RISK ASSESSMENT AND METHOD STATEMENT (RAMS)

Business name

Document: RAMS-001 Rev 1
Prepared: 9 Nov 2026
Review by: 9 Dec 2026
Highest risk after controls: Medium

1. BUSINESS AND JOB DETAILS

Job	On-site welding	**Start date**	9 Nov 2026
Working hours	7:00 am to 3:30 pm	**Trade**	Welding and fabrication

2. RISK ASSESSMENT

#	Activity / step	Hazards	Who might be harmed and how	Risk before	Controls	Risk after	Responsible
1	Get a hot work permit and clear flammables from the area	Fire from hot works Flammable liquids and gases Rules: CDM 2015 regs 29 to 31 (fire on construction sites). Occupied premises: Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order 2005 (England and Wales), Fire (Scotland) Act 2005, Fire Safety Regulations (NI) 2010; Dangerous Substances and Explosive Atmospheres Regulations 2002 (DSEAR)	Workers, Occupants, Public. How: Sparks and heat from welding, grinding or flame torches set fire to timber, insulation, rubbish or fuel nearby. Petrol, solvents, thinners and LPG catch fire or explode when vapour reaches a spark, flame or hot surface.	**Very high (15) Possible / Fatal**	1.1 Use cold work methods where you can, such as bolting, press fittings or cutting with a saw instead of a torch. [Eliminate] 1.2 Move anything that can burn at least 10 metres away, or cover it with fire blankets. [Isolate] 1.3 Fire from hot works: see step 6 for the full controls [Control (procedures)] 1.4 Use non-flammable or water-based products where you can. [Reduce / substitute] 1.5 Keep ignition sources away: no smoking, no hot work and no running engines near flammables. [Isolate] 1.6 Store fuels and solvents in approved, closed containers in a ventilated area away from the work. [Control (engineering)] 1.7 Refuel equipment outdoors with the engine off and cool. [Control (procedures)] 1.8 Keep only what you need for the day on site. [Control (procedures)] 1.9 Store gas cylinders upright, secured and outdoors. [Control (procedures)] 1.10 Keep a suitable fire extinguisher where flammables are used or stored. [Control (procedures)] 1.11 Wear chemical gloves and safety glasses when pouring or mixing. [PPE]	**Medium (5) Very unlikely / Fatal**	Site supervisor
2	Set up welding screens to protect others from arc flash	Eye injuries Public entering the work area Rules: CDM Regulations 2015	Workers, People nearby, Public, Children. How: Flying chips, dust, chemicals or sparks get into the eye and cause damage or blindness. Members of the public, including children, walk into the site and are hit	**High (12) Possible / Major injury**	2.1 Use tool guards and screens to stop flying particles. [Control (engineering)] 2.2 Use dust extraction and water to keep dust out of the air. [Control (engineering)] 2.3 Keep others out of the area when cutting, grinding or chipping. [Control (procedures)] 2.4 Keep an eye wash station or eye wash bottles on site. [Control (procedures)] 2.5 Wear safety glasses at all times, goggles for dust and chemicals,	**Low (4) Very unlikely / Major injury**	Site supervisor

