



SBL Fire Solutions
Saving Life and Property through fire containment

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Health and Safety Policy



Produced with the assistance of Lynch Safety Services Ltd



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GENERAL POLICY STATEMENT OF SBL FIRE SOLUTION LIMITED

SBL Fire Solutions Limited fully accepts its obligations to operate in accordance with the requirements of all current legislation and codes of practice relating to health and safety.

Compliance with legislation is regarded as the minimum requirement.

The Company's Health and Safety Policy confirms its commitment to the prevention of injury and ill health and continual improvement in Health and Safety management and performance; achieving the highest practicable standards of health and safety on all projects with which it is associated; to providing working conditions that are safe and healthy for all employees and those under the company's control; providing and maintaining safe plant and equipment; ensuring safe handling and use of substances and relevant information, instruction and supervision for employees.

The effectiveness of the SBL Fire Solutions Limited Health and Safety Policy relies heavily on the competency and co-operation of company employees. The policy is communicated to all persons working under the control of SBL Fire Solutions Limited with the intent that they are made aware of their individual occupational health and safety obligations. Every employee has the personal responsibility for implementing the Health and Safety Policy and applying safe systems of work.

The requirements of the Health and Safety Policy are communicated to all employees and their involvement in the management of health and safety is actively promoted through effective and regular consultation.

The Company has an excellent record for Health and Safety at its places of work. It recognises that this is achieved through the active participation, of both management and those employed by the Company, in identifying hazards and risks and then taking positive action to control them.

Ultimate responsibility for health and safety lies with Mr Glen Spree who, supported by the company's external Health and Safety Consultants, ensures that adequate resources, advice and training are provided to deliver the objectives of the Health and Safety Policy and review performance on a regular basis along with proposals for continuous improvement.

The Company's Health and Safety Policy is documented, implemented and maintained and provides the framework for setting and reviewing the occupational Health and Safety objectives, the policy will be reviewed annually to ensure that it remains relevant and appropriate or sooner should measures need to be taken to ensure its effectiveness.

This policy is available to all interested parties upon request.

Signed.....

Mr Glen Spree
Managing Director
SBL Fire Solutions Limited

Dated: September 2023

This Policy will be reviewed on an annual basis or:
If there is reason to suspect that it is no longer valid; or
If there has been a significant change in the matters to which it relates.



ORGANISATION FOR THE ACHIEVEMENT OF SAFE WORKING PLACES

The effectiveness of the Safety Policy is dependent on the people who are responsible for ensuring that all aspects of work are carried out with due consideration for safety and with minimum risk to health. SBL Fire Solutions Limited will ensure that this Policy is applied and is adopted by all Personnel and visitors to their premises. In order that this can be achieved SBL Fire Solutions Limited has a management structure as outlined in the Health and Safety organisation chart with individual responsibilities detailed on the following pages.

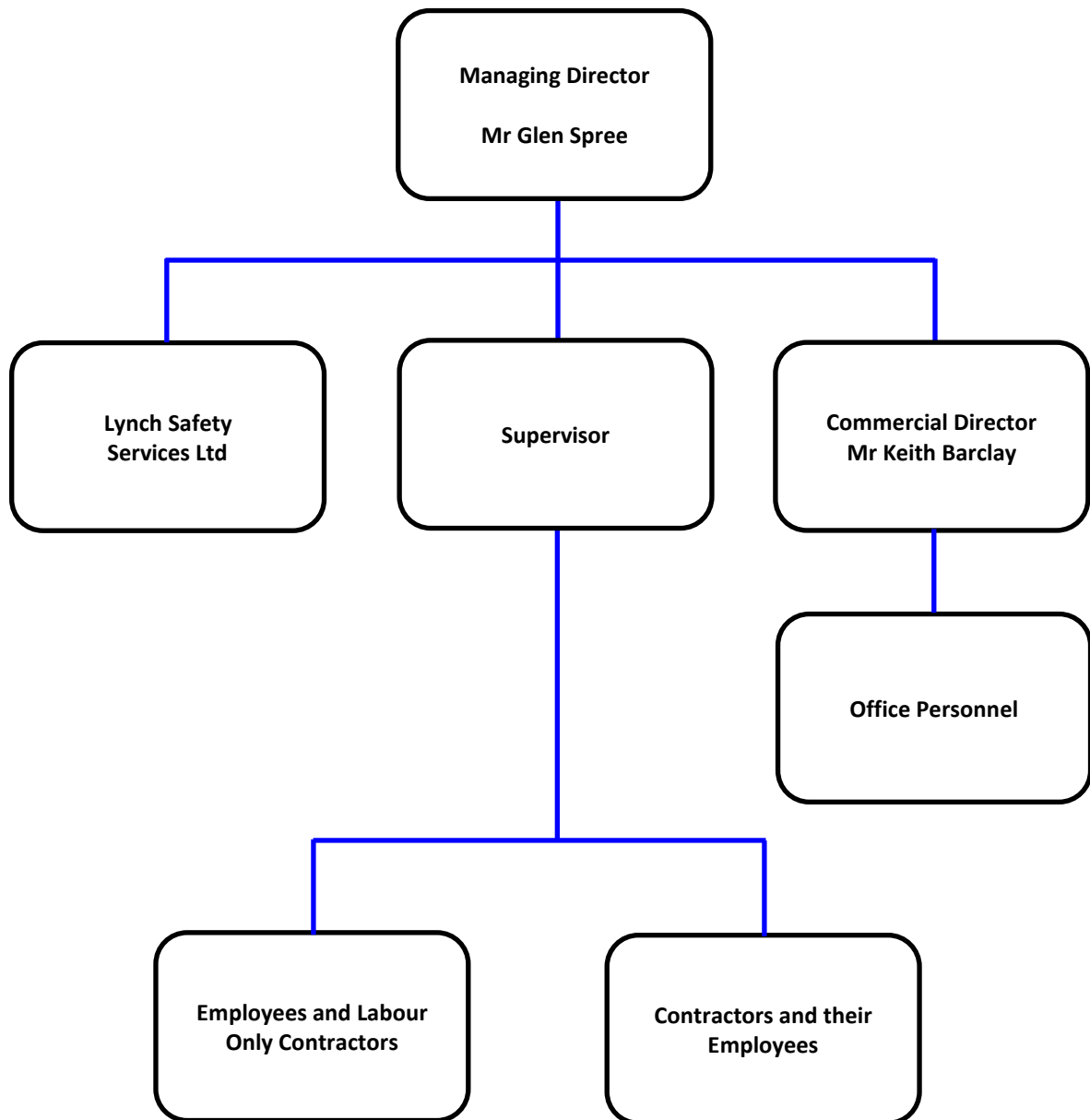
Each individual person has a duty of care to themselves and other persons who may be affected by their actions.

Any recognised breach of any Health and Safety Legislation or any potential hazard observed while at work is to be reported.

Employees are to pay due regard to any duty or requirement imposed on the Company or other person by or under any of the relevant statutory provisions and to co-operate with the employer so far as is practicable to enable that duty or requirement to be complied with and are to act with all reasonable haste on advice and instructions given on matters of Health, Safety and Welfare.



SAFETY ORGANISATION CHART



— Denotes lines of communication

THE RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE MANAGING DIRECTOR MR GLEN SPREE

The overall responsibility for Health and Safety rests with the Managing Director Mr Glen Spree but specific duties are delegated to others according to their experience and training. Each individual person has a duty of care to himself as well as to all those they come into contact with during any part of the working day.

Mr Glen Spree will ensure that this Policy is applied throughout the company as well as being adopted by all Employees, Contractors and visitors to premises where contracts are undertaken and accepts the following responsibilities:

- To know, understand and implement the Company's Health and Safety Policy with the objective of ensuring safe places of work;
- To initiate the Company's Policy for Health and Safety to prevent injury, ill health, damage and waste;
- To set targets for the reduction of accidents; adhering to the Company's Health and Safety Policy for safe places of work and ensuring that this is explained to all Employees in the company's induction programme;
- To promote the Company's safety culture as a serious one and that Health and Safety is paramount at all times; by planning, creating and maintaining a strong positive Health and Safety culture throughout the Company and ensuring that all company safety rules are followed;
- To implement, co-ordinate and control the administration of Health, Safety and Fire prevention strategies within the Company;
- To set a good personal example for others to follow;
- To ensure that the Company's Employees are aware of their responsibilities and that each administers and promotes with enthusiasm the requirements of this Policy;
- To ensure that all Employees are kept fully up to date on all matters relating to Health and Safety. This includes new legislation, good working practices, risk assessments and COSHH assessments including personal protective equipment and other control measures highlighted;
- To communicate with our Health & Safety Consultants ensuring new safety legislation is conveyed through all levels of employees;
- To pay particular attention to ensuring that Health and Safety matters are effectively communicated;
- To sanction the necessary resources for adequate welfare facilities and equipment.
- To allocate adequate time for training in all matters of Health and Safety including those deemed DSE users to meet the requirements of legislation and to ensure that the Company Health and Safety Policy is fully implemented;
- To ensure effective accident prevention and safety training programs are developed and procedures introduced to bring about a Safe and Healthy working environment; ensuring that management are trained in these policies and play their part in promoting Health and Safety and that all new employees at induction will be trained in the company Health and Safety requirements;
- To ensure that Health and Safety training needs amongst SBL Fire Solutions Limited Employees are identified, fulfilled and are regularly reviewed;
- To ensure that fire and evacuation drills are carried out at six monthly intervals and evacuation times monitored;
- To ensure that at the outset of every project, the correct Health and Safety procedures are established;
- To undertake positive vetting of the Health and Safety policies and practices of Contractors whom the Company may employ to ensure their competence;

- To ensure that risk assessments are issued or otherwise related to Employees throughout the Company and ensure the assessments describe control measures to protect third parties on whom works being undertaken may impinge;
- To ensure control measures highlighted in risk assessments are in place before commencement of work;
- To ensure that manual handling assessments are carried out and issued or otherwise related to employees throughout the company;
- To ensure that all plant and equipment is maintained to at least statutory standards and this includes electrical appliances and the keeping of records that can be viewed on demand by enforcing authorities;
- To ensure that accidents, dangerous occurrences and cases of ill health are investigated in line with our investigation procedure and that suitable remedial measures are introduced to prevent a similar situation occurring with the records being kept at head office;
- To ensure an accident that requires reporting under Reporting of Injuries, Diseases and Dangerous Occurrences Regulations 2013 (RIDDOR 13) is notified to the Health and Safety Executive without delay and the causes thoroughly investigated;
- To take steps in preventing horseplay and reprimand those who fail to consider their own well-being and that of others around them;
- To discipline any Employee who fails to comply with his / her individual responsibilities towards achieving safe places of work.

Ultimately, to stay abreast of developments in Health and Safety legislation and good working practices and to ensure that any new developments are communicated both quickly and effectively to all Company Employees.

THE RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE COMMERCIAL DIRECTOR

As the Commercial Director of SBL Fire Solutions Limited, Mr Keith Barclay accepts that strong and active Health and Safety leadership is important and accept the following responsibilities:

- To know, understand and implement the Company's Health and Safety Policy with the objective of ensuring safe places of work;
- To protect the Health and Safety of employees or members of the public who may be affected by the business activities;
- To identify Health and Safety as a key business risk;
- To comply with Health and Safety legislation duties;
- To promote strong and active leadership from the top demonstrating; a visible, active commitment from the board;
- To initiate effective 'downward' communication systems and management structures;
- To ensure that good Health and Safety management is integrated with business decisions;
- To ensure effective worker involvement by engaging the workforce in the promotion and achievement of safe and healthy conditions and effective 'upward' communication;
- To provide employees with high quality training;
- To identify and manage Health and Safety risks, accessing and following competent advice, and monitoring, reporting and reviewing Health and Safety performance;
- To set a good personal example for others to follow;
- Ensure that the Company's Employees are aware of their responsibilities and that each administers and promotes with enthusiasm the requirements of this Policy throughout the entire company.

Ultimately to stay abreast of developments in Health and Safety legislation and good working practices and to ensure that any new developments are communicated both quickly and effectively to all Company Employees.

THE RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE HEALTH AND SAFETY CONSULTANTS

The responsibility of the Health and Safety Consultants is to monitor and revise all modifications, amendments and requirements that are deemed necessary to comply with existing and / or new legislation.

In addition, the Health and Safety Consultants will undertake to perform those duties laid out below when requested, or should the necessity arise:

- To advise Management at all levels on the implementation of Health and Safety (i.e. relevant legislation, Codes of Practices and guidance material, fire precautions, the suitability of safety equipment and accident reporting procedures);
- To monitor by inspection the workplaces, workshops and accommodation, and also the Health and Safety performance of employees, reporting back to the Director after such inspections;
- To advise on and prepare Health and Safety documentation;
- To prepare statistical analysis of accidents and causation classification, with recommendations on preventative measures to be implemented;
- To investigate and report major injuries, notifiable dangerous occurrences and any other accidents and incidents, attending and reporting on legal proceedings in which SBL Fire Solutions Limited may be involved;
- To promote good working relations with the Health and Safety Executive and other Enforcing Authorities, striving at all times to achieve, with the co-operation of the management, compliance with current legislation;
- To advise on fire precautions, signage and best practices with regards to fire prevention;
- To assist in the choice and suitability of safety equipment and methods of training in its use and storage, etc.;
- To give guidance on the correct reporting procedure with regards to accidents at work in accordance with RIDDOR 13;
- To give guidance on the training required to ensure continued competency and assist in the production and undertaking of a training program;
- To provide details of any changes to legislation or updated guidance that is appropriate and applicable;
- To provide information via safety bulletins on changes to legislation and matters of health and safety applicable to the operations of SBL Fire Solutions Limited.

The Health and Safety Consultant or his nominee is also empowered during an inspection to stop machinery or processes that he considers present hazards to the operators or to other personnel.



THE RESPONSIBILITIES OF OFFICE PERSONNEL

All Employees based within our offices are to comply with their individual duties under Section 7 and Section 8 of the Health and Safety at Work etc. Act 1974 and Regulation 14 of the Management of Health and Safety at Work Regulations 1999 (as amended). That is to ensure their own safety and the safety of others and to generally co-operate with their Employer so as to enable the Employer to carry out his Health and Safety duties towards them. Failure to comply with Health and Safety duties and regulations on the part of the Employee, may lead to dismissal from employment.

Office personnel have a duty:

- To understand the Company's Health and Safety Policy. Ensure that systems of work are planned in accordance with its requirements and that it is regularly examined to establish if improvements or additions should be made;
- To monitor, control and correct the Health and Safety actions of other persons with regards to Health and Safety;
- To ensure that all who report to you are kept fully up to date on any matters relating to Health and Safety and that the Health and Safety Policy is fully implemented;
- To pay particular attention to ensuring that Health and Safety matters are effectively communicated to those at the work place;
- To help maintain a comprehensive head office accident log for the Company and to ensure that in the event of an accident occurring the circumstances are fully and accurately documented without delay;
- To maintain a pro-active role in the assessment of risk and to familiarise themselves with the broad requirements of Health and Safety legislation;
- Ensure there is perseverance towards the continual improvement in the company's Health and Safety performance and those that the company employs;
- To assist Mr Glen Spree to ensure that accidents and incidents are fully investigated and causation discovered to ensure that in the event of an accident that requires the Health and Safety Executive to be notified that such notification is given without delay;
- To ensure that the office is kept clean and tidy and that escape routes are kept clear at all times. Frequently inspect immediate working environments to ensure that if a hazard presents itself it is reported immediately;
- To become aware of emergency procedures;
- To ask for and expect to promptly receive assistance and guidance on any matter that relates to Health and Safety at work;
- Always consider how your acts or omissions may impinge on the Health and Safety of others;
- Report any incidents that may, if not corrected be able to cause harm to others;
- Provide Mr Glen Spree with details of any areas where the Company Health and Safety Policy and actual Health and Safety practice differ and to highlight those areas where up to date refresher training may be required.

THE RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE SUPERVISORS

SBL Fire Solutions Limited regard Supervisors as the backbone of the construction industry and construction projects. The Supervisor oversees the day-to-day construction activities on the project site.

Supervisors must:

- Develop a strong concern for the safety of those that the Company engages on its sites and for those who may be affected by the activities of the Company. Understand that the Company safety culture is a serious one and that Health and Safety is paramount at all times. Know, understand and implement the Company Health and Safety Policy with the objective of ensuring a safe workplace;
- Ensure that all Employees and Contractors engaged on sites under your control have a good understanding of the risks associated with their activities and the materials they handle;
- Ensure that risk assessments and COSHH data information is issued or otherwise related. Check that those who need to be aware of it understand it. If not, implement and re-check. Never assume or leave Health and Safety matters to chance. Be pro-active and prevent accidents from happening;
- At the start of every project ensure that all persons are inducted and provide a briefing on Health and Safety issues to those engaged to undertake the works. Ensure that any operatives who join the project at a later date are similarly briefed. Frequently update Employees and Contractors on Health and Safety matters;
- Ensure that adequate Personal Protective Equipment is available on site, provided, worn when appropriate, replaced when damaged and is stored in an orderly fashion;
- Stop any unsafe or potentially unsafe working practices immediately and notify if Employees of a particular contract Company persistently breach health and safety rules;
- Ensure that a tidy site, workplace and storage area is maintained. That heat, light and ventilation are adequate and materials not needed are removed or stored in an orderly fashion;
- Always prevent obstruction of access and egress routes by the safe delivery, stacking and storage of materials;
- Ensure that each project you oversee has adequate emergency procedures, fire fighting equipment and a first aid kit. A trained first aider or appointed person must also be present where required by law. If work is undertaken without your presence on site ensure that those requirements which are normally shared i.e. provision of a first aider and first aid kit are available to those on site;
- Work equipment is to be maintained in a fit state and inspected prior to the commencement of a shift, ensure that these inspections are undertaken by all employees. Equipment requiring repairs must remain safely out of use until such time as repairs that may be required are completed;
- Immediately inform the office, if for any reason, you are away from work or unable to fully attend to Health and Safety responsibilities at your site;
- Wherever possible take responsibility for fully briefing whoever takes over your position on any safety matters or issues particular to the sites concerned. Take responsibility for sites, inducting your replacement if necessary;
- Never, under any circumstances, allow works to proceed in an unsafe manner and report all accidents in accordance with the Accident Procedure and RIDDOR Procedure as laid out elsewhere in this Policy, whether or not anyone is injured;
- To set a good example while attending sites and to ensure that all site rules are considered and correct Personal Protective Equipment is worn at all times where necessary;
- When standing in for another Employee or assuming the duties of another Employee to carry out those duties in accordance with the appropriate section of this Policy.



Above all else understand and accept that those whom you manage are likely to have or be involved in accidents if you personally do not take positive steps to prevent them. In this respect your responsibility to others is considerable. Be safe rather than sorry. Failure to establish, maintain, monitor and control Health and Safety matters within your remit is regarded as extremely serious by the Company.

The Supervisor must also determine:

- That all hazardous materials are properly marked, used and stored, as outlined in the COSHH assessment;
- Flammables are stored in a suitable environment with adequate fire fighting equipment to hand;
- Competent / trained persons are available to undertake work and use work equipment;
- That a tidy site is maintained and areas of works barriered (where required) and adequate signage erected. Ensure the safe delivery and stacking of materials to prevent obstruction of access and egress routes;
- Arrangements that are made between Employees, Contractors and others at the premises to avoid confusion about areas of responsibility for Health, Safety and Welfare;
- That there is an adequate supply of Personal Protective Equipment made available;
- That any accident on site, which results in an injury to any person, is reported in accordance with RIDDOR, if applicable, and entered into the accident book;
- That the safety of third parties is considered at all time before the commencement of any activity on site and to ensure that the site is left in a safe and secure manner at the end of each working day;
- That there are suitable and sufficient risk assessments for any hazardous situation and that controls measures are adequately implemented.



THE RESPONSIBILITIES OF EMPLOYEES AND LABOUR ONLY CONTRACTORS

All Employees and Labour Only Contractors of the Company are to comply with their individual duties under Section 7 and Section 8 of the Health and Safety at Work etc. Act 1974 and Regulation 14 of the Management of Health and Safety at Work Regulations 1999 (as amended). That is to ensure their own safety and the safety of others and to generally co-operate with their Employer so as to enable the Employer to carry out his Health and Safety duties towards them. Failure to comply with Health and Safety duties and regulations on the part of the Employee, may lead to dismissal from employment.

