identified. Information about a chemical's hazards and control measures can be obtained from the chemical's Material Safety Data Sheet (MSDS) or the label of the chemical's container.</p> <p>The MSDS will give advice as to control measures for the chemicals handling and disposal of hazardous substances and all workers should be made aware of the presence of the hazardous substance and control measures for the handling and disposal of hazardous materials.</p> <p>Lead</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - found in paint, old water pipes and other plumbing fittings, sheet lead, solders, lead flashing, lead light windows and glass. - The age of a structure may be directly related to the amount of lead that can be present <table border="1" data-bbox="772 1117 1936 1385"> <thead> <tr> <th data-bbox="772 1117 1318 1214">Approximate date of construction</th> <th data-bbox="1318 1117 1936 1214">Sources of lead hazards</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="772 1214 1318 1263">1920 - 1978</td> <td data-bbox="1318 1214 1936 1263">Paint</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="772 1263 1318 1312">1920 - 1978</td> <td data-bbox="1318 1263 1936 1312">Plumbing</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="772 1312 1318 1385">1923 - 1986</td> <td data-bbox="1318 1312 1936 1385">Automobile exhaust (may accumulate as ceiling dust)</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Approximate date of construction	Sources of lead hazards	1920 - 1978	Paint	1920 - 1978	Plumbing	1923 - 1986	Automobile exhaust (may accumulate as ceiling dust)
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		<p>If it is suspected that the structure contains lead based paint, a test for the presence of lead should be conducted.</p> <p>The precautions which should be taken when demolishing materials containing lead include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • minimising the generation of lead dust and fumes • cleaning work areas properly during and after work • wearing the appropriate PPE, and • maintaining good personal hygiene. <p>Synthetic Mineral Fibres : used extensively for insulation in building walls and ceilings as well as on items such as air-conditioning duct work. The specific material should be identified and control measures implemented relevant to the manufacturer's instructions and MSDS</p> <p>PPE should be provided to workers and worn when insulation is being removed during the demolition process and dust should be suppressed by damping down.</p> <p>Polychlorinated biphenyls (PCB)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Found in electrical capacitors and transformers or when cleaning up spills and leaks. - Appropriate control measures should be implemented when handling damaged capacitors to ensure that any spillage does not contact workers and is appropriately cleaned up and disposed of. - Any equipment or parts containing PCBs should be placed in a polyethylene bag and then placed into a marked sealable metal container. - If PCBs cannot be transported immediately for disposal, all containers should be stored in a protected area which prevents any discharge of PCBs to the environment. - PPE including gloves made of materials that are resistant to PCBs (for example polyethylene, nitrile rubber or neoprene), should be provided to workers and worn when there is any likelihood of exposure to PCBs.
<p>Brick Cleaning using Hydrochloric Acid</p>	<p>Exposure to hazardous substance and dangerous good</p>	<p>Hydrochloric acid is both a dangerous good and hazardous substance and inhalation can be toxic, can cause burns, irritation to the eyes, respiratory system, and skin. Avoid skin and eye contact and breathing in vapour, mists, and aerosols. If chemical makes contact with the eyes or skin flush with flowing water for 15 minutes, and if symptoms persist seek medical attention. If inhaled move to a fresh source of air and remove source of contamination.</p>

		<p>Hydrochloric acid is classed as a dangerous good (class 8) and should be stored in a well ventilated area, 5m away from other dangerous goods classes e.g. petrol, transported in a secure labelled plastic container, and decanting should not occur in the vehicle or confined space</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hydrochloric container should be clearly labelled • Avoid skin and eye contact and breathing in vapour, mists, and aerosols. • Wear PPE as specified by the MSDS: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ safety glasses, face shield, goggles as required ○ PVC, neoprene or nitrile rubber gloves ○ Waterproof coat/coveralls. ○ If airborne concentrations are to exceed the exposure standard use organic respiratory protection • Decant into plastic spray container in a well ventilated area taking care to avoid spills and splashes. If acid is spilled surface can become slippery. Contain spill and prevent run off. Recover spilled liquid for safe disposal in a plastic container. Remainder can be soaked with an inert substance (sand) and residual washed off. •