#	Activity / step	Hazards	Who might be harmed and how	Risk before	Controls	Risk after	Responsible
			by plant or falling objects, or fall into holes.		and a face shield for grinding. [PPE] 2.6 Fence off the site with secure temporary fencing and lock the gates when you leave. [Isolate] 2.7 Give pedestrians a safe, marked path around the work, with ramps for prams and wheelchairs. [Isolate] 2.8 Use hoarding, covered walkways or catch fans where work is above public areas. [Control (engineering)] 2.9 Put signs at each entry: site name, contact number and "No unauthorised entry". [Control (procedures)] 2.10 Make the site safe at the end of each day: cover holes, lower plant, remove ladders and lock tools away. [Control (procedures)] 2.11 Use a spotter when moving plant or materials across public paths. [Control (procedures)]		
3	Check leads and earth clamp, keeping leads dry	Electric shock from leads and power tools Slips and trips Rules: Electricity at Work Regulations 1989	Workers, Visitors, Public. How: Damaged leads, plugs or tools, or water near power, give the user an electric shock. Workers slip on wet or muddy ground or trip on leads, offcuts and uneven ground, causing sprains, broken bones or head injuries.	**High (12) Possible / Major injury**	3.1 Use battery-powered tools where you can. [Reduce / substitute] 3.2 Use 110V tools through a centre-tapped transformer, or battery tools. Use an RCD on any 230V supply. [Control (engineering)] 3.3 Keep leads off the ground and out of water, using lead stands or hooks. [Control (engineering)] 3.4 Check leads, plugs and tools before every use. Tag out and remove anything damaged. [Control (procedures)] 3.5 Keep tools and leads inspected and PAT tested on a regular schedule. [Control (procedures)] 3.6 Do not use tools in rain or wet areas unless they are rated for it. [Control (procedures)] 3.7 Wear safety boots and dry gloves. [PPE] 3.8 Plan walkways and keep them clear of materials, hoses and leads. [Eliminate] 3.9 Run leads and hoses overhead on hooks or stands, or along walls, not across walkways. [Control (engineering)] 3.10 Fill or cover holes, and lay boards or mats on muddy access paths. [Control (engineering)] 3.11 Clean up offcuts, packaging and spills as you go, not at the end of the day. [Control (procedures)] 3.12 Keep work areas, stairs and access paths well lit. [Control (procedures)] 3.13 Wear safety boots with good grip, laced up. [PPE]	**Low (4) Very unlikely / Major injury**	Site supervisor
4	Weld with fume extraction or a respirator, especially on galvanised steel	Welding and cutting fumes Burns from hot surfaces Rules: COSHH Regulations 2002	Workers, People nearby. How: Welding, cutting and brazing give off metal fumes and gases that damage the lungs and can cause cancer. Touching hot pipes, tools, bitumen, solder or	**Very high (16) Likely / Major injury**	4.1 Remove paint, galvanising and coatings from the weld area first, or use a process that makes less fume. [Reduce / substitute] 4.2 Use fume extraction (local exhaust ventilation) close to the weld. [Control (engineering)] 4.3 Weld outdoors or in a well-ventilated area, and keep your head out of the fume plume. [Control (engineering)] 4.4 Do a COSHH assessment. HSE expects fume extraction for all indoor welding, including mild steel. [Control (procedures)] 4.5 Never weld or cut in a confined space without testing the air and	**Medium (8) Unlikely / Major injury**	Site supervisor