To ensure that the locations where work is undertaken remain safe places of work, all Employees and Contractors must:

- Read and understand the Company Health and Safety Policy, and comply with its requirements and develop a personal concern for the safety of yourself and others who may be affected by your activities;
- Obtain a good understanding of the risks associated with your activities. Risk assessments will have been produced for any activity involving a significant risk. Ensure that they are seen, read and fully understood. In the event of any uncertainty stop work and ask for guidance;
- Never, under any circumstances, work in an unsafe manner. If you feel you have been asked to do so – don't! Contact the Director Mr Glen Spree immediately;
- Wear personal protective equipment when necessary but regard its usage as a means of last resort. Work to first eliminate or control the risk;
- Do not use plant and equipment for work for which it was not intended, or if you are not trained or experienced to use it;
- Report any damaged plant or equipment to your Supervisor immediately;
- Keep all tools and plant in good condition inspect them frequently and do not use them if they are damaged or inadequate for the job;
- Be aware that site emergency procedures exist. They are for your benefit. Find out what they are and establish the location and how to use fire-fighting equipment. Find out where First Aid equipment is kept and who is the site First Aider;
- Keep the work place tidy at all times to make it a safer and healthier place to work. Be aware of trip hazards and when possible remove any hazards observed e.g. nails protruding from timber or cables unsafely located;
- Do not play dangerous practical jokes or partake in "horseplay". Always consider how your acts or omissions may impinge on the Health and Safety of others;
- Report any injury to yourself, which results from an accident at work, even if the injury does not stop you working. Work in a safe manner at all times. Do not take unnecessary risks, which could endanger yourself or others. Suggest safer methods of working and to ensure that you and the general public are not put at any risk. Warn any other persons sharing the workplace of particular known hazards;
- Regard Health and Safety information and training as your right. Ask the Supervisor for it and do not start work until you are satisfied as to its adequacy. Ask for and expect to receive a toolbox talk on any work and Health and Safety matters you feel unsure about;

Above all else understand and accept that you are likely to cause or be involved in an accident if you do not take positive steps to avoid them. In this respect your responsibility to yourself and to others is enormous. Be safe rather than sorry.



THE RESPONSIBILITIES OF CONTRACTORS

All Contractors will be expected to comply with this Health and Safety Policy of SBL Fire Solutions Limited and must submit their own Health and Safety Policy to SBL Fire Solutions Limited for verification.

All Contractors have a responsibility to:

- Receive a copy of this Health and Safety Policy on request and will be expected to be fully aware of what is required of them whilst working on sites;
- Ensure that work must be carried out in accordance with the relevant statutory provisions and taking into account the safety of others who may be present in the work area and comply with any safety instruction given to them by the Supervisors
- That plant and equipment brought into a work area by Contractors must be safe and in good working condition, fitted with any necessary guards and safety devices, with any certificates available for checking. All Employees must be adequately trained in the use of such equipment and where appropriate have available any certificates of competence;
- Ensure electrical equipment is to be regularly tested and suitable for the conditions in which it is to be used or provided;
- Ensure that any injury sustained or damage caused by Contractors Employees must be reported immediately to the Site Supervisor;
- Ensure that when informed of any hazards or defects, they will be expected to take immediate action;
- Ensure that welfare facilities may be provided at sites as well as extinguishers and first aid personnel by the Principal Contractor, in circumstances where this is not possible SBL Fire Solutions Limited will make alternate arrangements with Contractors. In many situations there will be co-operation and co-ordination of activities with the Principal Contractor who will make suitable provisions;
- Contractors undertaking hot works are to provide additional, suitable fire extinguishers;
- SBL Fire Solutions Limited will provide COSHH assessments for any material or substance supplied for use on site. Contractors are to provide COSHH assessments for materials provided for their own use;
- Contractors are particularly asked to note that workplaces must be kept tidy and all debris, waste materials, etc. cleared as work proceeds;
- It is the Policy of SBL Fire Solutions Limited that all Employees, Contractors and persons within the works area wear the protective clothing or equipment appropriate to the works being undertaken or as highlighted in the PPE assessment. Contractors are to provide appropriate protective clothing and safety equipment for their employees;
- Contractors are required to ensure that copies of all risk assessments, COSHH assessment's and safe working documentation are available for inspection by the Supervisor. Such assessment's should be provided before work is due to commence and in sufficient time to allow submission to the Client.

GENERAL ARRANGEMENTS SECTION

HEALTH AND SAFETY OVERVIEW

Under the Environmental Protection Act 1990 and the Health and Safety at Work etc. Act 1974, the Secretary of State is empowered to make regulations for a number of purposes, which are listed in the Schedules to the Acts. The Environmental Agency and the Health and Safety Executive may approve and issue Approved Codes of Practice. Although failure to observe such a code would not in itself be illegal, it may be referred to in criminal proceedings to show that the failure to comply with the code or any provision of it constitutes a contravention of any particular requirement or prohibition of the Act. All Acts, Orders, Regulations and ACoPs remain in force until they are modified or repealed.

ENFORCEMENT

This is the responsibility of the Environmental Agency and the Health and Safety Executive, with the proviso that responsibility may be transferred in certain cases to local authorities. Enforcement officers / inspectors may visit site and premises, if an inspector is of the opinion that a person is contravening a statutory provision or is likely to repeat a contravention, he may serve on that person an Improvement Notice requiring specified remedial action to be taken within a specified time. If the inspector considers that the contravention involves a risk of serious injury, they may serve a Prohibition Notice having immediate effect if considered necessary, directing that the specified activities must not be carried out until the specific matters have been remedied.

If an Improvement Notice or Prohibition Notice is not complied with, persons responsible are liable to imprisonment for up to 6 months (3 months under the Environmental Protection Act 1990) and an unlimited fine. Either of these notices may (but need not) include directions as to the measures to be taken, except where a Notice has immediate effect. The notice may be withdrawn by the inspector before the specified date, however, if the controls are not adequate, the notice may be extended. An inspector may seize any plant, article or substance he finds on any premises, if they consider it to be a cause of imminent danger.

An inspector may give to persons employed (or their representatives) factual information obtained relating to the premises and anything undertaken there, informing them of any action that they may pursue in relation to their findings.

The HSE has introduced a cost recovery scheme; fee for intervention (FFI); in accordance with The Health and Safety Nuclear (Fees) Regulations 2022.

These Regulations place a duty on the HSE to recover its costs for carrying out its regulatory functions from those found to be in material breach of health and safety law.

A material breach is, when in the opinion of the HSE inspector, there has been a contravention of health and safety law that is serious enough to require them to notify the person in writing.

The HSE and the government believe it is right that businesses and organisations that break health and safety laws should pay for the HSE's time in putting matters right, investigating and taking enforcement action, particularly as businesses may have gained the upper hand with their competitors by saving money on matters of health and safety. Costs were previously paid for from the public purse.

The Fee for Intervention hourly rate is currently £166.

A person found guilty of an offence under the Acts is liable for, on indictment for certain offences, up to two years imprisonment, and / or an unlimited fine. Continuation of an offence for which a person has been convicted constitutes a further offence and that person is liable to a fine for each day on which the contravention continues.

The Legal Aid, Sentencing and Punishment of Offenders Act 2012 increases the penalties and provides courts with greater sentencing powers for those who flout health and safety legislation. The Act raises the maximum penalties that can be imposed for breaching health and safety regulations in the lower courts from £20,000 to unlimited, and the range of offences for which an individual can be imprisoned has also been broadened.

In accordance with section 120 of the Coroners and Justice Act 2009, the Sentencing Council issued new sentencing guidelines for the sentencing of Health and Safety offences committed by Organisations (employers) and by Individuals (employees). It applies to all organisations and offenders aged 18 and older, who are sentenced on or after 1st February 2016, regardless of the date of the offence.

Courts will determine the offence category based on the culpability and harm factors of each individual case. Health and safety offences are concerned with failures to manage risks to Health and Safety and do not require proof that the offence caused any actual harm. The offence is in creating a risk of harm. Further factors to be considered will be whether the offence exposed a number of workers or members of the public or whether the offence was a significant cause of actual harm.

Courts will follow the general principles in setting a fine in accordance with section 164 of the Criminal Justice Act 2003, which requires that the fine must reflect the seriousness of the offence and that the court must take into account the financial circumstances of the offender.

The fine will be sufficiently substantial to have a real economic impact on the organisation or individual, which will bring home to both management and shareholders the need to comply with Health and Safety legislation.

SBL Fire Solutions Limited accepts that the level of fines for some health and safety offences has previously been too low and takes health and safety management responsibilities very seriously in order to prevent accidents and incidents of ill health at all levels within the organisation. Employees are encouraged to act in accordance with the statutory provisions placed upon them and are warned of the consequences that could result if they fail to adhere to our safe systems of work.

The Act fulfils a longstanding Government and HSE commitment to provide the courts with greater sentencing powers for health and safety crimes. The effect of the Act is to:

- Raise the maximum fine which may be imposed in the lower courts to unlimited for most health and safety offences;
- Make imprisonment an option for more health and safety offences in both the lower and higher courts;
- Make certain offences, which are currently tri-able only in the lower courts, tri-able in either the lower or higher courts.

ABRASIVE WHEELS

An abrasive wheel is any powered wheel, cylinder, disc or point which is constructed or coated in abrasive particles. Most accidents involving abrasive wheels are due to incorrect used and poor maintenance, in particular the selection of the wrong wheel or over speeding. Abrasive wheels generally rotate at very high speeds and contact with the revolving wheel can cause serious injury. Abrasive particles are thrown off during the grinding process and can cause injury, particularly to the eyes. Wheels may also disintegrate or 'burst' causing fragments of the wheel to be projected at great speed in any direction.

Abrasive wheels are mainly used in maintenance workshops on fixed machines and on portable machines i.e. angle grinders.

Hazards arising from the use of abrasive wheels include:

- Electric shock.
- Bursting of the wheel.
- Injury from flying debris.
- Damage to hearing from noise.
- Cuts to the body.
- Generated dust.
- Loose clothing becoming entangled.
- Fire and explosion.

Supervision shall ensure:

- Appropriate training is given to all employees to be engaged in the use of abrasive wheels and shall ensure the employees are competent in their use. Only trained employees will be permitted to operate, undertake the mounting and inspection of an abrasive wheel machine.
- That the relevant risk assessment has been reviewed by the person instructed to undertake the work and is fully understood by that person.
- That the manufacturer's instructions for the machine are available in order that abrasive wheels are not fitted to a machine that may run in excess of the maximum permissible speed as recommended by the manufacturer for a disc/wheel.
- Only those wheels that are in a good condition are used and are operated at the optimum speed.
- Checks are made to ensure that wheels that are worn or damaged are discarded and wheels are used for the task that they are designed for e.g. cutting discs must never be used for grinding.
- Guards are fitted in order to contain any fragments, ejected material and to prevent contact with the disc according to the manufacturer's instructions at all times the wheel is in use.
- That all machines have an efficient starting and stopping device which is easily accessible and can be readily operated with start triggers never over-ridden e.g. wired closed in the 'on' position.
- Where noise and dust is produced it is controlled at source in order to prevent reliance on PPE by the user or third parties e.g. by the use of extraction or water to prevent dust and by the use of the machine in an enclosure to prevent noise affecting third parties.
- Personal Protective Equipment is issued and worn when hazards cannot be eliminated e.g. goggles, hearing protection and mask.
- That only abrasive wheels machines manufactured and tested in accordance with the relevant British Standards are made available to site, to operate at a voltage not exceeding 110 Volts (CTE), unless special clearance is given in accordance with the appropriate assessment and method statement.
- That abrasive wheel equipment is maintained in good working order, suitably stored, issued for the appropriate purpose and is used in the proper way.

That abrasive wheel equipment is visually inspected by operatives before every use to ensure it is without defects. All defective equipment is to be immediately taken out of use and the matter reported to the Supervisor.

ACCIDENT / INCIDENT INVESTIGATION AND RIDDOR

Minor incidents will be recorded in the "accident book". The completed forms will be removed and filed with the employee's confidential records by Mr Glen Spree.

RIDDOR accidents / incidents and near misses will be investigated to ensure that suitable controls are implemented and safe systems of work are adopted, with the aim of preventing recurrence, removing the hazard and reducing the risk. Details of company accidents will be reviewed, as will investigations when undertaken, with details analysed to consider if there are any trends present; whereby working practices need to be changed and further controls included in risk assessments, to reduce risk or eliminate a hazard.

The reasons for investigating accidents are:

- To discover the circumstances of an accident in order to implement controls to prevent recurrence;
- To ensure that the preventative measures taken are adequate and pose no further risk;
- To determine whether any specific breaches of legislation have occurred;
- To increase the knowledge and awareness of employees;
- To maintain credibility of the accident reporting mechanism to the general workforce.

In the event that an accident is reportable, management will give consideration to completing a formal investigation.

In accordance with RIDDOR 2013, management will ensure that the reporting of all accidents, diseases and dangerous occurrences outlined in the regulations will be reported within 10 days unless where detailed:

- All deaths to workers and non-workers that arise from a work related accident (report to HSE without delay);
- Specified injuries to workers as outlined in Regulation 4 of RIDDOR 2013;

- Over 7 day injuries (whereby an employee or self-employed person is away from work or unable to perform their normal work duties for more than seven consecutive days, not counting the day of the accident) (within 15 days);
- Work related accidents involving members of the public who are taken from the scene to hospital for treatment to that injury (examinations and diagnostic tests do not constitute 'treatment' in such circumstances);
- Reportable occupational diseases caused or made worse by work, as listed in RIDDOR 2013;
- 27 categories of Dangerous Occurrences as listed in the regulations.

How to report

Online

Go to www.hse.gov.uk/riddor and complete the appropriate online report form. The form will then be submitted directly to the RIDDOR database. You will receive a copy for your records.

Telephone

All incidents can be reported online but a telephone service remains for reporting fatal and specified injuries only. Call the Incident Contact Centre on 0345 300 9923 (opening hours Monday to Friday 8.30 am to 5 pm).

SBL Fire Solutions Limited will retain all records of incidents to ensure that sufficient information is collected to properly manage health and safety risks. This information will be used as a valuable management tool as an aid to risk assessment helping to develop solutions to potential risks. In this way, records will help SBL Fire Solutions Limited prevent injuries and ill health and control costs from accidental loss.

ALCOHOL, DRUGS AND SMOKING

Anyone found under the influence of or in possession of alcohol or narcotics will be dismissed from the areas of work and may be subjected to appropriate disciplinary measures, which could result in dismissal for serious or repeated offences.

Employees, labour only contractors and contractors are reminded that some prescription drugs may induce tiredness and lethargy etc. therefore it is the Policy of SBL Fire Solutions Limited that any person who is taking medication, prescribed or not, is to inform their Supervisor if those drugs could affect their performance whilst at work. Employees etc. are also requested to notify their Supervisor of any illness that may affect their ability to undertake work activities in a safe manner. Employees are required to submit this information pursuant to Section 7 of the Health and Safety at Work etc., Act 1974.

Anyone found smoking in an area other than designated "Smoking areas" will be instructed to extinguish the cigarette immediately with repeat offences being subject to disciplinary measures. Together with being a health risk smoking also greatly increases fire risk. The Smoke-free (Premises and Enforcement) Regulations 2006 now prohibit smoking within premises and within company vehicles therefore this is a statutory requirement.

Employees are advised that the NHS offers a range of free services to help smokers give up. Visit <http://smokefree.nhs.uk> or call the NHS Smoking Helpline on 0300 123 1044 for details including the local NHS Stop Smoking Service.

Drinkline is the national alcohol helpline. If you're worried about your own drinking, you can call this free helpline in complete confidence. Call 0300 123 1110 (weekdays 9am to 8pm, weekends 11am to 4pm) or visit <https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/alcohol-advice/alcohol-support/>

BATTERY CHARGING

Disassembly

Never disassemble a battery, as the materials inside may be toxic and may damage skin and clothes.

Disposing of batteries

Disposing of a battery in fire can cause the battery to rupture. Also avoid placing batteries in water, as this may cause the battery to fail.

Soldering

Never solder anything directly to a battery. This can destroy the safety features of the battery by damaging the safety vent inside the cap. Permanent connections to an energy cell may be made by spot welding solder tags to the terminals. A soldered connection can subsequently be made to the tag.

Inserting the batteries

Never insert a battery with the positive and negative poles reversed as this can cause permanent damage to the battery which may swell or rupture.

Charging

Never charge with an unspecified charger or specified charger that has been modified. This can cause breakdown of the battery or swelling and rupturing.

Never attempt to charge a battery which has been physically damaged.

Overcharging at high currents and reverse charging

Never reverse charge or overcharge with high currents (i.e. higher than rated). Doing so causes rapid gas generation and increased gas pressure, thus causing batteries to swell or rupture.

Don't leave the battery in the charger once it is fully charged.

Installation in equipment (with an airtight battery compartment)

Always avoid designing airtight battery compartments. In some cases, gases (oxygen, hydrogen) may be given off, and there is a danger of the batteries bursting or rupturing in the presence of a source of ignition (sparks generated by a motor switch, etc.).

Incorrect use of batteries

Do not use a battery in an appliance or purpose for which it was not intended. Differences in specifications can damage the battery or appliance.

Short-circuiting

Special caution is required to prevent short circuiting any battery since the consequences can be very dangerous. Care must be taken during the design of the battery pack shape to ensure batteries cannot be inserted in reverse. Also, caution must be given to prevent accidental short-circuiting of the battery. Doing so can damage the product and generate heat that can cause burns.

Using old and new batteries together

Avoid using old and new batteries together. Also avoid mixing batteries using differing cell chemistries such as ordinary dry-cell batteries, Ni-Cd, NiMH batteries or with another manufacturer's batteries.

Differences in various characteristic values, etc., can cause damage to the batteries or the product.

Storage

Store the batteries in a cool place and when in use don't allow them to remain in environments which may be subject to overheating e.g. direct sunlight in a locked car.

ESD (Electrostatic Discharge) Bags

Do not put batteries into plastic bags designed to protect components from electrostatic discharge. These bags are made from conductive material which could cause the battery to be short circuited.

Precautions

Batteries should always be charged prior to use. Be sure to charge correctly.

Warning Notice

Be sure to indicate this safety warning clearly in all operating instructions as a handling restriction for ensuring safety.

BULLYING / HARASSMENT

SBL Fire Solutions Limited is committed to providing a work environment free of any kinds of bullying or harassment. This applies to all persons involved in the operations of SBL Fire Solutions Limited and prohibits bullying or harassment by any employee of the company, including supervisors, managers and visitors.

Bullying

Bullying is defined as repeated verbal, psychological or physical aggression by an individual or group against others that could be regarded as offensive, humiliating or intimidating. Any such activity is viewed as an act of misconduct. Examples may include:

- Manipulating the victims reputation by rumour, gossip and ridicule;
- Social exclusion or isolation;
- Preventing the victim from speaking by voicing loud criticisms or obscenities;
- Manipulating the nature of the work or the ability of the victim to perform their work e.g. by overloading, withholding information or setting meaningless tasks.

Harassment

Harassment occurs if any person feels intimidated, humiliated, patronised or embarrassed by the derogatory, offensive or discriminatory remarks or actions of others. Harassment may interfere with job performance, undermine job security or create a threatening or unpleasant work atmosphere.

Sexual Harassment

Sex harassment is unwanted behaviour of a sexual nature by one employee towards another person that is sexual in nature. Examples of sexual harassment include:

- Sexual gestures;
- Displaying sexually suggestive material, such as pictures or sending suggestive or sexually explicit correspondence;
- Unwelcome sexual comments or jokes;
- Unwelcome physical conduct, such as unnecessary touching, pinching etc.

Racial Harassment

Racial harassment is unwanted behaviour of a racial nature by one employee towards another. Examples may include:

- Abusive language, mockery or racist jokes;
- Display or circulation of racially offensive material;
- Racial name calling;
- Intrusive or persistent questioning about a person racial or ethnic origin, culture or religion;

- Exclusion from normal workplace conversation or social events i.e. frozen out.

SBL Fire Solutions Limited deplores all forms of harassment and seeks to ensure that the working environment is comfortable and secure for all its employees.

The company will immediately undertake an effective, thorough and objective investigation of the harassment allegations.

Once the investigation is completed and determination is made regarding the alleged bullying / harassment, the result is communicated to the employee as soon as possible.

Any employee who brings a complaint of harassment will not suffer for having brought the complaint: however, disciplinary action will be taken against employees whose allegations of harassment are found to have been malicious.

