


Risk Rating

RISK ASSESSMENT	STORAGE AND HANDLING OF BALES AT DBR SITE
SITE	DERRYBOY ROAD SITE
ISSUE DATE	AUGUST 2024
CREATED BY	WESLEY JAMESON
POSITION	HEALTH & SAFETY MANAGER
SIGNED	

Risk Scoring = (multiply severity by probability SxP=R)		
Severity	Probability	Risk Category
5 Fatality or disaster	5 Highly likely	
4 Major injury, damage or loss	4 Very likely	High = 15-25
3 Reportable injury or occurrence	3 Likely	Medium = 8-14
2 Minor injury, less than 3 days lost time or minimal loss	2 Unlikely	Low = 1-7
1 Minor injury, no lost time or damage	1 Very unlikely	

TASK	HAZARD	RISK	PERSONS AT RISK	INITIAL SEVERITY	INITIAL LIKELIHOOD	INITIAL RISK RATING	CONTROL MEASURES	RESIDUAL SEVERITY	RESIDUAL LIKELIHOOD	RESIDUAL RISK RATING
Storing bales	Fire due to heat buildup	Major fire causing damage to property, environment, and risk to life.	Employees	5	3	15	Firefighting equipment installed (sprinklers, thermal cameras, automatic fire cannons); pyramid stacking for stability.	5	1	5

Storing bales (inside)	Release of flammable gases	Explosion or fire due to ignition of gases.	Employees Visitors Subcontractors	5	2	10	Operator uses Crown gas detection device; ensure proper ventilation within the shed. Firefighting equipment installed (sprinklers, thermal cameras, automatic fire cannons); pyramid stacking for stability.	5	1	5
Operating grab	Mechanical failure of grab	Dropped bales causing injury or damage.	Operator Employees	4	2	8	Regular maintenance of grab; operator trained to respond to mechanical failure; adherence of the 5 meter rule	4	1	4
Stacking bales	Instability of bale pyramid	Collapse of bales causing injury or damage.	Employees	4	3	12	Follow stacking protocol to ensure stability; limit pyramid	4	1	4

							height as per guidelines.			
General operations	Dust accumulation	Respiratory issues for grab operator.	Employees	3	3	9	Regular cleaning of shed; operator in pressurised cab with filtered air supply.	3	1	3
Monitoring gases	Failure of Crown gas detection device	Unnoticed buildup of hazardous gases.	Employees	5	2	10	Regular testing and calibration of Crown gas detection device; backup detection equipment available.	5	1	5
Operating grab	Collision with bales	Damage to equipment or bales.	Employees	3	3	9	Operator training; clear visibility from pressurised cab; adherence of the 5 meter rule where space allows it	3	1	3
Operating the Grab	Contact with pedestrians	Major injury to the pedestrian	Employees	5	3	15	Adherence and enforcement of the 5 meter rule; proper use of 2-way radios; No pedestrians	5	1	5

							allowed to work on the shed floor			
General operations	Slips, trips, and falls	Minor to severe injury from falls.	Operator	3	2	6	Maintain clean and clear shed floor; proper footwear required. Bump cap, high vis vest, and safety boots (S3) are mandatory PPE. Gloves, RPE, safety glasses are task specific. Operator to maintain 3 points of contact when entering and exiting vehicles.	3	1	3
Firefighting systems	Malfunction of sprinklers or cannons	Reduced effectiveness in case of fire.	Operator, responders	5	2	10	Regular inspection and maintenance of firefighting systems. This is managed by APW and Master fire on quarterly	5	1	5

							inspections and in-house checks.			
Handling bales	Exposure to pathogens in RDF	Health issues for operator.	Operator	4	2	8	Ensure operator in pressurised cab. Only staff trained to use the grab will operate on site.	4	1	4
Gas monitoring	False alarms from detection system	Unnecessary evacuation or stress for operator.	Operator	2	3	6	Operator trained to validate readings; regular equipment calibration.	2	1	2
General operations	Vehicle impact	Collision with grab or shed structure.	Operator Other operators	4	2	8	Restricted access to the shed; clear signage and traffic management plan; adherence to the 5 meter rule where space allows it; proper use of 2-way radios	4	1	4