#	Activity / step	Hazards	Who might be harmed and how	Risk before	Controls	Risk after	Responsible
			freshly welded metal burns the skin.		using forced ventilation. [Control (procedures)] 4.6 Wear a powered air respirator or fitted respirator when extraction is not enough. [PPE] 4.7 Wear a welding helmet, welding gloves and flame-resistant clothing. [PPE] 4.8 Isolate heating systems and let parts cool before you touch them. [Eliminate] 4.9 Fit guards or insulation on hot pipes and equipment. [Control (engineering)] 4.10 Mark hot items with chalk or a "HOT" sign so others know. [Control (procedures)] 4.11 Keep a first aid kit and cool running water nearby for burns. [Control (procedures)] 4.12 Wear heat-resistant gloves and long sleeves. [PPE]		
5	Grind welds with guards on	Angle grinder injuries Loud noise Eye injuries Rules: Control of Noise at Work Regulations 2005	Workers, People nearby. How: The disc shatters, binds or kicks back, causing deep cuts to legs and hands or eye injuries. Saws, grinders, jackhammers and machines cause permanent hearing loss and ringing in the ears over time.	**High (12) Possible / Major injury**	5.1 Use a guarded saw or a different tool where you can. [Reduce / substitute] 5.2 Keep the guard on and use the side handle. Never remove the guard. [Control (engineering)] 5.3 Use the right disc for the job, rated for the grinder's speed. Check it for cracks first. [Control (procedures)] 5.4 Only trained people change discs, with the grinder unplugged or the battery out. [Control (procedures)] 5.5 Keep both hands on the grinder and let the disc stop before putting it down. [Control (procedures)] 5.6 Use quieter tools and methods, such as cut-to-size materials, low-noise machines and battery tools. [Reduce / substitute] 5.7 Keep noisy plant away from work areas, and use screens or distance between the noise and people. [Isolate] 5.8 Keep tools maintained and use mufflers on compressors and generators. [Control (engineering)] 5.9 Limit time on noisy tools and rotate workers. [Control (procedures)] 5.10 If you have to shout to be heard by someone 2 metres away, the noise is probably 85 dB(A) or more: wear hearing protection. [Control (procedures)] 5.11 Assess noise. At 85 dB(A) or more, hearing protection is required and the zone must be marked. [Control (procedures)] 5.12 Eye injuries: see step 2 for the full controls [Control (procedures)]	**Medium (8) Unlikely / Major injury**	Site supervisor
6	Fire watch after finishing, then sign off the permit	Fire from hot works Fire and emergencies Rules: CDM 2015 regs 29 to 31 (fire on construction sites).	Workers, Occupants, Public, Visitors. How: Sparks and heat from welding, grinding or flame torches set fire to timber, insulation,	**Very high (15) Possible / Fatal**	6.1 Use cold work methods where you can, such as bolting, press fittings or cutting with a saw instead of a torch. [Eliminate] 6.2 Move anything that can burn at least 10 metres away, or cover it with fire blankets. [Isolate] 6.3 Use fire-resistant screens to stop sparks reaching people or gaps in walls and floors. [Control (engineering)]	**Medium (5) Very unlikely / Fatal**	Site supervisor

#	Activity / step	Hazards	Who might be harmed and how	Risk before	Controls	Risk after	Responsible
		Occupied premises: Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order 2005 (England and Wales), Fire (Scotland) Act 2005, Fire Safety Regulations (NI) 2010	rubbish or fuel nearby. A fire, injury or other emergency happens and workers cannot get out, raise the alarm or get first aid in time.		6.4 Get a hot work permit before starting. [Control (procedures)] 6.5 Keep a charged fire extinguisher and fire blanket at the work spot. [Control (procedures)] 6.6 Keep a fire watch during the work and for at least 60 minutes after you finish. [Control (procedures)] 6.7 Check for smouldering behind walls, in ceilings and under floors before you leave. [Control (procedures)] 6.8 Wear flame-resistant clothing, welding gloves and eye or face protection. [PPE] 6.9 Provide fire extinguishers suited to the site, checked and easy to reach. [Control (engineering)] 6.10 Keep exits and escape routes clear and signed. [Control (engineering)] 6.11 Have a site emergency plan: alarm, exits, assembly point and emergency contacts. [Control (procedures)] 6.12 Keep a stocked first aid kit and at least one trained first aider on site. [Control (procedures)] 6.13 Know the site address and how emergency services get in. Call 999. [Control (procedures)] 6.14 Go through the emergency plan with every worker and visitor at induction. [Control (procedures)] 6.15 Keep flammable materials and rubbish away from exits and escape routes. [Control (procedures)]		

Risk key: risk = likelihood x consequence on a 5 x 5 matrix. Low, Medium, High, Very high. Work must not start while the risk after controls is high or above. Controls are listed in order of the hierarchy of control (eric-pd): Eliminate, Reduce / substitute, Isolate, Control (engineering), Control (procedures), PPE.

