

Safe Work Method Statement

Sandblasting

PCBU:	Robertson's Remedial and Painting Pty Ltd 10/56 Buffalo Road, Gladesville NSW 2111 Phone: (02) 9181 3519 ABN: 16 140 746 247	Site address:	[Insert Site Address Here]
Project Manager:	■ [Insert Project Manager Name Here]	Date SWMS provided to PC:	19-Mar-26
Work activity:	Sandblasting	Principal Contractor (PC):	[Insert Principal Contractor (PC) Here]

High Risk Construction Work (HRCW): ☒ **Risk of a person falling more than 2 metres** ☐ Likely to involve disturbing asbestos ☐ Work in or near a shaft or trench deeper than 1.5 m or a tunnel ☐ Work on or near chemical, fuel or refrigerant lines ☐ Tilt-up or precast concrete elements ☐ Work on a telecommunication tower ☐ Temporary load-bearing support for structural alterations or repairs ☐ Use of explosives ☐ Work on or near energised electrical installations or services ☐ Work on, in or adjacent to a road, railway, shipping lane or other traffic corridor in use by traffic other than pedestrians ☐ Demolition of load-bearing structure ☐ Work in or near a confined space ☐ Work on or near pressurised gas mains or piping ☐ Work in an area that may have a contaminated or flammable atmosphere ☐ Work in an area with movement of powered mobile plant ☐ Work in areas with artificial extremes of temperature ☐ Work in or near water or other liquid that involves a risk of drowning ☐ Diving work

Person responsible for ensuring compliance with SWMS:	■ [Insert Supervisor Name Here]	Date SWMS received:	19-Mar-26
What measures are in place to ensure compliance with the SWMS?	Toolbox meetings, SWMS sign off, job observations and supervision review. If issues with the SWMS or new hazards are identified, the supervisor must be notified. When changes are made to SWMS, it will be communicated to all workers.		
Person responsible for reviewing SWMS control measures:	■ [Insert Project Manager Name Here]	Date SWMS received by reviewer:	19-Mar-26
How will the SWMS control measures be reviewed?	The control measures implemented will be reviewed and if necessary, revised annually or if work methods change, the control measures are not effective in controlling the risk, a new hazard/risk is identified or following an incident. The SWMS will be reviewed in consultation with workers and/or others who may be affected by the SWMS. Any changes to the SWMS will be communicated with workers at induction, daily pre-starts and toolbox talks.		
Reviewer's signature:	■ [Insert Project Manager Name Here]	Review date:	19-Mar-26

This SWMS must be kept and be available for inspection until the high-risk construction work to which this SWMS relates is completed. If the SWMS is revised, all versions should be kept. If a notifiable incident occurs in relation to the high-risk construction work in this SWMS, the SWMS must be kept for at least 2 years from the date of the notifiable incident.

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PRE-REQUISITES TABLE

Must be in place before starting work			
PPE — All Persons on Site	- Steel-capped footwear (AS/NZS 2210) - Hi-vis vest or long sleeves - Safety glasses (AS/NZS 1337.1) - Hearing protection Class 5 (AS/NZS 1270) — blast zones - Leather gloves — blasting; nitrile — chemical handling	Additional PPE	- Full body harness + double lanyard (AS/NZS 1891.1) - Hard hat (AS/NZS 1801) - Sun protection SPF 50+
Licences / Qualifications	- White Card (all workers) - Working at Heights — current within 2 years (WAH workers) - EWP Licence WP class (if EWP used) - Competence in abrasive blasting operations	Permits & Approvals	- Confined Space Entry Permit (if applicable) [Insert site-specific permits here]
Plant & Equipment	- Blast pot — current registration and inspection certificate (WHS Reg Ch. 5) - Air compressor — capacity matched to nozzle; maintenance log current - Blast hoses — whip checks on all connections; inspected before each use - Dead-man control fitted to nozzle — tested functional before each use - Pressure relief valve — set and confirmed operational - EWP (if used) — current PSV; pre-use inspection completed - First aid kit and ABE fire extinguisher on site	Hazardous Substances	- Blast media — confirmed silica-free; SDS on site before use (WHS Reg r.475 prohibits crystalline silica as blast agent) - Paint products — SDS on site; workers briefed before first use - Hazardous Substances Register current
Consultation	Workers consulted per NSW WHS Regulation r.299(3) and r.300(2). SWMS reviewed with all workers before work commences — workers sign before starting.	Legislative Basis	WHS Act 2011 (NSW) WHS Regulation 2017 (NSW) rr.291–302, r.475 Code of Practice: Abrasive Blasting Code of Practice: Managing the Risk of Falls in Housing Construction Code of Practice: Managing Noise and Preventing Hearing Loss at Work Code of Practice: Hazardous Manual Tasks AS/NZS 3760 In-Service Safety Inspection and Testing

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Brief Description: Sandblasting and surface preparation on residential and commercial structures. Covers site setup and induction, blast equipment commissioning, sandblasting operations, high access, and clean-up. HRCW: fall >2m.