Storing bales	Overloading of storage area	Structural failure or fire due to overcrowding.	Operator	5	3	15	Management will monitor and enforce 20,000 tonne maximum limit; correct bale stacking protocols	5	1	5
General operations	Fire during operation	Injury, damage to shed, and environmental impact.	Employees Visitors Subcontractors	5	3	15	Thermal cameras to monitor heat levels; fire detection systems active at all times. Firefighting equipment installed (sprinklers, thermal cameras, automatic fire cannons); pyramid stacking for stability.	5	1	5
Maintenance of equipment	Poor maintenance practices	Increased risk of mechanical failure.	Operator	4	3	12	Implement preventive maintenance schedule; maintenance logs maintained.	4	1	4

Shed operations	Inadequate lighting	Reduced visibility leading to operational errors.	Operator	3	3	9	Ensure adequate lighting is installed and maintained in the shed.	3	1	3
Firefighting systems	Inadequate water supply for sprinklers	Reduced firefighting capacity.	Responders	5	2	10	Ensure consistent water supply; regular testing of water pressure and flow. Water storage is on site to allow site to be self sufficient if mains water is not available.	5	1	5
Handling bales	Sharp objects within RDF	Potential puncture or cut injuries.	Operator	3	2	6	Operator to avoid direct handling of bales; use of machinery only.	3	1	3
Shed structure	Damage to shed roof or walls	Increased exposure to environmental elements or fire spread.	Operator	4	3	12	Regular inspections of shed structure; prompt repairs of any damage; accident and near	4	1	4

							miss reporting policy			
Emergency response	Delayed response to fire or gas release	Increased risk of injury or damage.	Operator, responders	5	2	10	Emergency procedures in place; drills conducted regularly; accessible emergency exits; trained fire response team	5	1	5
General operations	Unauthorised access to shed	Increased risk of theft, vandalism, or injury.	Operator	3	3	9	Restricted access policy; shed secured when not in use.	3	1	3
Storing bales	Incorrect bale labelling	Difficulty in identifying or segregating bales during emergencies.	Operator	3	3	9	Ensure all bales are labelled correctly and visibly.	3	1	3
Monitoring systems	Malfunction of thermal cameras	Inability to detect hotspots or fires early.	Operator	5	2	10	Regular inspection and testing of thermal cameras; backup monitoring systems.	5	1	5

Equipment operation	Operator fatigue	Reduced reaction time leading to errors or accidents.	Operator	3	3	9	Enforce breaks and limit working hours; ensure operator wellbeing.	3	1	3
Emergency response	Panic during emergencies	Ineffective response leading to injury or damage.	Operator	4	2	8	Emergency response training provided; clear emergency instructions and signage.	4	1	4
Handling bales	Bale degradation or leakage	Release of hazardous substances or foul odours.	Operator	4	3	12	Inspect bales regularly for damage; handle damaged bales with caution; spill kits on site	4	1	4
Fire prevention	Ignition source from electrical equipment	Fire starting from faulty electrical systems.	Operator	5	2	10	Regular inspection of electrical systems; ensure proper grounding and insulation.	5	1	5
General operations	Noise from machinery	Hearing damage or discomfort.	Operator	3	3	9	Operator in pressurized cab with noise insulation;	3	1	3

							equipment maintenance to reduce noise levels; hearing PPE available			
Firefighting systems	Operator unfamiliar with systems	Delay in activating firefighting measures.	Operator	4	3	12	Provide training on firefighting systems; signage and instructions available.	4	1	4
Shed operations	Water ingress	Increased risk of slip hazards or electrical issues.	Operator	3	3	9	Ensure shed is weatherproof; inspect for leaks and repair promptly.	3	1	3

Emergency procedures

In the event of an emergency, contact the shift supervisor and/or the nearest first aider. First aid posters found on the H&S Board. First aid and eye wash stations are found in the Crane Operations room.

Where hospital is required, the closest hospital is Daisy Hill.

Emergency contact details

First aid posters found on the H&S Board.

Call 999 for life threatening injuries. Call 111 for urgent medical help that is not life threatening.

Daisy Hill Hospital
5 Hospital Road
Newry, BT35 8DR