3. METHOD STATEMENT: SEQUENCE OF WORK

Step	What we will do	How it is done safely
1	Get a hot work permit and clear flammables from the area	Use cold work methods where you can, such as bolting, press fittings or cutting with a saw instead of a torch. Move anything that can burn at least 10 metres away, or cover it with fire blankets. Fire from hot works: see step 6 for the full controls
2	Set up welding screens to protect others from arc flash	Use tool guards and screens to stop flying particles. Use dust extraction and water to keep dust out of the air. Keep others out of the area when cutting, grinding or chipping.
3	Check leads and earth clamp, keeping leads dry	Use battery-powered tools where you can. Use 110V tools through a centre-tapped transformer, or battery tools. Use an RCD on any 230V supply. Keep leads off the ground and out of water, using lead stands or hooks.
4	Weld with fume extraction or a respirator, especially on galvanised steel	Remove paint, galvanising and coatings from the weld area first, or use a process that makes less fume. Use fume extraction (local exhaust ventilation) close to the weld. Weld outdoors or in a well-ventilated area, and keep your head out of the fume plume.
5	Grind welds with guards on	Use a guarded saw or a different tool where you can. Keep the guard on and use the side handle. Never remove the guard. Use the right disc for the job, rated for the grinder's speed. Check it for cracks first.

Step	What we will do	How it is done safely
6	Fire watch after finishing, then sign off the permit	Use cold work methods where you can, such as bolting, press fittings or cutting with a saw instead of a torch. Move anything that can burn at least 10 metres away, or cover it with fire blankets. Use fire-resistant screens to stop sparks reaching people or gaps in walls and floors.

4. PPE AND PERMITS

Required PPE	Permits and plans
Welding helmet Welding gauntlets Safety boots Coveralls Half-mask respirator (P3 filters) Ear defenders Face shield Safety glasses Safety goggles Hi-vis vest Rigger gloves Cut-resistant gloves	Hot works permit (fire watch at least 60 minutes after)

5. PLANT AND EQUIPMENT

Plant / equipment	Licence or training needed	Inspection needed	Rego / ID	Last inspected	Certificate / report
Welding set		Check leads, return clamp and holder before use; PUWER maintenance and inspection at intervals set by risk			
Angle grinder (disc cutter)		User check before each use; formal visual inspection and PAT testing at intervals set by risk (110V on site)			
Generator (110V site transformer)					

6. CREW COMPETENCY, TICKETS AND LICENCES

Crew listed at sign-on below, with ticket and licence numbers.

7. EMERGENCY ARRANGEMENTS

Emergency number	999	**First aid kit**	In the work vehicle
Fire extinguisher	In the work vehicle	**Alarm and evacuation**	Shout "Fire" or "Stop" and use the site alarm. Stop work, make the area safe and go to the assembly point. Do not go back in until the supervisor says it is safe.

Reporting incidents	Report reportable incidents to HSE under RIDDOR 2013 (hse.gov.uk/riddor).		

8. SITE ARRANGEMENTS

Welfare	Toilets, drinking water, hand washing and a break area on site	**Security and access**	Work area fenced or kept locked when unattended. Tools and materials secured. Public kept out.
Environmental and waste	Waste goes in a skip or the van and is taken away by a registered waste carrier, with waste transfer notes kept (duty of care). Hazardous waste such as asbestos is kept separate and consigned correctly. Dust and noise kept to a minimum. No run-off into drains.		

9. MONITORING, REVIEW AND LEGAL BASIS

The supervisor checks the controls at the start of each shift and during the work. Stop work and review this RAMS if the work, the crew or the site conditions change, after any incident or near miss, or if the principal contractor asks.

Legal basis: Management of Health and Safety at Work Regulations 1999 and the Construction (Design and Management) Regulations 2015. Employers must assess the risks of their work and record the significant findings (required where you employ 5 or more people). On CDM projects, contractors give their RAMS to the principal contractor before starting, and brief the workers on it.

Keep this RAMS, every revision and the signed briefing register with the site file for the length of the job, and keep a copy in your records afterwards.

10. REVISION HISTORY

Rev	Date	By	What changed
1	9 Nov 2026		First issue

11. APPROVAL AND BRIEFING REGISTER

	Name	Signature	Date	
Prepared by				
Approved by				
Supervisor				
Principal contractor review				Accepted for use: Yes / No

By signing below, each person confirms this RAMS was explained to them in a site briefing, they understand it and will follow it, and they will stop work and tell the supervisor if anything changes.

Name	Role / company	Tickets / licences	Inducted	Signature	Date

Name	Role / company	Tickets / licences	Inducted	Signature	Date