



WORKING IN GRAVEYARDS AND CEMETERIES





Safe System of Work Plan (SSWP) Guidelines

The Safe System of Work Plan (SSWP) complements the Safety Statement required under the Safety, Health and Welfare at Work Act, although it does not replace the requirement for such a Safety Statement except where employers employing 3 or less employees are in full compliance with the relevant Code of Practice.

This guidance outlines the approach to completing the SSWP, it is relevant to contractors, self-employed persons and employees, as the correct use of SSWP will assist users to both complete construction activity in a safe manner and to meet many of their legal health and safety obligations.

The Safe System of Work Plan (SSWP)

The primary objective of the SSWP is to identify the major hazards associated with your work activities and to ensure that appropriate controls are in place before work commences.

Other SSWP objectives, include:

- Links the implementation of the Safety Statement directly to the work activity except where employers employing 3 or less employees are in full compliance with the relevant Code of Practice.
- Focusing on safety for a particular task. The SSWP is completed at the start of each activity, and can be reviewed at any time during the work.
- Increasing awareness. Prioritizes activity based on risk and encourages the user to consider a range of measures to reduce each risk to as low as reasonably practicable.
- Communicating through the use of pictograms so that the meaning can be understood by persons who possess little or no English.
- Being user friendly: just tick the hazards and controls.

The Safe System of Work Plan (SSWP) should be used as a final check to ensure that the identified controls for a specific construction work activity are available and in place. However safety starts long before any specific construction activity takes place. Hazard identification, risk assessment, the elimination and control of identified hazards must take place through all stages of construction from the planning stage, through the design process, the tendering process and on to the construction stage so that each specific construction activity will have had safety built in.

The SSWP: A 3-part process:

To be completed by the person planning the activity. Generally, this is carried out by the responsible person/supervisor/foreman and/or engineer prior to

- Identify who the employer/self-employed person is, e.g. AZ Contracting Ltd
- Name of the Responsible Person/Supervisor for the activity, e.g. A N Other
- Identify the number of workers in the team, e.g. 3
- Identify the specific location of the activity, e.g. plot 23b
- Describe the specific activity, e.g. Use mini excavator to dig out new grave
- When the work is to start, the date, e.g. Tuesday, 1st June
- What skills are required, e.g. excavator driver
- Plant and Equipment required, e.g. Kobelco 27SR, wheelbarrow, crowbar, shovel and pick
- Hazardous Materials, if used, e.g. Weed killer
- Contact Names & Tel No. in the event of an emergency, e.g. Site Supervisor
- First Aider's name, and the location of the nearest First Aid Box
- Are Permits to Work required? Tick type
- List requirements that are identified in the Construction Regulations and other Legislation as mandatory. Where these requirements are in place a tick mark should be placed in the round box.

Note: For sites where more than 20 persons are normally employed at any one time, a site safety representative should be appointed.

PART 2

This part deals with hazard identification, risk assessment and control measures. Normally the hazards, risk assessment and controls will be identified by the engineer, supervisor, or foreman prior to work starting.



Firstly identify the Hazards or Work Activity of concern by ticking the square boxes in the "Select Hazard or Activity" column.



OR



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Then "Tick Risk" column is the Risk Assessment i.e. your estimate of the level of the risk associate with the hazard and work activity given the precautions that are already in place. This assessment is based on your consideration of; 1) "how likely is it that someone could be harmed and how?" and 2) "what would the severity of the injury or ill-health be?" Identify the estimate of the risk by ticking only one of the 3 boxes provided, L for low (the likelihood of an accident occurring is low and the severity is also low), M for medium (the level of likelihood and severity increases) and H for high (high likelihood that an accident could occur with serious injury potential, ill health or death). The assessment will help you prioritise the high risk hazards and activities first.

Next the appropriate control measures to eliminate the hazard or reduce the risk to as low as reasonably practicable should be identified and selected by ticking the square boxes in the "Select Control" column.



Prior to the described work activity starting, confirm that all the arrangements for implementing the selected controls are in place; this must be done in conjunction with the workers at the specific work location. When the control measures are in place tick the round box.



Similarly, the Personal Protective Equipment (PPE), should be selected by ticking the square boxes in the PPE section, and when acquired by ticking the round box.

Part 2 of the form may also contain several blank hazard triangles, each labelled with the word "identify", and several blank control boxes, each labelled with the word "other". As the list of hazards depicted in the form is not exhaustive, where other hazards are identified, these can be written into the blank hazard triangles.

Similarly, as the list of controls depicted in the form is not exhaustive, where other controls are identified, these can be written into the blank control boxes.

PART 3

This part deals with the signing off of the SSWP. The purpose is to ensure that the form has been fully completed and that relevant persons involved in the work activity have been made aware of the risks and the controls required to eliminate such risks. Initially the person who identifies the hazards, controls and activities based on their knowledge of the work involved and any information made available to them signs off. The next signature is of the competent person identified by site management to ensure that the identified control measures are implemented before the particular work activity takes place. Finally, as the persons involved in carrying out the work activity and to whom the SSWP applies are made aware of the controls for their own safety, each person involved identifies on the form that they have been made aware of these controls. Persons who call to the site and who may also be exposed to any risks arising must be made aware of the controls in place and should also sign the SSWP.

Note 1: The completed SSWP must remain at the specific location of the work with the persons carrying out the work activity. The SSWP should be kept in a location which is accessible to all.

Note 2: A new SSWP must be completed when (1) a new hazard is identified, (2) the task changes, or (3) the environment changes.

Note 3: The completed SSWP must be reviewed on a regular basis.

Optional: A record sheet is available inside the back cover.

REMEMBER "IF IT'S NOT SAFE DON'T DO IT, AND INFORM SITE MANAGEMENT"

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SAFE SYSTEM OF WORK PLAN (SSWP)

WORKING IN GRAVEYARDS AND CEMETERIES

P	lan	No.

Aom	Inh	Details			Resour	ces Requir	ed	Fme	rgency De	etails	
Employe				Wor							
Employer Name: Supervisor/Lead Person:			Worker Skills:		Contact Names & Tel No.						
Number of Workers:						1					
Specific Location:					2 3						
1 '					Plant/Equipment:		First Aider:				
- 50 50 1 0	Description of Works:			Transcrutinents.		This Aiden					
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Start Date:			Haz	Hazardous Materials:		WORK PERMITS REQUIRED					
NOTE: A new SSWP must be completed when			<u> </u>			Hot Electricity Excavation Confined Space Other					
the task or the environment changes.						Method Statement Yes No					
	Before Works Starts the following MUST be in place Tick the circle when confirmed										
Supervision Select Select Arrangements for implementing all the selected controls below must be in place before the work described starts							starts				
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	(STOP)										
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Operations	L Selection/ Suitability	Examination & Inspection	Lorry Crane/ Sensors/Guards	Plan Lift/SWL	Load Stability	Slinger/ Signaller	Check Lifting Gear	Exclusion Zone	Other C	Other	\circ

This list of Hazards and Controls is not exhaustive and is in no particular order.

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NOTE:

FOR THE RECORD (OPTIONAL)

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Safe System of Work Plan (SSWP) Working in Graveyards and Cemeteries

Working to create a national culture where all commit to safe and healthy workplaces and the safe and sustainable management of chemicals.

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