CDM CONTRACTORS DUTIES

When acting as a Contractor, SBL Fire Solutions Limited will:

- Ensure that when appointing a Designer or Contractor that they have the skills, knowledge and experience and, where relevant, organisational capability to carry out the work for which they are being appointed, or that they are in the process of obtaining them;
- Co-operate with other duty holders;
- Plan, manage and monitor the construction work under our control so it is carried out in a way that controls the risks to Health and Safety and that it is proportionate to the size and complexity of the project and the nature of risks involved;
- Ensure that effective, preventative and protective measures are put in place to control the risks and the right plant, equipment and tools are provided to carry out the work involved;
- Co-ordinate the planning, management and monitoring of our own work with that of the Principal Contractor and other Contractors, and where appropriate the Principal Designer. Attending regular progress meetings with other duty holders to ensure that our arrangements for planning, managing and monitoring our own work can feed into, and remain consistent with, the project-wide arrangements;
- Monitor our work to ensure that the Health and Safety precautions are appropriate, remain in place and are followed in practice;
- Assess the existing Health and Safety skills, knowledge, training and experience of our workers, compare these existing attributes with the range of skills, knowledge, training and experience they will need for the job; and identify any shortfall in order to provide the 'necessary training'; and not rely on CSCS cards or similar as evidence that a worker has the right qualities;
- Provide appropriate supervision to all Employees, Contractors and newly trained individuals giving them the opportunity to gain positive experience of working in a range of conditions. The level of supervision provided will depend on the risks to Health and Safety involved, and the skills, knowledge, training and experience of the workers concerned;
- Provide Supervisors who have the skills, knowledge, training, experience and leadership qualities, good communication and people management skills to be effective. All Supervisors will be provided with nationally recognised site supervisor training which includes leadership and communication skills;
- Domestic clients are now also in scope of CDM 2015; we understand that their duties may be transferred to SBL Fire Solutions Limited (on a single contractor project) or the Principal Contractor (where more than one contractor is involved). Where a Principal Contractor or Principal Designer has not been appointed by the client, this role may fall to SBL Fire Solutions Limited where the company will be in control of the construction phase of the project;
- Where a Principal Contractor has been appointed we will follow the Construction Phase Plan that is relevant to our work and facilitate co-operation and co-ordination between contractors. We will produce a Construction Phase Plan before construction begins where SBL Fire Solutions Limited are the only Contractor on the project;

We will also ensure that Employees or Contractors under our control:

- Are consulted about matters which affect their health, safety and welfare;
- Take care of their own Health and Safety and others who may be affected by their actions;
- Report anything they see which is likely to endanger either their own or other's Health and Safety;
- Co-operate with the management of SBL Fire Solutions Limited, fellow workers, Contractors and other duty holders.

COMMUNICATION

SBL Fire Solutions Limited sees communication within the company as an essential part of effective Health and Safety management. The company will endeavour to communicate to employees their commitment to Safety. In doing so, we will ensure that employees are familiar with the contents of the Company's Health and Safety Policy. Communication with employees will be in the form of directions and statements, in writing, by way of the Policy Statement and by example.

SBL Fire Solutions Limited aim to work with their Client's Health and Safety representatives and other employers to ensure that all information and documentation is shared regarding Environmental, Health and Safety matters and is communicated to relevant employees in order to ensure safe working of all parties at all times. In the event that an employee has concerns with regards to health and safety they are encouraged to contact their Supervisor or Mr Glen Spree so that the issue can be solved. Members of the public who may have concerns with regards to any matter will be given the telephone number of the head office so that it can be dealt with.

SBL Fire Solutions Limited will ensure that there is adequate consultation with all personnel should there be any alteration to working practices; when new plant is introduced or for any reason that may impinge on the Health, Safety and Welfare of employees, in accordance with the Health and Safety (Consultation with Employees) Regulations 1996 and the Safety Committee and Safety Representatives Regulations 1977. Employees are encouraged to have a representative when a formal convener has not been appointed.

COMPLAINTS PROCEDURE

Construction work by its very nature, is likely to impact upon the surrounding environment, including neighbouring buildings and their occupants including passers-by and members of the public in general. Our policy is to conduct our activities with due consideration to anyone that may be affected by our work and to reduce any adverse impact of our activities to as low as practicable.

SBL Fire Solutions Limited will work pro-actively with the allocated Principal Contractor, Principal Designer, the Client and Local Authority to ensure that generic site nuisances are restricted as far as is reasonably practicable.

Consideration will be given to all reasonable recommendations to obviate the impact on the surrounding environment. Should a third party or member of the public offer a complaint, the details will be recorded by the Supervisor in accordance with the complaints procedure and forwarded directly to the company office for the attention of the Managing Director.

In the event that an Employee has any concerns with regards to any Health and Safety matter, they are encouraged to speak directly to their Supervisor so that the issue can be resolved. In circumstances where an employee feels that the issue has not been adequately rectified, they are to outline their complaint in writing and forward it directly to Mr Glen Spree for his consideration; whereby a meeting will be arranged to offer appropriate action and controls.

COMPRESSORS / COMPRESSED AIR AND PRESSURE SYSTEMS

SBL Fire Solutions Limited accepts in full the requirements of the Pressure Systems Safety Regulations 2000 and shall ensure that all Systems, pipelines and pipe-work are designed and installed in accordance with these regulations. Furthermore all systems, pipelines and pipe-work shall be assessed to determine any necessary controls to ensure the safety of those persons who may be affected by a release of stored energy within any of the systems.

Those systems that require inspection and examination shall be subjected to such inspections / examination by a competent person who shall ensure that all such systems are regularly examined in accordance with a written scheme of examination prepared by a competent person.

Results of such examinations shall be prepared within a report and submitted to the Mr Glen Spree of the Company for distribution amongst maintenance staff and / or specialist maintenance Contractors who shall ensure that all repairs and modifications are undertaken as soon as is reasonably practicable. In situations whereby the compressors / pressure system is hired in a copy of the written scheme of examination will be requested from the hire company. The records of any such examinations and reports shall be retained by the Company.

Compressors must be operated in the manner outlined in instructions supplied with the / on the machine and machines must not be operated unless you are familiar with the system and the instructions are clear and understood. All hoses must be adequately and securely fastened by fittings specifically designed for the job with “whip check” fittings present. Hoses and fittings showing signs of wear, corrosion or damage must be returned to the hire company as unacceptable.

Compressed Air

Fatal injuries may be caused by accidental or deliberate injection of compressed air either through the skin or into body orifices. Therefore, ensure that:

- The clothes you are wearing or PPE prevent the penetration of compressed air into the body;
- Extra care is required in situations whereby accidental injections of compressed air may be a risk e.g. in awkward or confined situations; and horseplay is never undertaken and strictly forbidden.

Should it even be suspected that a penetration has occurred from compressed air, inform your Supervisor and seek medical attention.

CONSULTATION WITH EMPLOYEES AND CONTRACTORS

SBL Fire Solutions Limited will ensure that there is regular consultation with all Employees and Contractors to achieve and maintain an effective Health and Safety culture within the Company’s operations. SBL Fire Solutions Limited will consult with the Employees or their representatives and contractors, before the introduction of new procedures or technology that may affect their working practices.

Consultation will also occur before the introduction of new statutory information, new or modified work equipment or systems of work and when new technology or new substances are to be used. The consultations will be undertaken on a formal and informal basis according to the matters being relayed. Where necessary, SBL Fire Solutions Limited will keep records of the consultations.

CONTRACTORS

SBL Fire Solutions Limited recognise our duty to appoint Contractors who are competent and we will make reasonable enquiries for evidence of competency prior to engaging companies in contractual works. We will ensure that the contractor has the skills, knowledge and experience and, where relevant, organisation capability to carry out the work for which they are being appointed as detailed in Regulation 8 of the Construction (Design & Management) Regulations 2015. This competence check will take into account the nature of the work being undertaken and the risks that this work entails.

All Contractors will be asked to satisfactorily complete a copy of SBL Fire Solutions Limited pre-qualification safety questionnaire and they will be placed on the Approved Contractor list before they are asked to tender for any work. If successful when tendering, a pre-commencement meeting may be required to discuss any unusual Health and Safety implications relating to a particular project.

All Contractors will be asked to submit a copy of their Health and Safety Policy, current certificate of Employers Liability Insurance, training certificates and Method Statements / Risk Assessments in advance for verification before commencing work for SBL Fire Solutions Limited.

Contractors will be expected to comply with the Health and Safety Policy of SBL Fire Solutions Limited when working on site and will be supplied with a list of Safety Rules and Requirements. The following paragraph may be inserted into Contractors contracts:

“Please note this copy of our Company Policy for Health, Safety and Welfare and a list of Safety Rules and Requirements for Contractors on this Company’s sites and clients premises. Your acceptance of the requirements of this Policy will be deemed to include acceptance of the requirements of our Company Policy”. Please contact Mr Glen Spree for information on any matter in connection with Health, Safety or Welfare.

CONTROL OF HAZARDOUS SUBSTANCES

SBL Fire Solutions Limited recognise our duties in accordance with the Control of Substances Hazardous to Health Regulations 2002 (as amended) (COSHH) and will endeavour to purchase substances that are not hazardous to health if they compare favourably in all characteristics i.e. cost, effectiveness and quality.

Material Safety Data Sheet (MSDS)

SBL Fire Solutions Limited will keep copies of the MSDS for every product used which is identified as being hazardous. The MSDS will be obtained from the suppliers or manufacturers. The Supervisor will review the MSDS to ensure they remain current, usually at the same time as reviewing the COSHH assessments.

Assessment of risk

The Supervisor will ensure that before work starts, information is obtained on any material or substance to be used and that an assessment of the risk in the use of that material or substance is completed.

SBL Fire Solutions Limited will ensure all products which fall into the COSHH regime are subject to assessment. Assessments will be produced with advice and input from others as necessary.

The Supervisor will ensure that the results of any such assessment are provided to site, together with any necessary control measures or personal protective equipment, and that all appropriate measures for the protection and health of persons who may be exposed to materials or substance hazardous to health are planned before work starts.

Training

Operatives must be trained to look out for warning signs, e.g. harmful, irritant, corrosive, toxic etc. on the containers label and the MSDS.

The Supervisor will ensure that operatives receive adequate information and instruction in the handling and use of any material or substance hazardous to health, and that all procedures planned to handle or use any hazardous substances are carried out fully and that any protective clothing, equipment or hygiene measures are provided and maintained as required.

All measures necessary to protect other workers and members of the public from any substance hazardous to health will be provided and maintained.

Storage and use of hazardous materials

All hazardous materials will be stored in secure ventilated areas.

Care will be taken to ensure that in the event of a spill hazardous mixing does not occur, for example the mixing of a bleach with an acid.

Hazardous material stores will include spill containment and where they are a dedicated room, will not have drainage installed or any drains present will be covered and sealed unless in use. Where hazardous materials are stored in cabinets, etc. any nearby drains will be sealed when not in use.

Spill containment materials such as absorbent granules, socks, etc. will be stored by the hazardous materials for use in the event of a spill.



Dust

Some hazardous substances are the product of a work process, such as the dust produced when cutting-off saws and angle grinders. Dust from concrete products is known to be particularly hazardous. SBL Fire Solutions Limited will purchase tools and equipment when available that eliminates dust or in the next instance reduces dust produced. Water suppression or a dust extraction system will be implemented and in the last instance Respiratory Protective Equipment (RPE) will be worn by the operatives to further reduce any remaining risk.

CO-OPERATION AND CO-ORDINATION

If we are to build and maintain a Clean, Healthy and Safe working environment it is essential that there is co-operation between all Employees and Contractors. All Employees and Contractors are expected to co-operate and accept their duties contained in this policy. Employees have a duty to take all reasonable steps to preserve and protect the Environment and the Health and Safety of themselves and all other people affected by the Company's undertakings.

SBL Fire Solutions Limited will ensure that through co-operation and co-ordination, all employees within shared places of work, work in a safe environment.

CORPORATE MANSLAUGHTER AND CORPORATE HOMICIDE ACT 2007

An offence will be committed where failings by an organisation's senior management are a substantial element in any gross breach of the duty of care owed to the organisation's employees or members of the public, which results in death. The maximum penalty is an unlimited fine and the court can additionally make a publicity order requiring the organisation to publish details of its conviction and fine.

In considering the liability of an organisation under the Act, a jury must consider any breaches of health and safety legislation and may have regard to any health and safety guidance. In addition to other health and safety guidance, this guidance could be a relevant consideration for a jury depending on the circumstances of the particular case.

The Law

There are no new obligations under this Act. However, the Act does provide a new offence under existing common, civil and criminal law. Companies and organisations who comply with existing health and safety legislation are not likely to be in breach of the new provisions, particularly if they can show due diligence to continual improvement in their Company's Health and Safety culture.

This Act:

- Makes it easier to prosecute companies and other large organisations when gross failures in the management of health and safety lead to death;
- Removes a key obstacle to successful prosecutions because, until now, a company could only be convicted of manslaughter if a "directing mind" (such as a director) at the top of the company was also personally liable;
- Means that both small and large companies can be held liable for manslaughter where gross failures in the management of health and safety cause death; not just health and safety violations;
- Does not apply to individual directors, senior managers or other individuals: it is concerned with the corporate liability of the organisation itself (but where there is sufficient evidence, individuals can already be prosecuted for gross negligence manslaughter and for health and safety offences and the Act does not change this position).

The Sentencing Council issued new sentencing guidelines for judges imposing fines in relation to the size of the convicted organisation. Under the Corporate Manslaughter and Homicide Act 2007, there is no upper limit on penalties.

The following factors will be assessed when deciding upon penalties:

- How foreseeable was serious injury;
- How far short of the appropriate standard did the organisation fall;
- How common is this kind of breach within the organisation;

- Was there more than one death, or a high risk of further deaths, or serious personal injury in addition to death.

The fine imposed will reflect the seriousness of the offence and will take into account the financial circumstances of the organisation. The fine will be sufficiently substantial to have a real economic impact which will bring home to management and shareholders the need to achieve a safe environment for workers and members of the public affected by their activities.

DATA PROTECTION AND RECORD KEEPING

The General Data Protection Regulations 2018 (GDPR)) and the UK General Data Protection Regulations 2020 (UK-GDPR) aims to facilitate the free flow of personal data whilst ensuring a high level of data security. The data protection regulator, the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO), will also be given more power to defend consumer interests and issue higher fines, of up to £17 million or 4 per cent of global turnover, in cases of the most serious data breaches.

SBL Fire Solutions Limited are aware of our legal responsibilities and will:

- Document our current data processes and demonstrate that they meet compliance requirements;
- Document what personal data is held;
- Assess the security of data stored, personal data in particular;
- Document where data is shared with 3rd party organisations;
- Review and define justifications for holding personal data;
- Categorise the risk level associated with personal data held; and
- Commit to data retention policies.

In accordance with the requirements of the ICO SBL Fire Solutions Limited will nominate a Data Controller and a Data Processor to decide:

Data Controller

- To collect personal data in the first place;
- Which items of personal data to collect;
- The purpose the data is to be used for;
- Which individuals to collect data about;
- Whether to disclose the data, and if so, who to;
- Whether the subject has access rights to the data; and
- How long to retain the data, or whether to make non-routine amendments to the data.

Data Processor

- What IT systems to use to collect personal data;
- How to store the personal data;
- The details of security surrounding the data;
- The means used to transfer the data from one organisation to another;
- The means used to retrieve personal data;
- The method for ensuring a retention schedule is adhered to; and
- The means used to delete the data.

Collection of data

In order to maintain accurate and efficient records, information regarding the planning and management of Health and Safety is stored as follows:

- By means of paper based records, manually retrievable;
- By means of retrievable electronic systems.

In all circumstances, it is the policy of the company to maintain a record keeping system, regardless of description that provides protection for the privacy of all Employees, Clients and Contractors, where personal data is stored **N.B. personal data is defined as data that relates to a living individual who can be identified.**

Description of data

Some Health and Safety data retained by the company will be classified as being sensitive personal data and may include:

- Records of physical injury suffered during the course of employment i.e. the accident book;
- Records of occupationally induced ill health e.g. sickness records;
- Records of health and safety awareness training;
- Records of safety management audits, safety sampling, safety encounters or safety inspections, where the employee is named in the reporting document;
- Financial information.

Other data may include:

- Safe working procedures, developed in support of this Policy document;
- Construction Phase Health and Safety Plans;
- Safety method statements;
- Assessment records of significant risks;
- Permit to work controls; which may directly refer to named employees.

Processing of personal data

Personal data shall be:

- Processed fairly and lawfully;
- Collected for specified, explicit and legitimate purposes;
- Adequate, relevant and limited to what is necessary;
- Kept for no longer than is necessary;
- Processed in a manner that ensures appropriate security.

Managing Data

Our Employees will be made aware of GDPR. Where we retain personal data relating to our Employees, Clients and Contractors:

- We shall process personal data solely for the purpose of providing our services or otherwise in accordance with instructions received and where consent is provided;
- We shall have in place technical and organisational security measures, including measures which guard against unauthorised or unlawful access to, or alteration, disclosure or destruction of personal data, and against accidental loss or destruction of, or damage to, personal data;
- We shall not sell, transfer or otherwise disclose personal data to any third party, unless such disclosure is required by law or court order;
- We shall define retention times for all data stored.

Data Subject Access Request

Employees, Clients or Contractors may request information regarding their own personal data and information will be promptly released and explained, within one month and no fee will be charged.

Rectification and Erasure

Employees, Clients and Contractors shall:

- Have the right to the rectification of inaccurate personal data;
- Have the right to the erasure of personal data where one of the following grounds applies:

- The data is no longer necessary in relation to the purposes for which they were collected or otherwise processed;
- The Employee, Client or Contractor withdraws the consent on which the processing is based and where there is no other legal ground for the processing;
- The Employee, Client or Contractor objects to the processing and there are no overriding legitimate grounds for the processing;
- The personal data has been unlawfully processed;
- The personal data has to be erased for compliance with a legal obligation;

Right to Restriction of Processing

The Employee, Client or Contractor shall have the right to restriction of processing where one of the following applies:

- The accuracy of the personal data is contested by the data subject;
- The processing is unlawful, and the Employee, Client or Contractor opposes the erasure of the personal data, and requests the restriction of their use instead;
- SBL Fire Solutions Limited no longer needs the personal data for the purposes of the original processing, but the data is required by the data subject for the establishment, exercise or defence of legal claims;
- The Employee, Client or Contractor has objected to the processing pending the verification whether the legitimate grounds of SBL Fire Solutions Limited override those of the Employee, Client or Contractor.

DISCIPLINARY PROCEDURE

When there are issues of non-compliance of Health and Safety Regulations or unsafe working practice, the Company will investigate them. Mr Glen Spree will collate any information and this will be reviewed and the appropriate corrective action taken to ensure that there are controls implemented and that the Employees are made aware of the situations which are causing concern. If subsequently the problems persist, the Company will apply further measures to ensure the Health, Safety and Welfare of all Employees and others who may be affected by the actions of those who are not complying with the Health and Safety Regulations.

The Employee's attention will be drawn to a situation, which is causing concern in order to give the Employee the opportunity to explain and to improve a position. If subsequently, the problem persists then further, more stringent measures may be necessary.

Where the Company is dissatisfied with an Employee or Contractors performance on Health and Safety grounds they will arrange a formal interview, where the Employee can be accompanied by a fellow Employee or trade representative. After considering the details an appropriate admonishment, verbal warning, written warning, suspension or dismissal will be issued. Records of the disciplinary actions will be maintained by the Company and made available for any appeals or legal actions arising from the issues of non-compliance with Health and Safety legislation.

The following contraventions will result in the offending individual being suspended from work pending an inquiry, which will be supervised by Mr Glen Spree.

- Failure by Supervisors to notify and explain to operatives over whom they have charge the controls in force for projects and associated risks and the procedures established for their protection and safety;
- Working in a manner where safety management controls and requirements are disregarded to such an extent that the activity or action is considered life threatening to the individual, colleagues or third parties;
- Malicious misuse of or damage to any items which have been provided to assist in maintaining Health, Safety or Welfare standards, including:
 - Personal Protective Equipment;
 - First aid provisions and facilities;
 - Welfare facilities;
 - Safety notices, instructions or signs;
 - Consumption of or being under the influence of, alcohol or other substances during the course of employment.

DISPLAY OF STATUTORY INFORMATION

All statutory notices provided by the company will be displayed in a proper manner in places that are appropriate and easily accessible to all employees concerned. Such items are the Health and Safety Law poster “information for employees”, Company Health and Safety Policy, F10, etc.

The new version of the Health and Safety Law poster must now be displayed. Employers have a legal duty under the Health and Safety Information for Employees Regulations 1989 (as amended) to display the approved poster in a prominent position in each workplace or to provide each worker with a copy of the approved leaflet.

