

Risk Identification and Treatment – Decontamination of equipment – OH&S

Area / property (where relevant):			
Prepared by	Joanne Loughlin, IP Ops Manager	Date completed	28 September 2007
Authorised by	Leader APFHEPR	Date authorised	8 October 2008

1 Specific Risk	2 Source(s) of Risk	3 Area(s) of Impact	4 Current Risk Treatment
Personnel being injured during decontamination of equipment	Use of decontamination equipment; vicinity to heavy equipment and exposure to disinfectants	Human health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Elimination – remove any need for personnel to be in vicinity of the heavy machinery during activities. • Location of personnel – all personnel except those directly involved in decontamination activities should be excluded from the working zone. • Location of machinery – decontamination zones for machinery must be determined and clearly marked (eg hazard tape, safety cones, line marker etc) with consideration given to location of overhead and underground services (eg electricity, gas, water, sewerage, communications). • Entry point management – all entry/exit points be clearly marked with warning signs and security to restrict access through the entry points. • Weather monitoring – the weather should be monitored (temp/wind direction & speed, precipitation) throughout the operation. Changes to the predicted conditions may necessitate changes in the operation due to reduced visibility, traction and disinfectant contact time. • Induction – is a condition of entry to the site of all personnel. Complete site induction must include an explanation of hazards, the measures in place to be followed, and specific responsibilities of personnel. • Training – all machinery operators must be experienced and licensed • Comms – must be established between Command Point and operation area and must be tested at the briefing • 1st aid and response – qualified personnel and appropriate 1st aid equipment to be on site and available for immediate response. They should have direct contact with any personnel who operate at the decontamination site. • Ambulance availability – where the risk presented indicates an ambulance should be on stand by on site, and then an alternative/modified approach should be found for operation. • Isolation – decontamination personnel should not work unaccompanied due to use of high powered sprayers, chemicals and general hazardous work surface • Hearing – protect using approved disposable hearing protection devices when in the vicinity of loud machinery, eg high pressure washer • Visibility – all personnel on the ground operating within the machinery working zones must wear a reflective vest • Visibility at night – area to be flood lit; reflective vests must be day/night; additional personal visibility aids should be considered (eg glow sticks) • Traction of personnel – suitable footwear must be worn to prevent slipping in wet conditions. If areas become too slippery then personnel must be prevented from entry (eg. hazard tape, barrier) or suitable ground cover applied (eg road base). • Traction of equipment – machinery must be suitable for the environment in which it is operating. Wet/slippery conditions may require use of track wheel machines instead of rubber tyre wheels. Alternatively, road base may be laid however it is required to be removed at the completion of operations.

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			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Decontamination of truck trays – eliminate need for personnel to stand between tail gate and tray to access truck tray to avoid crush injuries. Use of high power pumps (eg fire fighting equipment) will achieve this. However, if unavailable, prop and secure tail gate open. • Crush – under no circumstances shall personnel enter the tray of the truck. • Chemicals – disinfectants used must have a current MSDS available, must be read by users and appropriate PPE to be worn – minimum of gloves, eye protection and overalls. Personnel mixing chemicals must be trained or supervised by trained personnel. • Manual handling – should be eliminated where possible. Where handling of contaminated material is unavoidable, PPE must be worn; correct lifting techniques must be employed and personal hygiene maintained by using hand/face wash facilities routinely. Periodic breaks must be taken and personnel rotated to different activities where possible. Elevation of baths (eg for scrubbing of gumboots etc) will reduce back strain. • Head protection – where personnel are in the vicinity of machinery or personnel operating overhead, approved hard hats must be worn • Sun protection – sunscreen and wide brim hats must be worn by all personnel when working in daylight hours. • Face/eye protection – face protection must be worn where operating and immediate vicinity high pressure sprayers (eg gurney, fire hoses). Eye protection must be worn when using disinfectants and cleaning equipment (eg scrubbing boots). • Breathing – handling of contaminated material and general environmental conditions may require the use of approved dust masks (P1). Dust masks are not to be rested on heads during breaks and changed frequently.

5 Current Risk Profile			6 Proposed Risk Treatment	7 Risk Profile After Treatment			8 Comment**
5a L Likelihood	5b C Consequence	5c Risk Rating		7aL D	7bC 2	7cRisk Rating L	
D	2	L					

****Mandatory requirement** if assessed level of risk rating is **X** (extreme) or **H** (high)

