


Risk Rating

Risk Assessment & Method Statement

Task/ activity: CLEANING UP OF DIESEL / OIL SPILLS

Task/ activity description:

This risk assessment covers the safe cleaning and disposal of oil / diesel spills.


Likely to be effected: Operatives, subcontractors, visitors

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 = 9-14
2 Minor injury, less than 3 days lost time or minimal loss	2 Unlikely	Low = 1-8
1 Minor injury, no lost time or damage	1 Very unlikely	

Hazard	Control measures to be taken to reduce risk	Scoring		Risk rating
		S	P	
Pedestrian/vehicle contact	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure that vehicle operators in the area are aware of the location of the clean-up operation. Vehicle operators should also be informed at the beginning and end. Vehicle operators are to maintain radio contact. Vehicles should be switched off, with the handbrake on and keys removed if approaching to clean up a spill. The 5-meter rule must be adhered to on site. Only trained, competent and authorised employees are permitted to operate plant machinery. Vehicle operators are to use reversing cameras and mirrors when reversing. Full adherence to the traffic management plan is needed at all times. 	5	2	10

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Suitable PPE must be worn (hi-vis uniform). 			
Exposure to hazardous substances	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Suitable PPE must be worn (safety gloves) and maintained properly. Persons involved are to wash hands after finishing the task. Ensure adequate ventilation to the area if the spill is significant. Consider use of RPE. RPE is available and should be worn in instances where there is a potential for build-up of fumes. COSHH assessment to completed on all chemicals. All control measures in the associated material safety data sheets (MSDSs) are to be followed. Absorbent granules should be applied onto the affected area and removed for disposal using a shovel. Spillage response training has been undertaken by relevant personnel. 	4	2	8
Contact with machinery	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Machinery must be switched off and isolated if approaching to clean up a spill. Ensure that all guards are in place and maintained. Ensure communication is maintained and all personnel in the area are aware of the clean-up operation. 	4	2	8
Slips, trips, and falls	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Suitable PPE must be worn properly and maintained at all times (Safety boots with ankle support). Spills should be cleaned as soon as possible. If leaving the spill unattended, ensure area is marked off (if applicable). Operatives in the area are to be made aware of the location of the spill. Highlighted pit edges (approximately 150mm wide) to ensure visibility or edge of the pit. Physical barriers are in place in areas where there is a potential for falls from height. Regular housekeeping to be maintained to reduce the likelihood of debris building up in the area and potentially causing a fall. 	4	2	8
Manual handling	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> If multiple bags of absorbent granules are required, these should be transported using a trolley and not by hand. Operatives are to assess the potential for injury before beginning task. Operatives are instructed to seek alternative means or assistance if the load is too heavy to be lifted comfortably. Proper manual handling technique should be used. Proper technique for use of a shovel must be used. 	4	2	8

Approval and review

Assessor:	Signature:	Position:	Date:
Wesley Jameson		Health & Safety Manager	Sept 2025
Approved by:	Signature:	Position:	Date:
Joseph Doherty		Chief Executive Officer	Sept 2025
Reviewed on:	Sept 2025	New version number:	1
Date of next review: Sept 2025, or as an when required			

PPE Requirements

- safety gloves, safety footwear, workwear, eye protection

Method statement

Planning:

- COSHH assessments are available for substances used.
- PPE is to be made available for use during clean-up, chemical suits, respirators.
- Designated area for Absorbent Granules is communicated to all Staff

Physical:

- If required ensure that traffic control is carried out – the 5 meter rule must be obeyed, redirect traffic if necessary.
- All drains and sewers etc are to be blocked off to stop substances running in to them.
- Spill kit or equivalent is placed on substances and allow to soak up substances and then place in bags and disposed of according to local authority's regulations.
- If leaving ensure area is marked off (if applicable)
- Suitable chemical suits and suitable respirator if required are worn.
- The area is to be washed down with suitable substances to break up spills etc.
- Ensure that a substance that breaks up the spill etc do not enter the watercourse, drains (if applicable).
- Use vacuum tanker to clean area if unable to bag substance and if large spill.
- Ensure that area is completely cleaned before leaving area
- Persons involved are to wash hands after the end of the task.
- First aid and welfare facilities to be made available and/or hand wipes placed in the facility.

Training:

- All persons taking part in spills clean-up operations are to be made aware of the hazards and the importance of wearing PPE and personal hygiene.