DISPLAY SCREEN EQUIPMENT

The Health and Safety (Display Screen Equipment) Regulations 1992 require the employer to protect their employees from any health risks associated with working display screen equipment (DSE), such as PCs, laptops, tablets and smartphones.

The Health and Safety (Display Screen Equipment) Regulations 1992 apply to workers who habitually use DSE. An ‘Habitual User’ is defined in the regulations as a person who significantly uses, as a part of their normal working day, display screen equipment for more than one hour per session, per day (8 hours).

The company will protect workers’ health by:

- Carrying out a DSE workstation assessment, regardless of who has provided the workstation;
- Reduce the risks by putting suitable and sufficient control measures in place;
- Providing an eye test if a worker asks for one – where tests show that eyesight correction is needed to carry out work on DSE, special corrective appliances will be obtained for the user. Special corrective appliances are those required purely and specifically for display screen work. The employer need only fund glasses that are required for DSE use alone and only if the employee's own day-to-day glasses are not sufficient for the task;
- Providing training and information for workers;
- Ensure that frequent breaks or change of activities are planned to reduce workload at the equipment.

Workstations and assessment

The workstation assessment will consider the following:

- The whole workstation, including equipment, furniture, and work conditions;
- That the equipment is being used correctly in an acceptable environment;
- Any special requirements of a member of staff, for example a user with a disability;
- Be reviewed when the user or the DSE changes;
- That the software is suitable for the task;
- That the environment including space, light, reflection, noise and heat etc. are suitable and sufficient.

DOCUMENTATION

The office will ensure that a complete copy of relevant extracts from the Company Health and Safety Policy are made available to clients when requested for reference.

SBL Fire Solutions Limited will display a copy of the Policy Statement where employees can easily access it. In preference it will be displayed at the general places of work as a paper copy, e.g. as a photocopy pinned to a notice board. As an alternative it may be stored electronically but operatives will be able to access it if required e.g. as a page on our intranet or as a document in a shared folder on our network.

Each major project will be supplied with the following:

- A safety folder containing the necessary inspection records e.g. lifting register, scaffolding register etc.;
- Certificates for plant and equipment e.g. PAT and tests of thorough examination etc.;
- Method statements and risk assessments;
- Records of safety talks (Tool box talks);
- Safety notices;

- Training certificates / training matrix; and
- A copy of the Employers Liability Insurance.

ELECTRICAL WORK EQUIPMENT

The Provision and Use of Work Equipment Regulations 1998, which require the employer (person in control) to select suitable work equipment (regulation 5) and to 'ensure that work equipment is maintained in an efficient state, in efficient working order and in good repair'.

SBL Fire Solutions Limited are committed to ensuring that all electrical work equipment used by the employees, is only used in accordance with the Manufacturer's instructions, for its intended purpose and in the environment that it is designed for.

Portable electrical equipment will only be used after completion of a risk assessment. A risk assessment is about identifying hazards and taking sensible and proportionate measures to control the risks in the workplace.

Factors to consider when making the risk assessment include:

- Manufacturer's recommendations;
- Initial integrity and soundness of the equipment;
- Age of the equipment;
- Working environment in which the equipment is used (e.g. wet or dusty) or likelihood of mechanical damage;
- Frequency of use and duty cycle of the equipment;
- Foreseeable misuse of the equipment;
- Effects of any modifications or repairs to the equipment;
- Inspection and maintenance regime.

Training

All SBL Fire Solutions Limited employees will be properly trained to give the equipment a visual inspection (user check) prior to use to identify any damage or defects to the equipment and to only use it for the purpose for which it is intended for. Where equipment is found to be faulty, it must be taken out of use immediately and reported to the Supervisor. The defective equipment must be labelled as faulty and quarantined so that it will not be used until it has been repaired by a competent person.

Maintenance

All electrical work equipment will be Portable Appliance Tested (PAT) as recommended by the HSE Guidance note HSG107 (Third edition) - Maintaining Portable Electrical Equipment. All electrical equipment tested will be entered onto a PAT register and labelled to indicate that the equipment has been tested to a satisfactorily standard i.e. has been passed as safe to use and the date it was tested.

ELECTRICITY AT WORK REGULATIONS

The Regulations require management to take precautions against risk of death or personal injury from all use of electricity, including the mains electricity supply. Company management will accept responsibility for managing the use of electricity in its premises.

All electrical work is to be undertaken by competent persons only when the equipment has been isolated adequately so as to prevent inadvertent re-energising of the system by third parties.

Electrical circuits are never to be worked on live unless in all circumstances it is unavoidable to do so. In these circumstances a risk assessment is to be undertaken and all suitable controls are to be applied and checked prior to the works being undertaken.

Company management will ensure safety by specifying that electrical equipment is compliant with current standards for the electrical industry. Work to be undertaken on the removal of services will not be permitted until an isolation certificate has been received from the Client or Principal Contractor.

EMERGENCY PROCEDURES

SBL Fire Solutions Limited will provide a recorded emergency plan for the company office or when acting as a Principal Contactor on a project. The plan will be specific to the premises and it will detail the pre-planned procedures to be followed in an emergency situation. The prime objective will be to ensure that no employee or visitor can access any area where an emergency or possible danger may be present without first receiving adequate Health and Safety instruction.

The emergency plan will include the following features:-

- Action on discovering a fire;
- Warning if there is a fire;
- Calling the fire brigade;
- Evacuation of the premises including those particularly at risk;
- Power/process isolation;
- Places of assembly and roll call;
- Liaison with emergency services;
- Identification of key escape routes;
- The firefighting equipment provided;
- Specific responsibilities in the event of a fire;
- Training required;
- Provision of information to relevant persons.

SBL Fire Solutions Limited will inform employees and visitors about the emergency procedures and will provide the names of those persons given tasks to complete should there be an emergency situation. The emergency plan / evacuation will be practiced at least every 6 months to ensure that it remains valid and to develop employee's competencies and give them practice in carrying out their roles in procedure.

FIRE SAFETY

In accordance with the Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order 2005, SBL Fire Solutions Limited has appointed a 'Responsible Person' to undertake the following specific duties:

- Ensure that general precautions are in place to protect Employees from the risk of fire;
- Ensure that a fire risk assessment is prepared and regularly reviewed;
- Ensure the effective planning, organisation, control, monitoring and review of the preventive and protective measures;
- Ensure that specific arrangements are made for the safe handling, storage and transport of dangerous substances and waste containing dangerous substances;
- Ensure that appropriate steps are taken to reduce the risks of ignition or have taken steps to limit the spread, growth and impact of a fire;
- Ensure that adequate and suitable means are provided; giving warning in the event of a fire, for the escape from a fire and for firefighting;
- Any equipment, fixed or portable, used for fighting fires must always be kept in an operational condition;
- Ensure that identified risks and safety precaution information is passed onto Employees and others that may be affected;
- Ensure that Employees are adequately trained in relation to fire safety.

Firefighting equipment

SBL Fire Solutions Limited will provide a fire alarm system and firefighting equipment at strategic points throughout the company's premises. Additional firefighting equipment will also be provided at work places i.e. whereby any 'hot works' are being carried out. All equipment will be maintained and regularly serviced.

Employees are not expected to tackle a fire unless they have been trained in the use of firefighting equipment and if it poses no threat to personal safety when they do so.

Evacuating procedure

All employees and visitors of SBL Fire Solutions Limited will be instructed in the procedure for evacuating the premises and the location of the Assembly Point at induction to the Company.

Fire notices will be posted within the company offices stating the evacuation procedure, together with the names of the fire wardens.

Fire exits and routes must be kept clear from obstruction, in the event of an alarm.

FIRST AID

The Health and Safety (First Aid) Regulations 1981 require employers to provide adequate and appropriate equipment, facilities and personnel to ensure their employees receive immediate attention if they are injured or taken ill at work.

SBL Fire Solutions Limited will undertake risk assessments and ensure that there are sufficient competent trained First Aiders to meet the risk level requirements and they will ensure that all first aid facilities are well maintained in accordance with The Health and Safety (First Aid) Regulations 1981.

Risk assessments, in accordance with The Health and Safety (First Aid) Regulations 1981, will examine:

- The number of Employees;
- The nature of the work in which they are involved;
- The size of the operation;
- How widely employees are distributed across a site;
- The location of the site and its proximity to medical treatment.

Training

SBL Fire Solutions Limited will provide suitable training to ensure that there are adequate first aid provisions within the work place, such as First Aid at Work (FAW) training or Emergency First Aid at Work (EFAW) training.

Equipment

As per the First Aid Risk Assessment, first-aid equipment will be provided at the company offices and workplaces to ensure that adequate first-aid equipment is made available, should someone become injured or become ill whilst at work. The location of the first-aid kit will be known to all Employees at Induction briefings and first-aid notices will be displayed on the companies' noticeboard, indicating the location of the first-aid kit and identity of the trained First Aiders.

One person holding either a valid First Aid certificate or an Emergency First Aid at Work certificate will be responsible for making regular checks of the first-aid kits contents to ensure that it remains fully stocked and that the expiry date of the equipment is not expired.

Arrangements may be made with the Principal Contractor at projects for the shared usage of such facilities when employees are working on site.

FORK LIFT TRUCKS

It is the policy of SBL Fire Solutions Limited that only qualified drivers operate forklift trucks and speed limits are adhered too. Each driver is responsible for carrying out daily checks on his truck to ensure that it is in a road worthy condition, these checks include lights, tyres, brake fluid, coolant and fuel; with these being topped up as necessary.

All attachments are to be checked for damage on a daily basis as above; also that any warning system such as reversing alarms and flashing lights are fully operational.

Each driver is responsible for ensuring his truck is parked correctly; with the key being removed from the ignition to stop unauthorised use of the truck by others. The forks must be on the ground and the hand brake is firmly applied.

In addition drivers are to ensure that the SWL of the truck is not exceeded and that trucks are driven in reverse if any load obscures forward vision.

Use on public roads

Forklift trucks will not be used on a public road unless they have been registered with the DVLA and carry a current road fund licence, certificate of insurance and MOT if required. Operators must hold a current full ordinary driving licence.

Thorough Examination

It is a requirement of both the Lifting Operations and Lifting Equipment Regulations and the Provision and Use of Work Equipment Regulations that all lifting equipment is thoroughly examined at regular intervals dependent on use.

All SBL Fire Solutions Limited FLT's will have current certificates of thorough examination.

A thorough examination will be undertaken on the forklift every 12 months, as a minimum.

A thorough examination will be undertaken on the forklifts attachments every 6 months, as a minimum.

HAND-ARM VIBRATION

It is the buying policy of SBL Fire Solutions Limited to ensure that the noise and vibration produced by work equipment is considered together with the price when new purchases are made with a view to lowering the risk when equipment is used. SBL Fire Solutions Limited will endeavour to purchase equipment that is advanced in technology and equipped with vibration absorbing features.

It is recognised that a common cause of hand-arm vibration is the prolonged use of rotating hand tools for cutting and grinding together with percussive hand tools used for riveting, grinding, hammering and drilling. We will make sure that equipment selected or allocated for tasks is suitable and can do the work efficiently. Equipment that is unsuitable, too small or not powerful enough is likely to take much longer to complete the task and expose employees to vibration for longer than is necessary.

We will also endeavour to:

- Select the lowest vibration tool that is suitable and can do the work efficiently;
- Limit the use of high vibration tools wherever possible.

In the first instance we will consider remote mechanical methods which do not require exposure to the operative. However, where the task requires operatives to hold equipment that vibrates, an appropriate number of employees will be allocated to the task to ensure job rotation and a reduction in the exposure time.

To ensure that employees are aware of the effects of hand arm vibration, they will be provided with adequate information on the hazard and controls and given information in order to reduce the risk.

It may be appropriate to use the information provided by manufacturers on vibration values for some types of work equipment. Where hand-arm vibration values supplied by the manufacturer of the work equipment exceeds the daily exposure limit value of $5 \text{ m/s}^2 \text{ A(8)}$ or the daily exposure action value of $2.5 \text{ m/s}^2 \text{ A(8)}$, SBL Fire Solutions Limited will ensure that a suitable risk assessment is prepared, this may include the use of vibration monitoring equipment.

Where it has been confirmed that employees are being exposed to excessive hand arm vibration, SBL Fire Solutions Limited will ensure that affected employees are placed on health surveillance.

HAND TOOLS

The safe use of hand tools is the responsibility of both the employer, for the supply of safe tools and the employee, for safe use and maintenance. In some trades it is commonplace for employees to supply their own hand tools but this does not change responsibilities. Whilst employees may be expected to supply simple hand tools such as hammers, chisels and spanners they may also make special tools, for example for carrying out certain tasks.

Safe Use of Tools

The safe use of tools is dependent upon a number of features. Safe use of tools often depends on the selection of the correct tool for the job. A screwdriver is designed for driving screws into timber, and is not intended for levering or prying. Some circumstances require the use of special tools (e.g. non-sparking or nonmagnetic tools). There is a correct method of use for most tools and failure to follow it will increase the risk of injury. Driving nails should be done with a hammer and not a spanner.

All tools must be subject to regular inspection. Results of inspections should be included in the PUWER Register.

Users of tools should ideally inspect them before each occasion of use. The purpose of this inspection is to detect faults and damage to ensure that the problem is fixed quickly.

Maintenance

Some tools will require routine maintenance on a regular basis. For example:

- Cutting tools, such as wood chisels, will need regular sharpening,
- Cold chisels, drift pins and wedges must have mushroomed heads ground off regularly,
- Wooden handles on hammers should be free of cracks and splinters and should be a tight fit in the hammer head,
- Adjustable tools such as wrenches may need lubricating and adjusting,
- Where tools cannot be repaired (e.g. spanners with “sprung” jaws) they should be discarded and replaced.

HEALTH SURVEILLANCE

Health surveillance is a system of on-going health checks. These health checks may be required by law for employees who are exposed to noise or vibration, ionising radiation, solvents, fumes, dusts, biological agents and other substances hazardous to health, or work in compressed air.

Health surveillance is important for:

- Detecting ill-health effects at an early stage, so employers can introduce better controls to prevent them getting worse;
- Providing data to help employers evaluate health risks;
- Enabling employees to raise concerns about how work affects their health;
- Highlighting lapses in workplace control measures, therefore providing invaluable feedback to the risk assessment ;
- Providing an opportunity to reinforce training and education of employees (e.g. on the impact of health effects and the use of protective equipment).

Our risk assessment will be used to identify any need for health surveillance. We will not use health surveillance as a substitute for undertaking a risk assessment or using effective controls.

Health surveillance can sometimes be used to help identify where more needs to be done to control risks and where early signs of work-related ill health are detected, employers should take action to prevent further harm and protect employees.

Health surveillance is a particular legal requirement and should not be confused with:

- Activities to monitor health where the effects from work are strongly suspected but cannot be established;
- Workplace wellbeing checks, such as promoting healthy living;
- Fitness to work examinations e.g. fitness to operate cranes, forklift trucks, other large plant and machinery;
- Health assessments requested by night working employees;

The starting point is our risk assessment. Through this we will have found out the hazards in our workplace, identified who is at risk and taken measures to do something to control the risks.

Where some risk remains and there is likely to be harm caused to our employees, we will need to take further steps.

We will consider health surveillance if our employees are at risk from:

- Noise or vibration;
- Solvents, dusts, fumes, biological agents and other substances hazardous to health;
- Asbestos, lead or work in compressed air;
- Ionising radiation.

Control measures may not always be reliable, despite appropriate checking and maintenance, so health surveillance can help make sure that any ill health effects are detected as early as possible.

HOT WORKS

Hot work refers to work which involves or produces a naked flame, sparks or similar and which could be a source of ignition if hydrocarbon vapours or flammable substances are present. It includes (but is not restricted to):

- The use of abrasive cutting discs (when used on either metal or concrete);
- Burning or grinding;
- Blowlamps;
- Hot air guns;
- Propane torches;
- Welding.

While hot works are being undertaken in a hazardous area a fire extinguisher and fire watch may be posted, a fire extinguisher will be directly to hand throughout the operation as a minimum requirement.

We will also consider the use of a hot work permit system.

HOUSEKEEPING AND SITE TIDINESS

There are a number of Regulations that deal with the need for workplaces and access and egress routes to be kept clear of debris and other materials, particularly Regulation 17 and 18 of the Construction (Design and Management) Regulations 2015.

In addition to the statutory requirements a tidy site results in increased efficiency and better public relations. Therefore, site tidiness will be considered at all stages of the work and good co-operation is expected between SBL Fire Solutions Limited and all other Contractors.

The Supervisor will ensure that before the site commences, access routes are agreed, storage areas are defined, compounds are planned and employees and others are made aware of SBL Fire Solutions Limited requirements with regard to storage, cleaning up and tidiness etc.

Waste material, especially combustible materials, will be controlled and either deposited in an agreed area or removed from site. Spillages of oil, diesel and other substances will be dealt with immediately.

The Supervisor will ensure that all operatives are made aware of the need to maintain the site in a tidy condition for the duration of the contact. Storage areas will be agreed to enable materials to be called off in quantities which will not create difficulties on site.

When working as a sub-contractor, the Supervisor will ensure that working areas and access on sites where employees are required to work are safe. Where difficulties are experienced, the Supervisor will discuss improvements with the Principal Contractor.

INSURANCE

In recognition of its statutory and common law duties, SBL Fire Solutions Limited has taken out insurance with an approved insurer. The certificate of insurance will be prominently displayed, where our Employees can easily read it, however, we reserve the right to store it electronically, and instruct our employees how to access it, and will make it available for inspection at all reasonable times by employees and regulatory authorities e.g. the Health and Safety Executive.

JOINT CONSULTATION

There will be joint consultation with others who may be affected by undertakings and also with respect to, emergency procedures, first aid and fire fighting provisions already in place and any additional requirements that may be needed.

LADDERS AND STEPLADDERS

SBL Fire Solutions Limited will ensure that only adequate types of Ladders and Stepladders are used at places of work with all ladders and stepladders meeting the requirements of BS EN 131 Professional.

Ladders and steps will never be used unless all other forms of access have been dismissed as not being suitable or not adequate to undertake the work e.g. due to space constraints.

Ladders will only to be used for very light work of a short duration and there will be three points of contact with the ladder at all times.

SBL Fire Solutions Limited will ensure that if a ladder is used for work at height it is only used if a risk assessment has made in accordance with regulation 3 of the Management of Health & Safety at Work Regulations 1999 (as amended).

The risk assessment will demonstrate that the use of more suitable equipment is not justified because of the low risk and short duration of use or that existing features on site cannot be changed (space constraints). The main requirement of the risk assessment will be to justify why safer access equipment is not being used.

Ladders, if used, will be used in accordance with Schedule 6 of The Work at Height Regulations 2005 (as amended). The Supervisor will oversee all works on site to ensure compliance i.e. that the ladder remains footed at all times and that the ladder is not upside down etc. The Supervisor and Contractors will have adequate training and information to ensure their competence in the inspection and use of the equipment i.e. that ladders are not twisted or damaged in any way and that only one person climbs a ladder at one time with small tools carried in a belt.

Ladders must be set at an angle of 75% or the 1 in 4 rule (one out for every four up) used. At the top of an access ladder the overlap needs to be at least five rungs if a suitable handhold is not provided. All ladders will be removed to storage once the task is complete to prevent their use for intrusion by trespassers etc. and it will prevent the hazard of leaning ladders being displaced.

Ensure that when ladders and steps are used, that you do not overreach and always grip the ladder when climbing. The top three steps should never be used as a working platform and when using step ladders ensure that the locking devices are in place. In addition; ensure that the steps are placed horizontal to the wall and not sideways on i.e. that the steps cannot be pushed over if you push against the wall.

Remember:

- Ladders and steps must only be used for short duration work (maximum 30 minutes);
- Ladders and steps must be the last resort;
- Ladders and steps must be inspected prior to use;
- Ladders and steps must only be used where there is a specific risk assessment in place for their use.

LEPTOSPIROSIS / WEIL'S DISEASE

Leptospirosis / Weil's disease is caused by a bacteria known as Leptospira (there are 10 different strains of Leptospira). It is a zoonotic bacteria (passed from animals to humans) and is often either from infected rats (*Leptospira icterohaemorrhagiae*) or cattle (*Leptospira hardjo*).

The disease is commonly transmitted to humans by contaminated water or an environment contaminated with infected urine (most often rat urine) and can enter the body via exposed open wounds and by swallowing or splashing contaminated water into the mouth, eyes or nose.

The disease often starts off with "flu" like symptoms and severe headaches. The severe form of the disease (Weil's disease) can cause jaundice, affect the liver, kidneys, and brain linings and lead to death. This disease starts suddenly with a severe headache, fever, chills, severe muscle aches and tenderness, it requires urgent medical treatment.