Paint	Possible exposure to hazardous substances and health effect associated with paint exposure over period of time	<p>In general paints use in the construction process are non-hazardous water based paints with the exception of enamel paints which are solvent based and are a hazardous substance and dangerous good :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Dulux Professional Full Gloss Enamel - Solver Full Gloss Enamel - Solver Semi-Gloss Enamel - Taubmans Full Gloss Enamel <p>Use in a well ventilated area opening windows and doors. Where small quantities are to be used engineering extraction methods are not required. Keep container lid closed when not in use.</p> <p>Keep away from sources of ignition – no smoking. Avoid skin contact and apply paint via use of brush or roller keeping excess paint to a minimum to prevent drips. If skin contact occurs wash immediately with plenty of soap and water.</p>
Using cement powders and wet cement during slab and brick construction	Contact with cement powders and wet cement can be hazardous to health	<p><u>Cement:</u> Cement is classified as a hazardous substance. Efforts should be made to avoid inhalation of cement dust and avoid direct skin contact. Minimise generation of cement dust – Mix outside and / or wear a P1 respirator. Cement has a very powerful caustic effect on skin due to its alkaline content and has the potential to cause burns and dermatitis. Rubber or PVC gloves should be worn when working with cement and cement based products (concrete, mortar, mud)</p>

Use of sand during brick laying	Hazardous substance when sweeping, grinding, and inhalation of dusts	<p>Sand: Sand is classified as a hazardous substance. Sand (crystalline silica) has the potential to cause damage to the lungs (scarring). Efforts should be made to keep sand wet to avoid dust generation and inhalation of particles. Safety goggles & dust mask should be worn when generating dusts through machining (cutting).</p>
Use of lime during bricklaying	Hazardous to health when applying lime dusts to mixture inhalation of dusts and skin contact	<p>Lime: Lime is classified as a hazardous substance. Efforts should be made to avoid inhalation of lime dust and avoid direct skin contact. Minimise generation of lime dust – Handle outside and / or wear a P1 respirator. Lime has a caustic effect on skin due to its alkaline content and has the potential to cause burns and dermatitis. Avoid contact with eyes</p>
Render	Hazardous to health as contains silica based product	<p>Slightly corrosive. Avoid eye or skin contact or dust inhalation. Render has the potential to cause acute and chronic health effects with over exposure. In the wet state, this product does not present an inhalation hazard. Silica quartz can cause silicosis (lung disease) with chronic over exposure.</p> <p>Eye Corrosive. Severe irritant upon contact with powder/ dust. Over exposure may result in pain, redness, corneal burns and ulceration with possible permanent damage.</p> <p>Inhalation Slightly corrosive. Over exposure may result in severe mucous membrane irritation & bronchitis. Hexavalent chromium is reported to cause respiratory sensitization, however due to the trace amount present, a hazard is not anticipated under normal conditions of use.</p> <p>Skin Slightly corrosive. Prolonged and repeated contact with powder or wetted form may result in skin rash, dermatitis and sensitization.</p> <p>Efforts should be made to avoid inhalation of render dust and avoid direct skin contact. Minimise generation of dust – Mix outside and / or wear a P1 respirator where inhalation of dusts risk exist. Render has caustic effect on skin due to its alkaline content and has the potential to cause burns and dermatitis. Rubber or PVC gloves should be worn when working with render and render based products (concrete, mortar, mud)</p>
Glues, Mastic, Adhesives, Silicone Sealants	Hazardous substances due to inhalation and contact	<p>Glues, sealants, masticks, silicone sealants are commonly used products in the construction process. In general these products are used in limited quantities and applied via the use of a glue gun or brush. These products are hazardous substances and the following precautions should be taken:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Avoid skin contact use brush or glue gun to apply substance - Avoid eye contact <p>Avoid breathing vapour. Use in well ventilated area opening door or window</p>
Tile Grout	Hazardous substance when dusts inhaled and skin contact.	<p>Cement base tile joint grout. This product is classed as being hazardous as it contains silica. Repeated and long term exposure to dusts which exposes workers to <i>Crystalline Silica</i> which can be hazardous to health causing silicosis.</p>

		<p>Exposure is reduced by limiting the quantities used, ensuring use is in a well ventilated area (open door and window), packaging is kept close, and decanted keeping dusts to a minimum</p> <p>Dust suppression (wetting down or dry cutting) or dust extraction principles are implemented to avoid the inhalation of silica dust. Where this is not practicable the use of PPE respirators or dusts masks fitted in accordance with the product guidelines are to be used.</p> <p>May cause superficial burns to damp skin especially when trapped by clothing. Prolonged exposure may cause dermatitis or cracking of the skin.</p> <p>Hand packaging when decanting and use tool when applying grout keeping hands and eyes away from the mixture. Cleaning of excess should occur via the use of a rag or sponge.</p>
Silastics Internal & External		Used as a sealant both internal and external and wet areas. In general this product should be applied via the use of calking or glue gun, in a well ventilated area, avoiding skin contact.
