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	Hot cutting with oxy-acetylene	**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 combustibles	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 5 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	Check hoses, regulators and flashback arrestors	Flammable liquids and gases Compressed air Rules: Dangerous Substances and Explosive Atmospheres Regulations 2002 (DSEAR)	Workers, Occupants, Public, People nearby. How: Petrol, solvents, thinners and LPG catch fire or explode when vapour reaches a spark, flame or hot surface. An air hose whips when a fitting fails, or air blown	**High (10) Unlikely / Fatal**	2.1 Flammable liquids and gases: see step 1 for the full controls [Control (procedures)] 2.2 Fit whip checks (safety cables) on hose joints and check hoses before use. [Control (engineering)] 2.3 Fit a pressure regulator and keep pressure to the tool's rating. [Control (engineering)] 2.4 Turn off and bleed the line before disconnecting. [Control (procedures)] 2.5 Never use compressed air to clean clothes or skin, or point it at	**Medium (5) Very unlikely / Fatal**	Site supervisor

#	Activity / step	Hazards	Who might be harmed and how	Risk before	Controls	Risk after	Responsible
			at skin or eyes drives dirt in and causes injury.		anyone. [Control (procedures)] 2.6 Wear safety glasses and hearing protection. [PPE]		
3	Cut with goggles, keeping sparks away from others	Burns from hot surfaces Eye injuries Welding and cutting fumes Rules: COSHH Regulations 2002	Workers, People nearby. How: Touching hot pipes, tools, bitumen, solder or freshly welded metal burns the skin. Flying chips, dust, chemicals or sparks get into the eye and cause damage or blindness.	**Very high (16) Likely / Major injury**	3.1 Isolate heating systems and let parts cool before you touch them. [Eliminate] 3.2 Fit guards or insulation on hot pipes and equipment. [Control (engineering)] 3.3 Mark hot items with chalk or a "HOT" sign so others know. [Control (procedures)] 3.4 Keep a first aid kit and cool running water nearby for burns. [Control (procedures)] 3.5 Wear heat-resistant gloves and long sleeves. [PPE] 3.6 Use tool guards and screens to stop flying particles. [Control (engineering)] 3.7 Use dust extraction and water to keep dust out of the air. [Control (engineering)] 3.8 Keep others out of the area when cutting, grinding or chipping. [Control (procedures)] 3.9 Keep an eye wash station or eye wash bottles on site. [Control (procedures)] 3.10 Wear safety glasses at all times, goggles for dust and chemicals, and a face shield for grinding. [PPE] 3.11 Remove paint, galvanising and coatings from the weld area first, or use a process that makes less fume. [Reduce / substitute] 3.12 Use fume extraction (local exhaust ventilation) close to the weld. [Control (engineering)] 3.13 Weld outdoors or in a well-ventilated area, and keep your head out of the fume plume. [Control (engineering)] 3.14 Do a COSHH assessment. HSE expects fume extraction for all indoor welding, including mild steel. [Control (procedures)] 3.15 Never weld or cut in a confined space without testing the air and using forced ventilation. [Control (procedures)] 3.16 Wear a powered air respirator or fitted respirator when extraction is not enough. [PPE]	**Medium (8) Unlikely / Major injury**	Site supervisor
4	Never cut drums or tanks that held fuel	Flammable liquids and gases Fire and emergencies Rules: Dangerous Substances and Explosive Atmospheres Regulations 2002 (DSEAR); CDM 2015 regs 29 to 31 (fire on construction sites). Occupied premises:	Workers, Occupants, Public, Visitors. How: Petrol, solvents, thinners and LPG catch fire or explode when vapour reaches a spark, flame or hot surface. A fire, injury or other emergency happens and workers cannot get out, raise the alarm or get first aid in time.	**High (10) Unlikely / Fatal**	4.1 Flammable liquids and gases: see step 1 for the full controls [Control (procedures)] 4.2 Provide fire extinguishers suited to the site, checked and easy to reach. [Control (engineering)] 4.3 Keep exits and escape routes clear and signed. [Control (engineering)] 4.4 Have a site emergency plan: alarm, exits, assembly point and emergency contacts. [Control (procedures)] 4.5 Keep a stocked first aid kit and at least one trained first aider on site. [Control (procedures)] 4.6 Know the site address and how emergency services get in. Call 999. [Control (procedures)]	**Medium (5) Very unlikely / Fatal**	Site supervisor

#	Activity / step	Hazards	Who might be harmed and how	Risk before	Controls	Risk after	Responsible
		Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order 2005 (England and Wales), Fire (Scotland) Act 2005, Fire Safety Regulations (NI) 2010			4.7 Go through the emergency plan with every worker and visitor at induction. [Control (procedures)] 4.8 Keep flammable materials and rubbish away from exits and escape routes. [Control (procedures)]		
5	Shut down bottles and fire watch after	Fire from hot works 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	Workers, Occupants, Public. How: Sparks and heat from welding, grinding or flame torches set fire to timber, insulation, rubbish or fuel nearby.	**Very high (15) Possible / Fatal**	5.1 Use cold work methods where you can, such as bolting, press fittings or cutting with a saw instead of a torch. [Eliminate] 5.2 Move anything that can burn at least 10 metres away, or cover it with fire blankets. [Isolate] 5.3 Use fire-resistant screens to stop sparks reaching people or gaps in walls and floors. [Control (engineering)] 5.4 Get a hot work permit before starting. [Control (procedures)] 5.5 Keep a charged fire extinguisher and fire blanket at the work spot. [Control (procedures)] 5.6 Keep a fire watch during the work and for at least 60 minutes after you finish. [Control (procedures)] 5.7 Check for smouldering behind walls, in ceilings and under floors before you leave. [Control (procedures)] 5.8 Wear flame-resistant clothing, welding gloves and eye or face protection. [PPE]	**Medium (5) Very unlikely / Fatal**	Site supervisor

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 combustibles	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 5 for the full controls
2	Check hoses, regulators and flashback arrestors	Flammable liquids and gases: see step 1 for the full controls Fit whip checks (safety cables) on hose joints and check hoses before use. Fit a pressure regulator and keep pressure to the tool's rating.
3	Cut with goggles, keeping sparks away from others	Isolate heating systems and let parts cool before you touch them. Fit guards or insulation on hot pipes and equipment. Mark hot items with chalk or a "HOT" sign so others know.
4	Never cut drums or tanks that held fuel	Flammable liquids and gases: see step 1 for the full controls Provide fire extinguishers suited to the site, checked and easy to reach. Keep exits and escape routes clear and signed.
5	Shut down bottles and fire watch after	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 gauntlets Safety goggles Safety boots Coveralls Half-mask respirator (P3 filters) Face shield Safety glasses Ear defenders Welding helmet	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
Oxy-acetylene cutting set					
Hand tools					

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