SBL Fire Solutions Limited will train its Managers and Employees, who work in areas that may be contaminated with harmful bacteria, to take precaution against infection by covering open wounds, cuts or broken skin with a good quality waterproof dressing. They will be instructed to wear impervious gloves and other personal protective equipment such as face shields to stop splashes reaching the mouth.

Employees will also be instructed that when working in possible contaminated areas to adopt a high standard of personal hygiene and to ensure that they wash their hands frequently; especially before eating, drinking or smoking.

Employees are to be instructed as to the likely symptoms and to seek medical attention if they suspect they have been exposed to the disease or are showing flu-like symptoms.

Leptospirosis / Weil's disease is reportable to the HSE under the Reporting of Injuries, Diseases & Dangerous Occurrence Regulations 2013.

LIFTING OPERATIONS AND LIFTING EQUIPMENT (LOLER)

SBL Fire Solutions Limited will ensure that we meet our obligations under the Lifting Operations and Lifting Equipment Regulations 1998.

Lifting operations will be undertaken under the control of a competent person. The competent person will have the following responsibility:

- To ensure that the lifting equipment is positioned and installed so as to minimise any risks e.g. from the equipment or the load falling or striking people;
- That lifting equipment is sufficiently strong, stable and suitable for the proposed use. Similarly the load and anything attached (e.g. timber pallets, lifting points, etc.) must be suitable;
- That lifting equipment is used safely;
- That all lifting operations are planned, organised and undertaken by competent persons;
- That lifting equipment is marked with any appropriate information to be taken into account for its safe use, e.g. safe working loads;
- That lifting accessories, e.g. slings, clamps, strops, chains, hooks, etc., are similarly marked;
- To ensure that lifting equipment and lifting accessories are subject to a periodic test of thorough examination:
 - 12 monthly for general lifting equipment;
 - 6 monthly for equipment used for lifting people;
 - 6 monthly for lifting accessories;
 - at intervals laid down in an examination scheme drawn up by a competent person;
- To ensure that the appropriate action is undertaken as a result of the information contained within the test of thorough examination report.

All employees are instructed to halt operations if there are any doubts concerning lifting operation during windy conditions.

LONE WORKING

SBL Fire Solutions Limited have responsibilities for the health, safety and welfare at work of their employees and the health and safety of those affected by the work, e.g. visitors, such as contractors and self-employed people who employers may engage. These responsibilities cannot be transferred to people who work alone. It is the employer's duty to assess risks to lone workers and take steps to avoid or control risk where necessary. Employees have responsibilities to take reasonable care of themselves and other people affected by their work and to co-operate with SBL Fire Solutions Limited in meeting their legal obligations.

Although there is no general legal prohibition on working alone, the broad duties of the Health & Safety at Work Etc. Act 1974 and the Management of Health & Safety at Work Regulations 1999 (as amended) still apply. These require SBL Fire Solutions Limited to identify the hazards of the work, assess the risks involved, and put measures in place to avoid or control the risks.

Control measures will include instruction, training, supervision, protective equipment etc. SBL Fire Solutions Limited will take steps to check that control measures are used and review the risk assessment from time to time to ensure it is still adequate.

SBL Fire Solutions Limited will identify situations where people work alone and ask questions such as:

- Does the workplace present a special risk to the lone worker?
- Is there a safe way in and a way out for one person?
- Can all the equipment, substances and goods involved in the work be safely handled by one person? Consider whether the work involves lifting objects too large for one person or whether more than one person is needed to operate essential controls for the safe running of equipment;
- Is there a risk of violence?
- Are women especially at risk if they work alone?
- Are young workers especially at risk if they work alone?
- Is the person medically fit and suitable to work alone?

SBL Fire Solutions Limited will check that lone workers have no medical conditions which make them unsuitable for working alone and will seek medical advice if necessary. We will consider both routine work and foreseeable emergencies which may impose additional physical and mental burdens on the individual.

Training is particularly important where there is limited supervision to control, guide and help in situations of uncertainty. Training may be critical to avoid panic reactions in unusual situations. Lone workers must be sufficiently experienced to understand the risks and precautions fully. SBL Fire Solutions Limited will set the limits to what can and cannot be done while working alone. We will ensure employees are competent to deal with circumstances which are new, unusual or beyond the scope of training e.g. when to stop work and seek advice from a supervisor and how to handle aggression.

Procedures will be put in place to monitor lone workers to see they remain safe. These may include:

- Supervisors periodically visiting and observing people working alone;
- Regular contact between the lone worker and supervision using either a telephone or radio;
- Automatic warning devices which operate if specific signals are not received periodically from the lone worker, e.g. systems for security staff;
- Other devices designed to raise the alarm in the event of an emergency and which are operated manually or automatically by the absence of activity;
- Checks that a lone worker has returned to their base or home on completion of a task.

Lone workers should be capable of responding correctly to emergencies. Risk assessment should identify foreseeable events. Emergency procedures will be established and employees trained in them. Information about emergency procedures and danger areas should be given to lone workers who visit any premises.

Lone workers should have access to adequate first-aid facilities and mobile workers should carry a first-aid kit suitable for treating minor injuries. Occasionally risk assessment may indicate that lone workers need training in first aid.

LORRY LOADERS

A safe system of work will be established and followed for every lorry loader operation or lifting operation, whether it be an individual lift or a group of repetitive operations. The safe system of work will include:

- Planning of the operation;
- Selection, provision and use of a suitable lorry loader(s) and work equipment.

NOTE: Lorry loader specifiers have a duty to ensure that lorry loaders are selected with sufficient capacity for the intended use. Lorry loader users have a duty to ensure that the lorry loader is only used for its intended purpose.

- Any necessary preparation of the site;
- Any setting up of the lorry loader(s), e.g. Manual boom extensions or stabilisers;
- Maintenance (including inspection), thorough examination and, where necessary, testing of the lorry loader(s) and equipment;
- The provision of properly trained and competent personnel who have been made aware of their relevant responsibilities under the health and safety at work etc. Act 1974;
- Adequate supervision by properly trained and competent personnel having the necessary authority;
- Ensuring that all necessary reports of thorough examination and other documents are available;
- Preventing unauthorised movement or use at all times;
- The safety of persons not involved in the lorry loader setting up or lifting operation;
- The need for the operator, unless in imminent danger, to remain in control of the lorry loader throughout the lifting operation.

The safe system of work will be communicated to all parties concerned with the lifting operation.

It is essential for the safety of the operation to ensure that all personnel can communicate clearly in the same language.

Lorry loaders are classed as work equipment and therefore it is essential that they are not used for the lifting of persons for entertainment purposes, including joyriding, bungee jumping and stunts.

MANUAL HANDLING OPERATIONS

The Manual Handling Operations Regulations 1992 (MHOR) apply to the manual handling or lifting of materials by persons.

The main injuries associated with manual handling and lifting are:

- Back strain, slipped disc;
- Hernias;
- Musculoskeletal disorders;
- Lacerations, crushing hands or fingers;
- Tenosynovitis;
- Bruised or broken toes or feet;
- Various sprains and strains etc.

Under the MHOR regulations, employers have a duty to prevent employees from handling loads that are likely to cause injury. Injuries may be caused by the weight of the load, but it is not sufficient just to think of manual handling hazards only as a function of weight. Other factors should be considered such as:

- The physical size of the load;
- The provision of carrying handles or lifting straps;
- The position of the centre of gravity within the load;
- Is the load rigid or will the load move; i.e. partially filled fluid containers;
- Where is it being moved from and to where;
- If the load is being moved outside consider the weather conditions;
- Consider the ground condition over which the load has to be moved etc.

Planning

SBL Fire Solutions Limited will undertake manual handling assessments in all situations where a risk remains after the implementation of controls, in accordance with The Manual Handling Operations Regulations 1992. The assessment will follow the format of Schedule 1 (task, individual, load, environment and other factors i.e. PPE), and it will be reviewed if there is any reason to suspect that it is no longer valid.

All work will be tendered for or negotiated taking into account the above Regulations and the schedules of those regulations. Employees will ensure that materials are landed as close as possible by machine or truck to the area of works. Where the use of a machine is available to handle any heavy or awkward loads, instructions must be issued to site on the handling of these loads.

Where an avoidance of a manual handling task is not possible an assessment of the operation will be made taking into account the task, the load, the working environment and the capability of the individual to perform the task in hand. The selection of individuals to carry out manual handling or lifting tasks will be based on the training given, age, physical build etc.

Where loads have to be manually handled, the need to ensure that access and egress are safe is especially important.

Supervision

All Supervisors will be given training in the correct methods of handling and lifting loads as part of their normal safety training. The training provided should be based on the physical structure of the body and the effect of attempting to handle loads in various positions.

Employees will be instructed in the correct handling and lifting of loads when mechanical means are not practical. Supervisors will ensure that there are suitable gloves available for issue, as required for the handling of materials, which may cause injury to hands through physical or biological means e.g. sharp edges or chemicals.

Safety footwear will be worn at all times on site and the Supervisor will caution any Employee or Contractor wearing unsuitable footwear. The Supervisor will not require any operative, particularly a young person to lift without assistance, a load which is likely to cause injury. SBL Fire Solutions Limited must reiterate that in the first instance mechanical means must be used to lift all materials and loads.

MENTAL HEALTH

At SBL Fire Solutions Limited we are committed to improving mental health within the construction industry.

Our aim is to create a working environment that supports and promotes the mental wellbeing of all employees. We realise that certain working conditions and practices may negatively affect our employees mental-wellbeing, including aspects of the organisation or management of our work as well as environmental and social conditions.

In order to achieve our aim, we will strive to develop a culture where employees are able to talk openly about their job and/or mental health issues and feel confident that they can report difficulties without fear of discrimination or reprisal.

To this end we will:

- give non-judgemental and pro-active support to employees who may be experiencing poor mental health issues;
- deal sympathetically with employees suffering poor mental health due to circumstances outside of the workplace;
- ensure new employees receive a comprehensive induction to enable them to gain an understanding of the organisation, roles, responsibilities, policies and procedures;
- develop toolbox talks to raise awareness and start conversations about mental health;
- deliver mental health awareness training to our employees;
- provide information on mental health helplines, phone-lines and Apps:
 - www.constructionindustryhelpline.com
 - www.lighthouseclub.org

- www.matesinmind.org
- Text 'Shout' to 85258 (a 24/7 text based crisis service)
- www.nhs.uk/mental-health/
- www.nhs.uk/every-mind-matters/

MIGRANT WORKERS

SBL Fire Solutions Limited ensures compliance with the requirements of the UK's immigration laws and states our commitment to providing a safe working environment for employees and contractors whose first language is not English.

In order to comply with its legal requirement, the company will check the digital status of the individual on the Government right to work online checking service <https://www.gov.uk/view-right-to-work> to verify that the applicant has the right to work in the UK, prior to providing a job offer.

The individual will need to provide their date of birth and right to work share code, that once entered onto the website will provide their right to work document.

The right to work document will be checked against the passport details to ensure that the photograph is of the person being employed, the length of stay that is permitted and that the job category is correct for the employment being offered. The right to work document will be downloaded and kept within the personnel file.

All right to work documentation that is compliant with the Home Office Guidance Comprehensive Guidance for Employers on Preventing Illegal Working will be retained for a minimum of 2 years after the individual has left employment with the company.

Ensuring Safety

The company will ensure the health and safety of migrant workers under their responsibility by:

- Providing information, instruction, training and supervision and making sure all workers can understand it;
- Ensuring overseas workers have the necessary knowledge and skills to do the work for which they have been employed, competently and safely;
- Ensuring workers understand that the SBL Fire Solutions Limited have responsibilities for their health and safety;
- Providing translators for groups of workers where required;
- Monitoring this procedure for its compliance by line management.

MOBILE ELEVATING WORK PLATFORMS (MEWPS)

MEWP's should be used where reasonably practicable, taking into account, cost, availability and site accessibility. Pre-planning of operations involving MEWPS will take into account floor surfaces and obstructions, overhead services, other overhead obstructions and third parties, etc.

SBL Fire Solutions Limited will ensure that where MEWPS are used for working at height, the machine complies with the Lifting Operations & Lifting Equipment Regulations 1998 and is thoroughly inspected by a competent person at least every six months. Records of the Test of Thorough Examination Certificates will be kept with the machine or within the Health and Safety folder on site. SBL Fire Solutions Limited will only allow, fully trained competent (IPAF trained) Employees to operate the MEWPS. The plant operator will inspect the MEWP on a daily basis and record his findings within a register which will also be kept in the site Health and Safety folder.

Traffic Marshalls will be supplied to direct the MEWPS in areas populated by other Contractors or third parties. The Traffic Marshall will also advise and direct third parties as to the movements of the MEWPS.

Where third parties are present in the work area, an exclusion zone will be erected around the base of the MEWP to prevent collisions by other plant and to prevent third parties from entering the area under the basket. All MEWPS will be fitted with an anti-trapping device or will have guards fitted around the scissor mechanism. Emergency override switches need to always be facing away from walls being worked on so that the button can be accessed in an emergency.



In the event that boom lifts are used all operatives must be correctly attached to the personnel cage/basket using a 'Restraint Harness' with a short lanyard attachment.

MOBILE TELEPHONES

Mobile telephones will not be used in the workplace in the following situations:

- Driving motor vehicles;
- Operating or banking items of plant;
- Accessing work areas via ladders, scaffold towers, steps, etc.;
- Working at height;
- Walking in areas of high activity such as earthworks or lifting operations;
- Any activity that requires both hands to be free and requires awareness and concentration.

SBL Fire Solutions Limited shall bring to all employees' attention the legal requirement that no persons shall operate mobile telephones when in control of a motor vehicle.

It is illegal to hold and use a phone, sat nav, tablet, or any device that can send or receive data, while driving or riding a motorcycle.

This means you must not use a device in your hand for any reason, whether online or offline. For example, you must not text, make calls, take photos or videos, or browse the web.

The law still applies to you if you are:

- Stopped at traffic lights;
- Queuing in traffic;
- Driving a car that turns off the engine when you stop moving;
- Holding and using a device that is offline or in flight mode.

Using devices hands-free

You can use devices with hands-free access, as long as you do not hold them at any time during usage. Hands-free access means using, for example:

- A Bluetooth headset;
- Voice command;
- A dashboard holder or mat;
- A windscreen mount;
- A built-in sat nav.

The device must not block your view of the road and traffic ahead.

Penalties

You can get 6 penalty points and a £200 fine if you hold and use a phone, sat nav, tablet, or any device that can send and receive data while driving or riding a motorcycle.

You can also lose your licence if you passed your driving test in the last 2 years.

You can get 3 penalty points if you do not have a full view of the road and traffic ahead or proper control of the vehicle.

You can also be taken to court where you can:

- Be banned from driving or riding;
- Get a maximum fine of £1,000 (£2,500 if you're driving a lorry or bus)

MOBILE TOWERS

SBL Fire Solutions Limited will ensure that if mobile towers are used in the workplace that they are only erected, altered or dismantled by a competent person, who has received accredited training e.g. PASMA etc.

The mobile tower will only be erected in accordance with the manufactures instruction manual. The Supervisor is responsible for making sure that the manufactures instruction manual is made available to the competent person. If the manufacturer's instruction manual is not available for the mobile tower then it must not be erected.

Before Use of a Tower

After a tower has been erected, the following checks should be undertaken before it is used to ensure that:

- It is vertical and square and that the horizontal braces and platforms are level;
- Outriggers or stabilisers, where required, are correctly positioned and secured;
- All base plates or castor wheels are fully in contact with the ground, including those on stabilisers or outriggers.
- All castors should be properly locked;
- All the spigot and socket joint locks holding the frames together are secured;
- The bracing members have been located exactly in accordance with the erection plan;
- All guardrails and toe boards are in position as required;
- Access stairways and ladders are in position and are firmly located;
- The height of the tower does not exceed the manufacturer's instructions on the height to base ratio when used both internally and externally;
- Adjustable legs are not extended to gain additional height.

During Use of Tower

During use, the tower should be kept in good order. A competent person should inspect the tower regularly to see that the structure has not been altered in any way. Should parts become damaged they should be replaced before the tower is used again.

Inspection of Mobile Towers

The mobile towers will be inspected by the competent person. In accordance with the Work at Height Regulations, work at height equipment will need to be inspected by a competent person at separate intervals.

The inspections will be carried out:

- After assembly or significant alteration;
- Before use and following any event likely to have affected the towers stability or structural integrity;
- At least every 7 days with a new report being issued each time.

All records of inspection carried out by the competent person will be made available for inspection.

SBL Fire Solutions Limited will ensure that an inspection tag (Scaf Tag) is fixed and displayed on each mobile tower as a visual indicator to show the tower's inspection status. If the mobile tower is not tagged or it does not have an in date inspection tag then the tower must not be used.

Adverse weather

The Supervisor is responsible for monitoring the wind speed. Should the wind speed exceed 17 mph then the works on the mobile tower will be stopped.

If the wind speed is likely to reach 25 mph then the mobile access tower will be properly tied to a suitable adjacent rigid supporting structure capable of supporting the additional loads imposed by the mobile tower. The connections (ties) between the tower and the supporting structure must be rigid in compression and tension i.e. you should NOT use rope, webbing, wire etc.

If the wind speed is likely to reach 40mph, the mobile tower will be dismantled by the competent person.

MONITORING OF PERFORMANCE

Within the company as a whole, implementing the policy in the working environment is just the first step. Health and Safety management changes continually and therefore SBL Fire Solutions Limited will be proactive in monitoring the effectiveness of our policy. In real terms, this means being able to identify potential problems and taking action to prevent them becoming reality. There is also a need to be reactive to any breaches or near-breaches of health and safety, by investigating why an incident has occurred.

Proactive monitoring means taking action before accidents happen e.g.:

- Regular safety inspections to check that our standards are being implemented and management controls are working and the extent to which our company complies with the relevant Health and Safety legislation;
- Detailed safety audits that tell us whether the Health and Safety standards in our business remain acceptable and whether standards have improved or deteriorated since the last audit.

As a company we recognise that proactive monitoring is the preferred method and despite reactive monitoring being the result of a failure there are benefits from learning from mistakes – whether they have resulted in injuries, illness or damage to property or just near misses. Incidents will be thoroughly investigated to ensure that actions are taken to prevent a similar occurrence. This type of monitoring involves a systematic collection of information about the incident and it is an important aspect of health and safety performance measurement.

The Company will conduct a review of Health and Safety performance during site meetings with Clients, Designers, Principal Designers, Principal Contractors and others and any corrective actions advised or suggested will be investigated and appropriate actions implemented. Mr Glen Spree is responsible for collating Health and Safety information from the Managers and dealing with them on site.

Health and Safety matters to be monitored by the Company during a project are:

- | | | |
|---------------------------------|---|---|
| • First Aid | - | First Aider, First Aid Box (s); |
| • Welfare | - | Clean and Satisfactory; |
| • Fire Precautions | - | Adequate escape measures, equipment and Instructions; |
| • Housekeeping | - | Access and Egress, materials properly stored; |
| • General hazards | - | Created by bad practices, design, material or substances; |
| • Documentation | - | Health and Safety registers, notices and information; |
| • Safety Equipment | - | Fit for use and inspected; |
| • Personal Protective Equipment | - | Fit for use; |
| • Access Equipment | - | Scaffolding, Ladders, Steps used appropriately; |
| • Plant and Machinery | - | Suitable and safe, also well maintained; |
| • Training | - | Suitably trained staff and supervision for the task. |

Mr Glen Spree monitors any accidents and will compile the supporting documentation for the authorities and keep records should an accident occur on site. Where there are reportable accidents that require notice to the HSE, SBL Fire Solutions Limited will comply with the requirements of RIDDOR. Reportable and more serious incidents will be reviewed by the external consultant at the request of Mr Glen Spree to see what corrective or preventive action, if any, is required to prevent a similar accident occurring again.

If there are any corrective or preventive actions required on the project, these will be undertaken promptly to protect the health and safety of all those involved. Where appropriate, the Company will issue revised instructions to employees and amend written procedures to take account of any new or perceived risks to Health and Safety within the project.

Our independent Health and Safety Consultants will, when requested, undertake either full safety audits of the company or inspections of workplaces. A written report will be compiled after the audit or inspection. Audits and inspections will be referred to by those people in our management structure who have the authority to sanction the appropriate remedial action to be taken – particularly where it entails a high level of expenditure or organisational and policy changes. If there are any corrective or preventive actions required on a project, these will be undertaken promptly by the Manager to protect the Health and Safety of all those involved. With both audits and inspections, priority will be given where the risks are greatest.