Joint Sealant	Hazardous substance when inhaled and skin contact	Used as a sealant and can be applied via the use of a calking or glue gun. Use in a well ventilated area with door and window open. Avoid inhalation and avoid skin contact. Prolonged inhalation can cause respiratory sensitisation and allergic reaction Cleaning of excess should occur via the use of a rag or sponge.
Bostick PVA Glue	Not classed as hazardous	Not classed as being hazardous however should avoid inhalation, skin and eye contact.
Mineral Turpentine	Hazardous to health when inhaled and repeated skin contact	Avoid breathing of or contact with material. Use in well ventilated areas. Wash thoroughly after handling. Avoid contact with skin and eyes and clothing. Handle open containers in well ventilated area. Ensure that the workplace is ventilated via open doors and window.
Cleaning products for house cleaning	Hazardous to health	<p>When using substances such as industrial grade cleaning chemicals, the Material Safety Data Sheet (MSDS) requirements are to be followed especially in regards to the use of personal protective equipment and the safe handling of these substances. In general avoid inhalation, skin, and eye contact. Wear PVC gloves when applying product. Use products in a well ventilated area. If vapours are generated use a P2 respirator or mechanical extraction unit.</p> <p>Containers of cleaning substances must be clearly marked with the manufacturers labels. The labels shall remain intact and in a readable condition until the contents have been completely used. No hazardous substances shall be stored or used from either an unmarked bottle or container or from a container bearing the name of another product.</p>
Unleaded Petrol, Diesel, Two-Stroke Petrol	Hazard Substance and dangerous good. Extremely flammable and hazardous to health when inhaled and skin contact.	<p>Petrochemical fuels can cause cancer, birth defects, irritation to the skin eyes, nose, throat, lungs. Can cause dizziness and drowsiness.</p> <p>Use in limited quantities on site for re-filling of generators or portable fuel driven items of plant. Store in a dry, cool, and well ventilated area away from other chemicals and ignition sources (highly flammable). Use non-sparking tools and keep ignition sources away from product eg. cigarettes, lighters etc. Use only approved dangerous goods petrol containers. Do not fill container whilst it is a vehicle place it on the ground and keep nozzle in contact with the container. When decanting ensure nozzle is earthed and avoid spills.</p>

		Avoid breathing mists or vapour. Avoid all contact. Do not siphon by mouth. Personal protective measures to be employed depend upon the usage. If eye contact is likely eye protection with side shields is recommended.
Mould contamination	Inhalation of mould spores	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Isolate contaminated area and make contact with site supervisor. Close doors and windows. - All workers prior to entering building must be wearing the required PPE. Disposable overalls, gloves, goggles, P100 filter half face mask. Workers to ensure they are aware how to use equipment safely. - Workers to dispose of disposable items with other contaminated waste when finished using it for that time. - Workers to waste hands and face when finishing work, prior to eating or smoking or going to the toilet. - Workers are to not to enter sealed off areas unless advised by remediators that they are able to enter sealed off areas.