Where appropriate, SBL Fire Solutions Limited will issue revised instructions to personnel and amend written procedures to take account of any new or perceived hazard to Health and Safety within the company. With regards to projects, actions, when necessary, will be communicated to Site Managers on other projects to ensure controls are implemented throughout the company.

MUSCULOSKELETAL INJURIES

Musculoskeletal injuries are a range of disorders involving muscles, bones, tendons, blood vessels, nerves, and other soft tissues. The most common term used to describe these disorders is Repetitive Strain Injury (RSI). Some examples of musculoskeletal disorders are Carpal Tunnel Syndrome, Tendinitis, Tenosynovitis and Bursitis.

Who is at risk?

Every worker who:

- Maintains fixed positions;
- Performs repetitive movements of the limbs;
- Overloads particular muscle groups;
- Applies pressure on body parts;
- Uses forceful movement;
- Works with great speed along with repetitions.

What are the symptoms of musculoskeletal injury?

- Pain in the hands, arms, shoulders, neck, back, legs or feet;
- May include swelling, numbness, tingling and a feeling of heaviness and/or tiredness in the affected area;
- Some workers may experience multiple symptoms due to more than one injury.

Severity of symptoms varies from person to person:

- **Stage 1** — Dull aching pain/fatigue which disappears with rest;
- **Stage 2** — Recurrent aching/fatigue which begins after work starts and continues after work ceases. Fatigue often present due to intermittent night pain. Reduced capacity to perform repetitive daily tasks;
- **Stage 3** — Inability to perform daily tasks. Persistent aching and fatigue. Weakness while at rest as well as pain even with non-repetitive movement.

At the first signs of Stage 1 symptoms notify your supervisor.

At the first signs of stage 2 symptoms see your doctor or chiropractor. Ensure you are able to describe in detail your workplace and work practices to assist in a diagnosis.

- Do not continue any task that has caused injury unless adjustments have been made to prevent the injury from recurring. Ask that you be accommodated within your restrictions.

Each task that has the potential to cause injury should be evaluated thoroughly by both the operative and the supervisor, and following the evaluation adjustments should be made so the work is safe to continue, if the work is still not safe DO NOT START.

Note - No worker should do a task until it has been modified to prevent injury. You may exercise your Right to Refuse Unsafe Work. (See "Refusal to work on safety grounds").

In order to prevent musculoskeletal injuries SBL Fire Solutions Limited will ensure that the following has been carried out:

- An analysis of the ergonomics of the work you perform;
- Ergonomically designed work stations and tools;
- Training in lifting and carrying procedures;
- Avoidance of repetitive motion lasting longer than 10 minutes - take frequent short breaks;
- Use of safe lifting and carrying techniques, and assistance for lifting items that are beyond the capability of the individual.



NOISE SAFETY

Where noise levels are suspected of being above the statutory level, SBL Fire Solutions Limited will inform its external Health and Safety Consultants and request that they carry out full noise surveys, the Employees will then be informed of the results. When there is reason to suppose that the assessment is no longer valid, or when there has been a significant change in the work to which the assessment relates, noise levels will be reviewed and changes made as recommended by the review.

Noise from the site, to the public can be a nuisance when in close proximity.

Planning Procedures

At tender or negotiation stage the above standards will be taken into account.

The Supervisor will ensure that information on the noise level of any plant, which it is intended for hire or purchase is obtained and taken into account before hiring or purchase takes place.

SBL Fire Solutions Limited will assess noise levels for operations and where guidelines are given by manufacturers these will be adhered to.

Guideline: Can the person using the equipment talk to someone 2 metres away without having to raise their voice to be understood? If they have to raise their voice, the noise from the equipment or operation is probably loud enough to damage their hearing, so action must be taken, ear protection should be offered. If there is any doubt, employ competent people and equipment to assess the noise levels.

Action Levels:

The lower exposure action values are:

- A daily or weekly personal noise exposure of 80 dB (A);
- A peak sound pressure of 135 dB (C).

The upper exposure action values are:

- A daily or weekly personal noise exposure of 85 dB (A);
- A peak sound pressure of 137 dB (C)

The exposure limit values are:

- A daily or weekly personal noise exposure of 87 dB (A);
- A peak sound pressure of 140 dB (C)

Control Measures where the Action Value is likely to be reached:

If an Exposure Action Value is exceeded, SBL Fire Solutions Limited shall:

- Use other work methods which eliminate or reduce the exposure to noise;
- Selection appropriate work equipment taking into account the work to be done;
- Assess the design and layout of workplaces, workstations and rest facilities;
- Provide suitable and sufficient information, instruction, training and supervision for employees;
- Reduce the noise by technical means;
- Implement appropriate maintenance programmes for work equipment;
- Limit the duration and intensity of exposure to noise;
- Implement appropriate work schedules with adequate rest periods.

Control Measures where the Limit Value is exceeded:

If an Exposure Limit Value is exceeded, SBL Fire Solutions Limited shall forthwith:

- Reduce exposure to noise below the limit value;

- Identify reasons for that exposure limit value being exceeded;
- Modify the organisational and technical measures that are in place or implement new control measures to prevent it being exceeded again.

The Supervisor will ensure that any static plant to be installed on site or in the workshop is planned to be in a position, which takes accounts of effects of noise on the workers or the public. Where Employees are required to work in situations where high levels of noise are likely to be encountered, the Supervisor will ensure that full information is obtained before work commences on the levels and frequencies of noise. Any measures to reduce noise levels to below levels considered to be safe must be planned or, if this is not practicable, suitable hearing protection equipment must be selected for use by personnel.

Regular monitoring of noise levels and frequencies will be planned as required. Instruction and training will be provided to Supervisors and Employees required to work in premises or with plant which is likely to result in exposure to high noise levels. The Supervisor will ensure that all plant provided is fitted with silencers, mufflers, doors, canopies, etc. and that all equipment is used.

Supplies of ear defenders, or other hearing protection, will be made available on the site or for any operations where it is not practicable to reduce the noise level to a safe limit. These will be issued to Employees as required and must be worn at all times when the operative is exposed to noise.

Safe System of Work

The Safety Consultants can provide the following services:

- Carry out a noise survey to establish levels and frequencies of noise;
- Regularly monitor noise levels and frequencies;
- Give advice on noise control measures;
- Arrange for Audiometric testing of operatives;
- Arrange for individual monitoring of exposure;
- Provide training and instruction for personnel.

Hearing damage results from over exposure to noise SBL Fire Solutions Limited undertake to, as far as reasonably practicable:

- Reduce noise at source;
- Isolate the noise source;
- Reduce the time that operatives are exposed to the noise;
- Identify which employees are exposed;
- Keep adequate records of such assessment until a further assessment is made;
- As a long-term undertaking to reduce the noise levels to which employees are subjected;
- Provide the employee with such information as will enable him to carry out his statutory duties;
- To designate ear protection zones and post signage accordingly.

When there is reason to suspect that the assessment is no longer valid, or when there has been a significant change in the work to which the assessment relates, noise levels will be reviewed and changes made as recommended by the review.

PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT

The Personal Protective Equipment at Work (Amendment) Regulations 2022 (PPER 2022) extend the employers and employees duties regarding PPE to labour only contractors (limb (b) workers as defined in PPER 2022.

PPE suitably identified as necessary after an assessment of the various activities will be supplied free of charge by SBL Fire Solutions Limited to its employees and labour only contractors (all workers). Employees and labour only contractors will be fitted with equipment, trained in its use and maintenance, advised of the possible results of non-use and the reporting procedures for faulty equipment. SBL Fire Solutions Limited will operate an ongoing policy of monitoring equipment use. Only PPE that conforms with the Construction Products Regulations (CE Marking) or UK Conformity Assessed (UKCA) will be purchased.

It will be a disciplinary matter if Employees and labour only contractors do not adhere to the use of PPE and the associated controls that are to be implemented as part of the risk assessment. It will be mandatory that Employees and labour only contractors shall wear a safety helmet and safety boots at all times. Other PPE may be required according to the risk assessment and in accordance with the site rules.

PPE will be regarded as the last resort to protect against risks to Health and Safety. Engineering controls and safe systems of work will be considered first.

SBL Fire Solutions Limited will consider controls in the following order:

Elimination	Physically remove the hazard
Substitution	Replace the hazard
Engineering Controls	Isolate people from the hazard
Administrative Controls	Change the way people work
PPE	Protect the worker with PPE

Personal Protective Equipment - Visitors to Site

Official visitors to sites (e.g. Surveyors, Engineers, and Inspectors etc.) will be required to wear a safety helmet and safety boots. Other PPE such as a high visibility waistcoat should be considered and used when required. Visiting Managers, Engineers, Supervisors or Contractors will be reminded that they should set a good example by wearing the appropriate protective clothing at all times whilst on site.

PLANNING

At the planning stage the requirements of this Company Policy must be taken into account.

Any aspects of work not covered by this Policy must be identified and planned by the Supervisors and written procedures defined. If necessary, pre-contract meetings will be held and specific safety matters discussed.

Representatives of those Employees who may perform everyday work duties while work is undertaken will be informed of hazards and systems of work. Those representatives as well as Supervisor will communicate this information.

PLANT

SBL Fire Solutions Limited will ensure that all plant supplied to Employees is safely maintained and is in a fit state i.e. equipped with safety devices, tested and maintained in accordance with all the current regulations and guards are present where required. Plant will be inspected visually before use with the plant register being completed every 7 days. Regular tests, inspections and maintenance will be carried out on plant supplied to operatives to ensure it remains in good working order. Operators of plant are to ensure that all unsafe plant defects noticed during inspections are brought to the attention of a Supervisor, in order that they can be dealt with promptly. Dangerous plant will be put out of service until it can be properly repaired by a competent person. If a fault occurs during use, even if it has been caused by the operator, the fault, damage, defects or malfunction must be reported immediately.

SBL Fire Solutions Limited will use maintenance schedules to ensure that plant is operating efficiently and to the manufacturer's specifications. Various maintenance systems will be used that take into account the operational needs of the plant, as well as any impacts on Health and Safety, environment issues e.g. excessive fumes, noise, vibration etc. When considering maintenance requirements allowances must be made for the aptitude and skill of the operator and the work load of the machine in question.

In order to ensure that plant is running safely and efficiently Management may use:

- Unscheduled or breakdown maintenance;
- Scheduled or routine maintenance;
- Planned preventive maintenance;
- Predictive maintenance;
- Improvement maintenance.

The Company will provide adequate supervision, information, training and instruction to ensure that there is compliance with safety procedures. The Company will develop safe systems of work, which identify risks and hazards and then eliminate risk or reduce it to a minimum. Employees using company plant and equipment will be trained, experienced and competent.

Standards Required

The following regulations contain requirements to be complied with in the provision, maintenance operation and use of plant on site:

- Provision and Use of Work Equipment Regulations 1998 (PUWER 98);
- Lifting Operations & Lifting Equipment Regulations 1998 - Lifting appliances in general.

Planning Procedures

All work will be tendered for or negotiated with consideration given to the compliance of the above Regulations in addition to the compliance with all other standards and Health and Safety Acts and Regulations. The Supervisor will take all aspects of the work into account to ensure that sufficient information is provided to hire companies to enable the correct type of plant to be provided that is adequate for the work to be undertaken.

The Supervisor will ensure that competent operators and banksmen are provided or that where necessary, full training and instruction is arranged.

At the project planning stage it will be determined whether any preparatory work is required for the installation or use of plant on site and to ensure that any requirements are planned for e.g. plant and diesel storage areas, loading areas, etc.

Supervision

The Supervisor will ensure that pieces of plant used on their sites are in good order and fitted with any necessary safety devices and guards. Any defects noted on hired equipment will be reported to the Hire Company immediately and the plant not used until they are rectified.

The Supervisor will ensure that only trained, competent and authorised operators are permitted to operate any item of plant, where any doubt of the competency of an operator exists, the Supervisor will report to Mr Glen Spree. No young person, under 18 years of age will be permitted to operate any item of plant or act as banksman unless being trained under the direct supervision of a competent person. If the person has not attained the age of 18 a specific risk assessment will also be produced. All plant will be properly secured and immobilised at the end of each day with keys removed whenever operators are not present.

The Supervisor will not ask or permit the Plant Operator to carry out work with the machine for which it was not intended unless specific advice has been obtained from the manufacturers of the machine on the proposed use.

In instances whereby plant is used for lifting e.g. excavators, copies of tests of thorough examination certificates will be kept in the cabs of plant and in situations where there is a site office they will be retained within the site health and safety file.

Safe System of Work

Hazards with the use of plant arise out of:

- Unskilled operation;
- Incorrect use and working outside of the machines safe parameters;
- Poor maintenance;
- Reversing unsupervised;
- Third parties entering dangerous areas e.g. slew zones;
- Defect in machine unchecked;
- Noise (see separate section).

It is a company requirement that high visibility waistcoats or coats are worn at all times on site and they must never be adapted e.g. cut down and they must be renewed if they become damaged or dirty.

PODIUM STEPS

Where podium steps are provided for working at height, employees will be instructed to conform to the following guidelines:

- Check all components are available and operational;
- Inspect the unit components for signs of damage or incorrect functioning prior to use. Damaged or incorrect components (or components showing signs of excessive wear) must not be used and must be returned to your local supplier. Castors and adjustable legs should be periodically lubricated to keep them free running;
- The unit is designed for internal use only on flat level surfaces. Check that the ground is capable of supporting the weight of the Podium Step and equipment;
- Generally, the safe working load of the Podium Step is 115 kg (one man);
- Castors must be locked when unit is in use;
- Ensure that the platform is free of persons and equipment, and that brake locks are off prior to movement;
- Beware of soft or uneven ground and overhead obstructions;
- Mobile access units must only be moved by pushing at the base;
- Always beware of live electrical apparatus, cables or moving parts of machinery;
- To prevent accidental injury ensure safe positioning of hands and fingers when assembling and dismantling;
- Ensure that telescopic guardrail is free from contaminants and lubricated at regular intervals;
- Never jump onto platforms. Ensure platform is debris free;
- Check that Castor Locking Bolt (to frame tube) has not loosened through use of Podium Step. Tighten the bolt if necessary;
- Ensure guardrails and gates are locked and secure when platform is in use;
- Podium Step units are not designed to allow them to be lifted or suspended;
- Ensure the work area is well lit and ventilated. If in doubt, ask about lighting and ventilation equipment from your Supervisor;
- Make sure that anyone in the immediate work area is warned of what you are doing;
- Do not use boxes, ladders or other such means to gain additional height at the platform;
- Care should be taken when using power tools, wash jets or other such tools which can cause a lateral force on the Podium Step.

This equipment should be used by an able bodied, competent adult who has read and understood the manufacturer's instructions. Anyone with either a temporary or permanent disability should seek expert advice before using it.

PRINCIPLES OF PREVENTION

SBL Fire Solutions Limited will, as a responsible employer, comply with The Management of Health and Safety at Work Regulations 1999 (as amended) Regulation 4 as part of the overall strategy for reducing risk. SBL Fire Solutions Limited will implement any preventive and protective measures on the basis of the principles specified in Schedule 1 to the above Regulations and Appendix 1 of The Construction (Design and Management) Regulations 2015 i.e. by:

- Avoiding risks;
- Evaluating the risks which cannot be avoided;
- Combating the risks at source;
- Adapting the work to the individual; especially with regards the design of workplaces, the choice of work equipment and the choice of working and production methods. In particular, with a view, to alleviating monotonous work and work at a predetermined work-rate and to reducing their effect on health;
- Adapting to technical progress;
- Replacing the dangerous with the non-dangerous or the less dangerous;
- Developing a coherent overall prevention policy which covers technology, organisation of work, working conditions, social relationships and the influence of factors relating to the working environment;
- Giving collective protective measures priority over individual protective measures;
- Giving appropriate instructions to employees.

PROCEDURE FOR NEW EMPLOYEES ENGAGED BY THE COMPANY

The procedure is to be carried out by the Commercial Director where the new employee will be required to work.

He should:

- Explain to the new Employee what he/she will be required to do and to whom he/she will be directly responsible;
- Issue the new Employee with a copy of the Company Statement of Safety Policy and details of their responsibilities for safety matters. Also show the new employee where the complete Company Policy for Health, Safety and Welfare is kept and explain its purpose;
- Ascertain if the new Employee has any disability or illness which could prevent him / her carrying out certain operations safely or require additional protective measure;
- Show the new employee where copies of regulations are kept;
- Warn new Employees of any potential dangerous areas of operations on jobs or in the workplace;
- Warn the new Employee of any prohibited actions, e.g. entering specific areas without a safety helmet, operating plant unless authorised etc.;
- Ascertain whether there is any training or instruction required as appropriate, to arrange, e.g. abrasive wheels, cartridge tools, scaffold inspections etc.;
- Issue to the Employees any protective clothing or equipment necessary, e.g. safety helmet, eye protection, ear defenders/plugs, wet weather clothing etc., and obtain their signature for the items issued;
- Where necessary, inform the new employee of vehicle servicing procedures etc.

Additional procedure for new employees under 18 years of age:

- **Inform them that they must not operate any plant, give signals to any crane driver and use any power tools or equipment unless being trained under the direct supervision of a competent person.**

PROTECTION OF PERSONS IN WORK AREAS

All necessary measures required for the protection of others will be allowed for and planned, taking into account Section 3 of the Health and Safety at Work etc. Act 1974.

Consideration will be given at the planning stage to ensure the protection of others and when necessary, barriers, screens, etc. will be provided to ensure their protection.

PUBLIC - THIRD PARTY SAFETY

Under Section 3 of the Health & Safety at Work etc. Act 1974 SBL Fire Solutions Limited recognises its duty of care to the general public / third parties and will take all necessary measures to safeguard the public during any work activity which may impinge upon them.

This will include signage, barriers, fully decked out and brick guard netted scaffolding and, if necessary, an Employee on duty to control and guide movements of the public.

Site / workplace security will be put in place to stop members of the public / third parties getting into a position where they are a danger to themselves or to Employees of SBL Fire Solutions Limited. This will include working in residential properties where there may be children present.

In occupied premises all persons that require information will be notified of the parameters of the works and will be notified accordingly of any changes to those work parameters.

PURCHASING POLICY

SBL Fire Solutions Limited recognises its duties in accordance with various Regulations with regard to the purchase of materials, substances, machines and equipment and will, before each purchase, consider how they may impinge on Health, Safety and Welfare during their use, storage, handling and transportation.

SBL Fire Solutions Limited has a Purchasing Policy that not only takes into consideration the quality of an item in comparison to the cost but also considers the suitability of the item against a number of underlying criteria.

Examples:

- SBL Fire Solutions Limited will endeavour to purchase substances that are not hazardous to health if they compare favourably in all characteristics (i.e. cost, effectiveness and quality) with a less hazardous substance. Consideration will also be given to ensure that where practicable substances which are hazardous to the environment will also be replaced by less hazardous chemicals when available;
- Equipment and machines will be compared not only by price but also on features including ergonomics, noise, vibration, usability, suitability for the task, adequate guarding, ease of maintenance and inherent hazards;
- Choice of Personal Protective Equipment will not be limited to cost but assessed on quality and suitability for the protection it is to afford the wearer. It will also be compatible with other PPE and comply with standards;
- Office furniture and equipment will be purchased after consideration has been given to: Ergonomics, fire rating, sustainable resources, etc.

REFUSAL TO WORK FOR REASONS OF HEALTH AND SAFETY

SBL Fire Solutions Limited are committed to providing safe systems of work for all our Employees whilst carrying out their activities and undertakings and do not expect any member of staff to work in an unsafe manner.

Full consideration will be given to the situation whereby a member of staff refuses to work on safety reasons.

Our Employees possess confidence in their ability to question the safety of working arrangements without fear of victimisation, in the knowledge that points they raise will be given serious consideration. If any employee has reason to believe that the task they are required to undertake or have already commenced will endanger either themselves or others, they are required to cease work and report the matter to their immediate supervisor.

The Supervisor after consulting with Mr Glen Spree and any relevant rules and instructions as necessary must decide whether grounds for refusal to work are justified. He will then consult with the working group and the system of work will either be confirmed or changes agreed after considering all circumstances.

All cases of refusal to work are logged at the relevant site office for inspection by management, and will be made available to the client if requested. Mr Glen Spree is responsible for reviewing all cases of refusal to work and instigating any follow up action. Follow up action may involve consultation with our Health and Safety Consultants.

RISK ASSESSMENTS / METHOD STATEMENTS

The company will ensure that competent persons carry out on-going risk assessments for operations that may harm employees or third parties. Suitable controls will be implemented to eliminate risk, or reduce it to an acceptable level, in accordance with The Management of Health and Safety at Work Regulations 1999 (as amended) and other relevant Regulations. The risks and controls to be implemented will be communicated to all staff to enable them to undertake their work safely. This procedure will be continuous and assessments will be updated as required by situations or statutory requirements.

SBL Fire Solutions Limited recognise that the workplace, tasks and personnel will vary from time to time e.g. we may purchase new equipment, the working environment may change, we may employ new staff or new procedures could lead to new hazards. SBL Fire Solutions Limited are committed therefore, to review what we are doing on an ongoing basis particularly when there are any changes. Every year, we will formally review risk assessments to ensure that controls are suitable and that we improve controls and do not overlook their implementation. Employees are encouraged to bring to the attention of Mr Glen Spree any improvements that they feel may reduce or eliminate risk. However, Employees must never make changes to the safe system of work prior to notifying the Supervisor.

Employees will ensure that they are familiar with Method Statements and Risk Assessments before commencing their activities and that they are competent to undertake the work. All Employees will be supervised by the Supervisor to ensure that Supervisor the risk assessments are being adhered to and that assessments are a true reflection of the risks.

The Supervisor will always be present in situations whereby a Method Statement is to be followed to ensure the safe system of work is not deviated from. Should the assessments not be of an adequate quality, the Supervisor is in a position to insist to Upper Management that reviews of the assessments are required. When used, generic risk assessments will be checked to ensure their complete relevance at each work site prior to the works being undertaken.

Risk management using risk assessments will be the basis of the Company's objective of achieving safe working places. SBL Fire Solutions Limited will use the 'Five Steps to Risk Assessment' in order to manage risk and develop safe systems of work:

Five Steps to Risk Assessment:

- Step 1 Identify the hazards
- Step 2 Decide who might be harmed and how
- Step 3 Evaluate the risks and decide on precautions
- Step 4 Record your findings and implement them
- Step 5 Review your assessment and update if necessary

The following definitions will be used in this process:

Hazard – Any situation (e.g. chemicals, electricity, working from ladders etc) that has potential to cause damage or injury.

Risk – Likelihood (or chance) that somebody could be harmed.

Severity – An estimation of how serious the potential problem might be in terms of harm to people and/or damage to property.

Severity of Harm x Likelihood of Occurrence = Risk Rating

When determining controls or considering changes to existing controls, consideration shall be given to reducing the risk according to the following hierarchy. Namely:

- Elimination
- Substitution;
- Engineering controls;
- Signage/warnings and/or administration controls;
- Personal Protective Equipment.

SAFETY CONSULTANTS

The Company's Health and Safety representatives will have the authority to action a safe system of working under the overall responsibility of SBL Fire Solutions Limited. All Employees will be required to actively contribute to the overall Health and Safety requirements and to undertake tasks as requested by the Health and Safety Representatives or those given authority in the absence of the Health and Safety Representatives.

SBL Fire Solutions Limited retains Lynch Safety Services Ltd, as Safety Consultants to advise management when requested on matters relating to Safety and Health e.g. relevant legislation, codes of practice and guidance material, fire precautions, the suitability of safety equipment and accident reporting procedures.

In the event that there is an incident that requires investigation the Company's Health and Safety representatives will undertake a thorough investigation in order to advise on the cause of the incident and to offer advice on controls in order to prevent a similar occurrence of a similar nature.

SAFETY INSPECTIONS

Random inspections of work sites may be undertaken with results recorded to ascertain that all activities are undertaken in a controlled safe manner and with due regard for statutory obligations and Approved Codes of Practice.

Contractor's safety arrangements will also be vetted to ensure that they are working competently in accordance with the company Health and Safety requirements, their method statements and to current legislation.

SAFETY RULES

In the interests of safety and in order to ensure that the safest systems of work are used at all work places rules will be outlined during induction. Safety rules on site will be specific to individual projects in order to ensure that hazards are eliminated and risks reduced. Employees breaching health and safety rules will be disciplined in the first instance with further breaches resulting in dismissal. Safety rules will be displayed on the notice board or in a prominent position at all places of work.

SAFETY SIGNS

In determining where to use safety signs, SBL Fire Solutions Limited will take into account the results of risk assessments made under the Management of Health and Safety at Work Regulations 1999 (as amended). The assessments deal with hazard identification, the risks associated with those hazards, and the control measures to be taken. When the control measures identified in the assessment have been taken there may be a 'residual' risk such that employees need to be warned, and informed of any further measures necessary. Safety signs will be provided where they will help to reduce this residual risk.

Safety signs will not be used as a substitute for other means of controlling risks, such as engineering controls and safe systems of work. Safety signs will be provided to warn of any remaining significant risk or to instruct Employees and non-Employees of the measures they must take in relation to these risks.

SCAFFOLDS – GENERAL ACCESS

SBL Fire Solutions Limited will work on and around scaffolding to provide a safe place of work when working at height.

Whenever a scaffold is used, SBL Fire Solutions Limited will ensure that it is:

- Designed, erected, altered and dismantled only by competent scaffolders under competent supervision following the requirements of industry standards and good practice. If brick guards, scaffold nets or fans are required to provide extra protection against falling materials, particularly in public places, this will be agreed at the planning stage.
- Based on firm-level foundations on ground capable of supporting the weight of the scaffold and any loads likely to be placed on it;
- Braced and tied into a permanent structure or otherwise secured and capable of supporting the intended loads;
- Fitted with scaffold boards that are properly supported with the correct overhang;
- Fully boarded ensuring the platform is wide enough for the work to be completed, has guardrails, including intermediate and toe boards on each working platform to ensure that no horizontal gap exceeds 470mm.

A stair tower is the preferable means of access to a scaffold; however, if this is not practicable, then ladder access will be fitted to all working platforms, with ladder gates fitted, suitable for the works to be undertaken.

Before allowing the workforce to use scaffolding, the Manager/Supervisor must ensure that it is safe to use. This includes scaffolding owned by third parties.

Anyone working on or around a scaffold must wear a safety helmet.

Inspections of scaffolds

The scaffold will be inspected by the competent person to ensure that it remains fit for use. In accordance with the Work at Height Regulations, work at height equipment will need to be inspected by a competent person at separate intervals.

The inspections will be carried out:

- After assembly or significant alteration;
- Before use and following any event likely to have affected the towers stability or structural integrity;

- At least every seven days with a new report being issued each time.

All inspections will be recorded and carried out by a competent person. Any faults found must be rectified before allowing anyone to use the scaffold.

Standards Required

The Work at Height Regulations 2005 (as amended) gives requirements for construction and use of and tube and fitting scaffolds. Scaffolds constructed from tubular steel scaffolding will be erected in accordance with recommendations of BSEN 12811-1:2003; TG20:21 and SG4:22. Load testing will be completed in accordance with recommendations of BSEN 12811-3:2004.

SHARPS (NEEDLES / SYRINGES)

The Company is aware that Employees may be working in areas where sharps (needles / syringes) may be present. These represent biological hazards at work and the Company will control these risks and provide the staff with safe systems of work and the appropriate training and equipment.

Sharps can cause needle stick injuries, which are skin punctures caused by a needle. If the needle has been used by a person infected with a blood borne disease (including hepatitis B hepatitis, C and HIV), these diseases could be transmitted to a worker subsequently injured by the same needle.

When operatives are working in areas where there have been sharps found or are likely to be found, the Company will inform, instruct and train its Employees in safe procedures, handling methods and provide suitable equipment:

- Disposable tongs;
- Stout rubber gloves;
- Sharps box / container.

If Sharps are found by Employees, they must inform their supervisor and management must report the find to the Client / Principal Contractor. The removal of the sharps must be properly supervised and undertaken by a competent person with the correct PPE. Any injuries to personnel must be recorded in the Accident Book and followed up by the Company as any resulting infection will be reportable under the RIDDOR 2013 Regulations. All situations involving needle stick accidents will need to be investigated in order to prevent future occurrences.

Sharps will not be placed in plastic bags, litter bins, toilets or left about for others to pick up.

SLIPS, TRIPS AND FALLS

It is the policy of SBL Fire Solutions Limited to ensure all Employees, visitors and contractors at our places of work feel that they are protected from the risks associated with slips trips and falls. This policy provides the framework through which we ensure this by prevention through risk assessment and maintenance programmes.

Slips, trips and falls can be minimised through planning and positive management. Good housekeeping is an essential part of the prevention of slips, trips and falls.

The risk factors to consider include:

- Environmental (floors, slopes, stairs, lighting, temperature, equipment etc.);
- Contamination (water, food, litter, bags etc.);
- Organisational (task, safety culture, communication etc.);
- Footwear (e.g. 'Sensible shoe' policy as part of DSE assessment);
- Individual factors (training, induction, exit interviews, information, supervision, workplace pathways etc.).

Uneven surfaces

Many slips and trips occur when people are walking on uneven surfaces. The risk can be reduced by providing walkways that are:

- Clearly designated as a walkway;
- Provided with good conditions underfoot;
- Signposted and provided with adequate lighting.

We will also use mechanical lifting aids rather than carrying unwieldy loads that block the view ahead and make sure everyone wears suitable footwear with a good grip.

Obstacles

Other slips and trips happen because there is something in the person's way, such as building materials or waste.

We will endeavour to avoid these incidents by:

- Housekeeping - everyone keeping their work and storage areas tidy;
- Deliveries - planning deliveries to minimise the amount of materials on site;
- Waste - designating areas for waste collection, providing skips and bins where needed and making clear the responsibilities for waste removal.

Trailing cables

Where we may need cables for temporary lighting or mains-powered tools, care will be given to ensure that trailing leads and cable are hung above head height. If this is not possible then leads and/or cables will be positioned along the skirting lines.

Wet or slippery surfaces

We will treat slippery surfaces with grit (for ice) or provide temporary covering. Signage will be erected for all slippery areas.

Changes in level

Where changes in level cannot be avoided such as in doorways, we will consider installing ramps.

STRESS AT WORK

All employees are requested to inform the management if at any time they feel that they are suffering the symptoms and effects of stress while at work. This may be due to personal matters; the effect of work load, a particular problem or an accumulation of all of these matters.

There is an open door policy at SBL Fire Solutions Limited to ensure that any person requiring help and assistance can approach management in order that a confidential meeting can be conducted and a suitable solution can be found.

Employees are reminded that often stress is the result of an accumulation and build up over time whereby relief from the symptoms of stress will result in immediate improvement. To wait often causes unnecessary anguish which may result in long term effects.

SBL Fire Solutions Limited work towards implementing the HSE Management Standards that cover six key areas of work design that, if not properly managed, are associated with poor health, lower productivity and increased accident and sickness absence rates. The Management Standards are:

Demands	this includes issues such as workload, work patterns and the work environment
Control	how much say the person has in the way they do their work
Support	this includes the encouragement, sponsorship and resources provided by the organisation, line management and colleagues
Relationships	this includes promoting positive working to avoid conflict and dealing with unacceptable behaviour
Role	whether people understand their role within the organisation and whether the organisation ensures that they do not have conflicting roles
Change	how organisational change (large or small) is managed and communicated in the organisation

SUPPLIERS

The following paragraph may be inserted on all orders to suppliers or hire companies providing any article or substance for use at work.

“In accordance with Section 6 of the Health and Safety at Work etc. Act 1974 we would be pleased to receive your confirmation that the article or substance to be supplied is safe and without risk to health when properly used. Also, in accordance with the above, please supply details of any tests of examinations carried out and full instructions for the safe use of the article or substance e.g. safety data sheets. Reference should also be made to the Provision and Use of Work Equipment Regulations 1998.”

All information received from suppliers will be passed to the Supervisor for implementation and reference by Employees.

The company will maintain assessment procedures in order to ascertain the training needs for the staff allocated to use new work equipment introduced.

TEMPORARY POWER SUPPLY

Where there is a requirement for the installation of temporary electrics, these will be carefully planned. Temporary electrics include all electrical power supplies installed by SBL Fire Solutions Limited or allocated Contractors. Any temporary supplies will be removed on or before the completion of a contract.

All temporary electrical installations will be installed by a competent person and the equipment will comply with the Electricity at Work Regulations 1989.

All temporary electrics which are to be in position for more than three months are subject to inspection and examination in accordance with the current edition of the BS 7671:2018 (IET Wiring Regulations 18th Edition).

Only authorised experienced personnel will work on or adjust electrical connections.

The use of long trailing leads should be avoided. The cable should be protected from accidental damage by other operatives, have safety trip devices and be of a type suitable for the duty required.

The Supervisor and Employees will inspect the equipment and cables to check for damaged cables, bare wires, cracked plugs or damaged pins and connections.

Suspect equipment will be disconnected and replaced by a competent person or the equipment will be marked and removed from use.

Faulty equipment that is overheating or sparking may be a source of ignition and cause a fire.

TIREDNESS / FATIGUE

It is the Policy of SBL Fire Solutions Limited that any person who is taking medication, prescribed or not is to inform the Management if those drugs could affect their performance while at work or if the medication is likely to result in drowsiness. Employees, Labour Only Contractors & Subcontractors are reminded that some prescription drugs may induce tiredness and lethargy etc.

Employees are also requested to notify their Supervisor if at any time due to workloads or personal matters they feel that their ability to undertake work activities in a safe manner has been affected. Employees are required to submit this information pursuant to Section 7 of the Health and Safety at Work etc. Act 1974.

What is Fatigue?

Fatigue is the state of feeling very tired, exhausted, weary, or sleepy. Fatigue results from a lack of sleep and can be heightened from prolonged mental activity or long periods of stress or anxiety. Boring or repetitive tasks can also increase feelings of tiredness.



Signs and Symptoms of Fatigue

- Job performance slows;
- Job quality is reduced;
- Trouble solving problems;
- Making frequent errors;
- Trouble focusing;
- Head drooping;
- Constant yawning;
- Errors in judgement.

The Company will provide the following recommendations for staying alert:

- Periodically rotate jobs;
- Set up a job rotation schedule (if feasible) if the work is mundane and not stimulating;
- Limit the coffee and artificial stimulants; ingesting these stimulants throws off the body's natural ability to stay alert and focused;
- Eat a balanced diet and drink enough fluids to stay hydrated; ensure a fair balance of proteins, carbohydrates and vitamins;
- Sleep a minimum of 7 hours per day and strive for work/life balance; allow adequate time to recharge for the next workday;
- Exercise; stretch the muscles each morning before starting work. This allows for better blood flow which supplies oxygen;
- Drink plenty of water, particularly in hot working environments.

TRAINING

Safety training is regarded as an indispensable ingredient of an effective Health and Safety programme. It is essential that all persons be trained to perform his or her task effectively and safely. It is the opinion of Mr Glen Spree that a task, if not undertaken safely, is not performed correctly.

All Employees will be trained in safe working practices and procedures prior to working on site. Where Employees are required to carry out key tasks they will be provided with the necessary training.

Contractors will need to demonstrate that their Employees, where required, have the necessary training and proof of competency.

All Employees are to be trained in accordance with the Management of Health and Safety at Work Regulations 1999 (as amended).

The Company will provide adequate Health and Safety training:

- On recruitment and when exposed to new or changed risks;
- On site Tool Box talks will cover all aspects of Safe Site Working Procedures and specific Contract requirements;
- Refresher Training will also be given as appropriate.

The Company undertake to provide Induction Training for general education and additional training for specific jobs as they occur and any additional specialised courses or Employee training as is appropriate and necessary for the requirements of their duties. All training deemed to be beneficial to Employees will be provided and paid for by SBL Fire Solutions Limited in the interests of Employee Health and Safety. Training will be mandatory with records of training being kept within the main office.

The company has a firm commitment to the training of its Employees in matters relating to Health, Safety and Welfare. The objective of these is to ensure that the obligations of the Company in these matters are fully complied with.

Training and improvement in the understanding and application of Health, Safety and Welfare matters is seen as a continuous process. There is no defined training agenda but rather a flexible approach whereby training is provided in whatever areas are required by individual Employees.

Training is provided in both a formal and informal manner and all Employees are encouraged to positively identify any areas where they feel they require training or retraining in Health and Safety matters.

On-site training will be provided in the form of induction courses and toolbox talks. This instruction will, where necessary, include familiarisation with the place of work e.g. welfare facilities, provision of and explanation of any information contained in risk assessments or method statements and it will also deal with the use of any personal protective equipment together with instructions on maintenance of the equipment.

The company has a firm commitment to the training of its Employees in matters relating to absolute competency, Health, Safety and Welfare. The objective of this is to ensure that the obligations of the company in these matters are not only fully complied with but are exceeded in order that locations of works are as safe as is reasonably practicable.

TRESPASSERS

SBL Fire Solutions Limited accepts its liability under the Occupier Liability Act 1984. Although the company may not be the owner of the sites on which it is undertaking work, SBL Fire Solutions Limited is aware that as the major occupier of a site, it is responsible for fencing and erecting warning signs if a risk assessment of the site proves the area to be a significant lure to those liable to be injured. It should be remembered that a trespasser has the same rights as an invited person or Employee if suitable barriers are not provided.

USE AND STORAGE OF LPG CYLINDERS AND OTHER GASES

Gas cylinders, including oxygen which is lighter than air, should be treated similarly. Different flammable gases should never be stored together or together with oxygen. Each gas should be segregated and kept in its own storage enclosure, whether full or empty and should always be stored in the upright position. Oxy-Acetylene "sets" should be kept in a separate area away from other flammables with bottles secured to the trolley. Similarly consideration is to be given to other materials stored in the area that may present a risk if combustible particularly if they are oxidisers.

The storage area should be provided with adequate ventilation to allow dispersion and prevent the accumulation of any gases. These storage areas are normally constructed of a caged enclosure which should be located at least 3 metres from any structure, heat sources and voids. The cage should always be kept locked to prevent unauthorised access. It is not good practice to store cages on roofs as Propane is heavier than air and leaks may flow down through rainwater pipework within the structure and the presence of LPG's may not be considered if a fire is being attended by the emergency services and would also present a higher hazard to occupants in the event of a fire as access would be difficult to cool them.

Suitable restraints to containers, i.e. chains and straps, should be considered to protect valves and any fittings from impact damage, if the container accidentally fell. It is good practice for hoses to have mesh guarding over them to protect them from cuts and abrasions.

At least one 9kg dry powder fire extinguisher must be provided within the vicinity of the cylinder storage area and warning signage must be displayed indicating LPG storage.

All cylinders will be carefully handled when used and will be returned to a storage cage at the end of the day. Cylinders will not be discarded, rolled, dropped or lifted by the valve while in the care of SBL Fire Solutions Limited.

General Precautions

- Only proprietary fittings should be used on gas welding equipment;
- If a cylinder valve leaks and cannot be tightened with a spanner, the valve should be closed and the cylinder returned to the supplier with a label indicating the fault;
- On no account should oil, grease or other substances, such as soap, be allowed to come into contact with oxygen regulator valves or fittings as these substances are explosive in the presence of high pressure oxygen;



- Any leaking oxygen fittings should not be tightened before closing the cylinder valve and venting the oxygen to atmospheric pressure;
- It is dangerous to allow flame to come into contact with the cylinders or a lighted torch to be hung on a regulator or its guard;
- It is equally dangerous to rest blowpipes on empty oil drums or similar containers, even after the flame has been extinguished;
- Flash back arrestors must be fitted at all times when work is being undertaken.

VIOLENCE TO STAFF

The Company will assess the risks and evaluate the work and the places where we work to identify possible “at risk” Employees and to implement effective procedures and precautions to protect them from possible violence whilst at work.

Employees will be trained in any specific procedures required and will familiarise themselves with all arrangements outlined by clients to reduce the possible risk of violence and follow them as appropriate to each situation where violence may occur.

Where there are known risks, a preventative strategy will be invoked before undertaking any work, these will differ in each case, the Supervisor and Employees will agree on how to handle the situation and use appropriate safeguards.

Where there is any suspicion that violence may occur, the Employees will contact a Director and seek assistance before undertaking any work or compromising their position. All violence or abuse towards Employees .e.g. verbal or physical intimidation, threat, assault by a member of the public, etc. in circumstances arising out of or in the course of their employment, will be investigated by the Company and, as appropriate, reported to the Police and local authorities.

WELDING AND CUTTING

Hazards

The main hazards likely to be encountered are:

- High temperature, causing burns and fires;
- Directly or indirectly evolved fumes, liable to cause injury to health;
- Radiation causing burns and “arc eye” can also produce noxious gases;
- Lack of oxygen, causing asphyxia.

These hazards are likely to be encountered in the following processes:

- MMA (Manual metal arc) using flux covered stick electrodes;
- TIG (tungsten inert gas), a gas shielded non-consumable electrode process;
- MIG (metal inert gas);
- Flame brazing e.g. silver soldering;
- Cutting processes such as air / arc and plasma (electric) and oxygen / fuel gas burning,

The first **three** use an electric arc to provide the heat, and the fourth uses an oxygen / fuel gas flame.

Care of Equipment

Gas Flame Equipment

The gases commonly used are:

- Oxygen. Oxygen enriched air is very dangerous, as in such an atmosphere materials are normally combustible and can ignite quickly and an instant fire can take place. Accordingly, confined spaces where oxygen enrichment may occur, should be regularly checked. Where there is a risk, no work should be permitted in the area until it has been cleared as safe for work;



- Acetylene is dissolved in acetone and stored in cylinders containing absorbent materials. The pressure in any pipeline must not exceed 0.63 bar (9psig). Copper pipes must not be used for acetylene, since copper and acetylene together can form copper acetylides, which are sensitive explosives;
- Propane is subject to The Dangerous Substances and Explosive Atmospheres Regulations 2002 which contain strict rules for its use and storage e.g. all cylinders not in use must be kept in a suitable store with adequate ventilation. Propane is heavier than air and will collect in ducts and drains etc., causing a potential flame / explosion situation;
- All cylinders in use must be secured, either in a cylinder trolley or lashed to a suitable support. Cylinders should be readily removable in case of fire;
- Note - if a cylinder falls and its valve is broken, it can behave like a rocket and travel far and fast. Cylinder valves should be closed when the equipment is not being used.

Handling Cylinders

- Shut the valve before moving a cylinder. Make sure the cylinder is properly secured before moving by any form of transport including crane and sling;
- Never move cylinders with magnets or chain slings;
- Never transport cylinders with the regulator and hose attached unless on a purpose designed trolley or carrier;
- Never lubricate spindles or connection with oil or grease, as these will ignite violently in the presence of oxygen. If the latter is under pressure, an explosion may result;
- Cylinders and fittings must be kept well away from sources of contamination such as oil leaks from overhead equipment;
- Pressure regulators, gauges, hoses and torches must be maintained in good condition and connections checked regularly to ensure gas tightness. Spark lighters should be used in preference to matches, smouldering rags etc.;
- Flashback arrestors and hose check valves should be fitted to both oxygen and fuel gas regulators and manifolds. Acetylene manifolds must also be fitted with an effective flashback arrestor.

Arrestor's will:

- Stop and extinguish a flashback;
- Prevent reverse flow of gases;
- Shut off the supply of gas following a flashback;
- Non-return valves are also fitted in the hose connectors at the torch end to resist flashback;
- Manufacturers of equipment provide booklets giving further details of safety in use. These will be made available to all concerned.

Electronic Arc Equipment

- Mobile generators are frequently used for site welding. Care must be taken that the exhaust is adequately vented. Fuel drums or bulk supply tanks must be kept in a suitable storage area. The power source should be switched off whilst refuelling is in operation;
- Mobile generators should be sited with care to ensure that the cables do not constitute a trip hazard. Checks should be made during the progress of the work and, if appropriate, the mobile generators relocated rather than the cable runs extended;
- Welding transformers and rectifiers are connected to the mains supply, usually at 440Volts. Switching equipment and cables will conform to the Electricity Regulations and must be installed and maintained by a competent electrician usually supplied by the Client.

General

- The welding transformers must be connected to the supply (at mains voltage) by heavy duty cables, and an efficient isolating switch, together with protective fuses or circuit breakers, should be located in an accessible position, usually on the transformer tank. Fixed transformers should be permanently wired in conduit or armoured cable, but moveable or transportable items require heavy duty flexible cables, preferably armoured;



- Insulated flexible cables will be provided for the welding cables to the electrode holder and care should be taken to provide an effective return lead from the work place to the transformer. The welding transformer will be efficiently earthed;
- The insulated handle will be so arranged that accidental contact with live parts cannot be made. The holder will be well balanced and easy to handle. Although the welder will be equipped with suitable clothing and gloves, the latter cannot, and should not, be relied upon as insulation;
- Provision should be made for accommodating the holder when not in use, and it is desirable that the welder should have means at hand for isolating the holder from the supply. Plugs and sockets are available for this purpose;
- Although electric arcs for welding do not normally exceed 100 volts AC or DC, all electrical equipment, auxiliary cables and connections should be checked frequently. Special low voltage devices are available and should be used in hazardous conditions e.g. where the welder is standing on or surrounded by earthed metal;
- Air cooled transformers and rectifiers should be protected from moisture (rain etc.) and dust. Regular maintenance will ensure that any accumulation of dirt will be removed. Short circuits and loose or dirty connections can start fires;
- MMA torches should be insulated to avoid accidental arcing. The other electric arc processes incorporate a conductor in the circuit to isolate the torch when it is not being used.

Welding and Cutting

Heat

- All welding will involve high temperatures. Components retain burning heat for long periods after welding. Such components should be chalk marked **"HOT"** if liable to be touched by unsuspecting people (wipe off chalk marks when cooled);
- Fires can be started by sparks, hot slag etc., at a distance from the point of welding or cutting. Remove flammable materials from the vicinity of, and below, the operations, or use protective sheeting as appropriate;
- Take particular care when penetrating bulkheads, etc., that the "blind" side is safe.

Fumes and Lack of Oxygen

- All welding and cutting operations produce fumes. Adequate ventilation at all times is essential. When working in confined spaces extra precautions are required;
- General welding fume (iron oxide fume) can easily be measured and if the Workplace Exposure Levels of 5mg/m³ is not exceeded, (8 hour time weighted average), the situation is considered relatively safe. However, toxic fume hazards may arise in some cases and extra precautions will then be needed:
 - Coated (primed or plated) base metal;
 - Alloys containing toxic elements;
 - Radiated heat forming noxious gases;
 - Flame heating heavy sections forming nitrogen dioxide;
 - Flame processes burning atmosphere oxygen and adding large quantities of asphyxiating gas into the atmosphere;
 - Gas shielded processes adding inert gases to the atmosphere and displacing oxygen, which can also lead to asphyxia in confined spaces;
 - Employees are to request specialist advice in these circumstances.
 - Mild Steel welding fume can cause lung cancer and possibly kidney cancer. There is a recent change in HSE enforcement expectations in relation to the control of exposure and that effective engineering controls (typically LEV) must be provided and correctly used to control fume arising from Mild Steel welding activities. Where engineering controls are not adequate to control all fume exposure, adequate and suitable respiratory protective (RPE) is also required to control risk from the residual fume. Regardless of duration, HSE will no longer accept any welding undertaken without any suitable exposure control measures in place, as there is no known level of safe exposure. This includes welding outdoors. Risk assessments should reflect the change in the expected control measures.

Infra-Red and Ultra Violet

- Electric arcs radiate both infra-red (heat) and ultra-violet light;
- Ultra-violet radiation (UV) is invisible but can be hazardous in a number of ways, even when reflected:
 - UV can affect the skin like severe sunburn. The rays will also pass through some materials such as nylon, so the right kind of protective clothing, etc., is necessary;
 - UV causes “arc eye” a painful but temporary form of conjunctivitis, even if exposure is very short;
 - UV decomposes some chlorinated hydrocarbon degreasing agents and may form the poisonous gas Phosgene, even at a distance from the arc. Make sure degreased items are thoroughly dried before welding and do not use such chemicals anywhere near welding operations.

Grinding, Chipping and De-Slagging

Preparation and repairing of welds usually involve grinding and chipping. Eye protection will be provided for these operations. Protection must also be worn when de-slagging arc welds. With some types of weld hot slag can fly off because of contraction as the metal cools, so eye protection should also be used if it is necessary to inspect a weld before it is cold.

WELFARE FACILITIES AND SITE ACCOMMODATION

Projects undertaken differ in their duration from very short term to long duration with the Principal Contractor supplying all welfare facilities. On larger projects any site accommodation and temporary buildings required by SBL Fire Solutions Limited will be agreed with the Principal Contractor before being placed on site.

Welfare arrangements will be provided by the Principal Contractor or SBL Fire Solutions Limited as agreed in the contract document, or as required by The Construction (Design and Management) Regulations 2015. Facilities will include the provision of shelter, toilets and washing facilities and will comply with The Construction (Design and Management) Regulations 2015 as an absolute minimum. Fire extinguishers of an agreed type (i.e. AFFF, water, dry powder or carbon dioxide) will be provided and maintained in any welfare provided.

They will be positioned in an appropriate location and be kept free of obstruction and available for use at all times. At each site, there will be facilities readily available for summoning assistance from the emergency services (i.e. telephone or mobile phone) and for raising the alarm and administering First Aid.

Welfare facilities provided within the Head Office will meet the requirements of The Workplace (Health, Safety and Welfare) Regulations 1992, as a minimum, with the aim of exceeding these requirements. The Office Manager will be responsible for ensuring that the welfare is maintained in good order and is responsible for reporting any deficiencies to the Directors if the standards are not met.

WORK AT HEIGHT

SBL Fire Solutions Limited will invariably be required to work at height. Therefore, due to the hazardous nature of the activity e.g. in construction, 50% of all serious accidents are due to falls and a further 20% occur due to the fall of materials onto operatives, any work at height, is to be restricted to those Employees who have been trained properly and are experienced in such work. A full assessment of the activity will be undertaken by SBL Fire Solutions Limited for the Employees undertaking the works prior to commencement to ensure that all controls are applied in accordance with The Work at Height Regulations 2005 (as amended).

We will provide a safe working environment for all employees who may be required to work at height.

We will achieve this by:

- Identifying work activities that may involve working at height;
- Eliminating the need to work at height whenever it is reasonably practicable to do so;
- Ensuring that, where work at height cannot be eliminated, we use the risk assessment process to evaluate & manage risk;
- Implementing a safe system of work that will prevent falls of persons, materials & equipment;
- Providing suitable plant and equipment to allow safe access for persons and materials;

- Ensuring working platforms and any supporting structures are appropriate and designed in accordance with current standards;
- Ensuring that regular inspections of all equipment required for working at height are undertaken;
- Providing adequate information and training to ensure that only competent persons are engaged in working at height.

All Employees are responsible for ensuring that the intentions of this policy are effectively implemented on our projects with the Supervisor ensuring the necessary appropriate action is determined and acted upon.

It is the responsibility of each Employee to:

- To abide by the requirements of any risk assessments or systems of work designed to protect them;
- Utilise any work at height equipment in a safe and responsible manner;
- Report defects immediately.

Failure to comply with this policy may result in disciplinary action.

WORK EQUIPMENT

SBL Fire Solutions Limited will ensure that work equipment is maintained in an efficient state, in working order and in good repair. Where the equipment has a maintenance log, this log is to be kept up to date. SBL Fire Solutions Limited will endeavour to provide work equipment that complies with the statutory provisions contained within the Provision and Use of Work Equipment Regulations 1998.

All work equipment within the workplace shall be visually inspected to ensure it is safe and suitable for the purpose for which it is to be used and will be maintained in good working order and the Company will provide adequate supervision, information, training and instruction to ensure that there is compliance with safety procedures.

Employees using Company plant and equipment will be competent and trained. They must inspect equipment before use and not misuse it.

Employees must report all faults, damage, defects or malfunctions to their Supervisor. Employees are never to use defective equipment. Defective equipment must be immobilised and identified as awaiting repair.

WORKING IN OCCUPIED PREMISES

Where the Company is involved with work in occupied premises care will be taken for the Health and safety of the occupier whilst the work is in progress. SBL Fire Solutions Limited will operate within the conditions of the Client's Contract and liaise with the occupier and advise them on the work to be carried out and an approximate time scale for the contracted works.

Additional works that may arise during the process may affect the project. These will be discussed with the Client and occupier. Company Employees will wear any security / ID card required by the Client.

The Employees will be competent to undertake all tasks required in an occupied property and will adopt all emergency procedures put in place by the Client or occupier.

During the work the Employees should not leave any materials or debris where it could be a trip hazard. All reasonable precautions will be taken to obviate the impact when carrying out dusty and noisy operations at all times they will be carried out with care and consideration.

The Employees will ensure that the property is left tidy and the waste materials are cleared regularly during the works, to reduce the risks of injury to the occupier and the general public. Barriers and screens will be utilised and occupants made aware of any changes to hazardous areas throughout the working day.

Particular emphasis will be placed upon:

- Fire evacuation routes;
- The position and location of fire fighting equipment;

- Emergency evacuation procedures;
- Special circumstances relating to the personnel working within or visiting the premises;
- Safety plans specific to the building or any part of the building;
- Maintaining fire compartmentalisation standards;
- Any special requirements in relation to the overall project works or any part of the work;
- Permit to work conditions.

WORKPLACE TRANSPORT SAFETY

“Workplace Transport” refers to any vehicle or piece of mobile equipment which is used by Employers, Employees, Self-employed or Visitors in any work setting (apart from travelling on public roads). SBL Fire Solutions Limited will ensure the safety and welfare of third parties at all of their work sites by the segregation of pedestrians and plant and the management of risks.

In order to ensure the competence of Employees with regards to their use of plant, certificates will be checked in the first instance and their operations supervised until it is established that they have the capability. The on-site management of workplace transport will be assessed by the Supervisor and controls applied as required. At the offices and Fabrication area of SBL Fire Solutions Limited the task will be allocated to the Commercial Director.

YOUNG PERSONS AND CHILDREN

Young Persons

When the Company employs people under the age of 18, it will complete explicit risk assessments in respect of the young workers. The assessments will address the specific factors identified for the safety of the young persons and the other Employees who may be affected by the work of the young persons. The company will inform the young person of the risk assessments, and the control measures to be used to provide a safe working environment as required by the Management of Health and Safety at Work Regulations 1999 (as amended).

The Company will provide the appropriate supervision to ensure that young persons undertake their tasks safely, are not exposed to any risk that may affect their Health, Safety or Welfare at any time.

Children

In the event that a child (not having attained school leaving age) is employed by SBL Fire Solutions Limited. The Company will inform the parents or legal guardians of the risk assessments and the control measures to be used to provide a safe working environment as required by the Management of Health and Safety at Work Regulations 1999 (as amended).

The working hours and times of work will be in accordance with the Children & Young Persons Act 2008 and the Children (Protection at Work) Regulations 2000.

The Company will provide the appropriate supervision to ensure that the young persons and children undertake their tasks safely.

No child will be permitted to undertake any work unless they are directly supervised by a fully competent person.

MONITORING OF THE POLICY

Employees are encouraged to bring to the attention of the Director, areas, which in their opinion this policy appears inadequate. All such comments will be passed to our Independent Safety Advisors for their consideration and review.

This Policy and Arrangements will be reviewed on at least an annual basis, provision will also be made to undertake a review in the event of the introduction of new, or the amendment of existing legislation, codes of practice or guidance notes.

HEALTH AND SAFETY POLICY DOCUMENTATION REVIEW

To ensure that we comply with the requirements imposed by the Health and Safety at Work etc. Act 1974, our Health and Safety Policy Statement and Documentation will be reviewed periodically and at least annually.

DATE OF REVIEW	REVIEWED BY	BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF CHANGES	NEXT REVIEW DATE
August 2011	M.E.L (Health & Safety) Consultants Ltd	Initial Policy	August 2012
September 2012	M.E.L (Health & Safety) Consultants Ltd	<p>Sections Added; Battery Charging, CDM Contractors Duties, Compressors, Display of Statutory Duties, Dust Extraction, Electricity at Work Regulations, Employers' Liability Insurance, Fork Lift Trucks, Hot Works, Joint Consultation, Ladders / Stepladders, Weils Disease, LOLER, Lone Working, Lorry Loaders, MEWPS, Monitoring, Musculoskeletal, Noise Safety, Plant & Equipment Maintenance, Respiratory Diseases, Risk Assessments / Method Statements, Safe system of Works, Safety Consultants, Safety Inspections, Safety Rules, Safety Signs, Selection of Contractors, Slips, Trips & Falls, Tiredness, Trespassers, Use & Storage of HFL's & LPG's, Welding & Cutting, Workplace Transport.</p> <p>Sections Amended; Accident Procedure & RIDDOR</p>	September 2013
October 2013	M.E.L (Health & Safety) Consultants Ltd	<p>Sections Amended: Enforcement, Accident / Investigation, Insurance, Welfare Facilities and Site Accommodation.</p> <p>Sections Added: Hand tools</p>	October 2014

DATE OF REVIEW	REVIEWED BY	BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF CHANGES	NEXT REVIEW DATE
October 2014	M.E.L (Health & Safety) Consultants Ltd	<p>Sections Removed: Risk Management</p> <p>Sections Added: Podium Steps</p> <p>Sections Amended: Responsibilities of the Managing Director; Accident / Incident Investigation; Accident Procedure and RIDDOR; Ladders and Stepladders; Risk Assessments / Method Statements; Scaffold and Mobile Towers Scaffolds; Use and Storage of LPG's and other gases.</p>	October 2015
October 2015	M.E.L (Health & Safety) Consultants Ltd	<p>Sections Removed: Safe Systems of Work, System audits and monitoring of performance.</p> <p>Sections Amended: CDM Contractor Duties, Communication, Complaints Procedure, Contractors, Data Protection and Record Keeping, Display of Statutory Information, Enforcement, Environmental Considerations, Leptospirosis/Weil's Disease, Monitoring of Performance, Principles of Prevention, Scaffolds and Mobile Tower Scaffolds, Welfare Facilities and Site Accommodation.</p>	October 2016
October 2016	M.E.L (Health & Safety) Consultants Ltd	<p>Section removed: Dust extraction</p> <p>Sections amended: Enforcement, Accident / Incident Investigation, Control of Hazardous Substances, Corporate Manslaughter and Corporate Homicide Act 2007, Documentation, Forklift trucks, Hand-arm Vibration, Lifting Operations and Lifting Equipment, Manual Handling Operations, Mobile Telephones.</p> <p>Section added: Emergency procedure</p>	October 2017
October 2017	M.E.L (Health & Safety) Consultants Ltd	<p>Sections amended: Accident Procedure and RIDDOR, Fire Safety, Mobile Telephones and Scaffold and Mobile Tower Scaffolds.</p>	October 2018
October 2018	M.E.L (Health & Safety) Consultants Ltd	<p>Sections Amended: Abrasive Wheels, Control of Hazardous Substances, Data Protection & Record Keeping, Emergency Procedures, Fire Safety, Housekeeping & Site Tidiness, Ladders & Stepladders, Mobile Telephones and Stress at Work.</p>	October 2019
September 2019	M.E.L (Health & Safety) Consultants Ltd	<p>Sections Amended: Complaints Procedure, Electrical Work Equipment and First Aid</p>	September 2020



DATE OF REVIEW	REVIEWED BY	BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF CHANGES	NEXT REVIEW DATE
September 2020	M.E.L (Health & Safety) Consultants Ltd	<p>Sections Amended: Responsibilities of the Managing Director and the Health & Safety Consultants, Enforcement, Accident Procedure and RIDDOR, Risk Assessments / Method Statements and Welding and Cutting</p> <p>Sections Added: Mental Health</p>	September 2021
September 2021	M.E.L (Health & Safety) Consultants Ltd	<p>Sections Amended: The Responsibilities of the MD, Enforcement, Data Protection and Record Keeping, Personal Protective Equipment, Safety Consultants, Safety Signs and Temporary Power Supply.</p> <p>Sections Added: Bullying/Harrassment</p>	September 2022
March 2022	M.E.L (Health & Safety) Consultants Ltd	<p>Amended references to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Management of Health and Safety at Work Regulations 1999 (as amended) • The Work at Height Regulations 2005 (as amended) • The Control of Substances Hazardous to Health Regulations 2002 (as amended) • The Health and Safety Information for Employees Regulations 1989 (as amended) • The Waste (England and Wales) Regulations 2011 (as amended) • Removed reference to BS638 and HS(G)136 BS2037 and BS1129 	September 2022
September 2022	M.E.L (Health & Safety) Consultants Ltd	<p>Sections Amended: Enforcement, Alcohol, Drugs and Smoking, Display Screen Equipment, Mental Health, Migrant Workers, Mobile Telephones and PPE.</p> <p>Replaced Scaffold and Mobile Tower with Mobile Towers and Scaffold – General Access</p>	September 2023
September 2023	Lynch Safety Services Ltd	<p>Sections Amended: Removed references to M.E.L (Health & Safety) Consultants Ltd, Enforcement, Accident / Incident Investigation and RIDDOR, Mental Health, Migrant Workers, PPE, Scaffold – General Access and Tiredness / Fatigue.</p> <p>Section Removed: Environmental Considerations as this is detailed within the Environmental Policy.</p>	September 2024