STEP-BY-STEP SAFE WORK METHOD TABLE

	Task	Hazard	Risk (Pre)	Controls	Risk (Post)	Responsibility	CCVS Code
1	Site setup, induction and public exclusion	- Uninducted workers — uncontrolled hazard exposure - Public or resident in blast exclusion zone	Low (1)	Admin: - Daily Sign-In, White Card check, SWMS sign-off — all workers before starting - Weekly toolbox talk — tasks, hazards, controls, weather, site changes - Residents notified 48 hrs before blasting — written notice, dates and scope 10m blast exclusion zone barricaded; signage at all access points - Emergency contacts displayed at site entry; assembly point communicated at induction	Low (1)	- SUP — verify induction, sign-in, exclusion zone before work starts - WKR — SWMS signed, exclusion zone confirmed each day	STOP-WORK TRIGGER - Worker not inducted or no White Card - Public enters exclusion zone - Exclusion zone cannot be maintained RISK CODE: SYS-L1

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	Task	Hazard	Risk (Pre)	Controls	Risk (Post)	Responsibility	CCVS Code
2	Blast equipment — setup and commissioning	- Hose whip — coupling failure under pressure - Pressure vessel failure — blast pot - Uncontrolled blast — dead-man malfunction - Silica media — silicosis risk	High (3)	Engineering: - Whip checks on all hose connections; safety pins/clips on all couplings - Pressure relief valve — set to operating pressure; tested before pressurising - Dead-man — blast stops within 1 second of release; tested before each use Admin: - Blast pot registration and inspection certificate current — sighted before use - Hoses inspected full length — no damage, kinks, or wear - Blast media SDS on site — confirmed silica-free before loading (WHS Reg r.475)	Low (1)	- SUP — sight registration cert; inspect hoses; confirm dead-man and PRV - BLASTER — whip checks fitted; nozzle checked; media SDS sighted	HOLD POINT 2 - Blast pot registration current and sighted - All whip checks fitted — dead-man tested functional - Blast media confirmed silica-free STOP-WORK TRIGGER - Blast pot registration expired - Dead-man not functional - Whip check missing - Silica media identified RISK CODE: PRE-H3

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	Task	Hazard	Risk (Pre)	Controls	Risk (Post)	Responsibility	CCVS Code
3	Sandblasting operations	- Respirable dust — inhalation without respiratory protection - Ricochet — high-velocity particles at face and body - Noise exceeding 115 dB(A) at blast zone - Asbestos in existing coating — released by blasting	High (3)	Engineering: - Blast containment (tarps or enclosure) — sealed at all joints; 10m exclusion zone - Wet blasting (vapour) where practicable — reduces airborne dust Admin: - Existing coating tested for asbestos before blasting (CoP: Abrasive Blasting) - Competent person supervises all blasting — required by CoP: Abrasive Blasting - Blast times within council/permit hours — typically 7am–5pm - Hearing conservation program if 8hr TWA >85 dB(A) — audiometric testing - Post-blast profile checked with comparator gauge — coat within flash-rust window	Low (1)	- SUP — verify containment, exclusion zone, and supplied air before blasting - BLASTER — PPE donned, exclusion zone clear before commencing	HOLD POINT 3 - Existing coating assessed — no asbestos before blasting commences - Blast containment erected and sealed - Competent person on site STOP-WORK TRIGGER - Asbestos detected in substrate coating - Dust escaping containment - Dead-man malfunction during operation - Wind exceeds containment capability RISK CODE: SIL-H3

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	Task	Hazard	Risk (Pre)	Controls	Risk (Post)	Responsibility	CCVS Code
4	High access — EWP, scaffold, and ladder	- Fall from height — EWP, scaffold, or ladder - EWP tip-over — ground failure or overload - Scaffold collapse — inadequate design or inspection - Falling objects striking persons below	High (3)	Engineering: - EWP: harness clipped to anchor point; exclusion zone at ground level; min 3m from powerlines - Scaffold: full guardrails (top/mid) and toe boards; green tag at each access point - Ladders: AS/NZS 1892 industrial rated; 4:1 extension angle; three points of contact; short-duration only Admin: - EWP: WP licence recorded; pre-start completed; firm ground confirmed; wind within spec - Scaffold: competent person inspection before first use and after any modification - Ladders: WAH RA completed — EWP/scaffold considered first (CoP: Managing Risk of Falls) - Drop zone controlled below all elevated work	Low (1)	- SUP — sight licences, verify pre-starts, confirm tags and anchor points - WKR — harness connected; exclusion zone clear; pre-start signed	HOLD POINT 4 - EWP WP licence recorded; pre-start signed; powerline clearances confirmed - Scaffold green tag at each access point - Ladder WAH RA completed STOP-WORK TRIGGER - EWP defect or ground unstable - Scaffold tag missing or guardrails incomplete - Harness not connected at height - Powerline clearance not maintained RISK CODE: WAH-H3
5	Coating application, clean-up, and waste	- Paint vapour inhalation — spray application - Stormwater contamination — blast media and coating waste - Manual handling — media bags and equipment pack-down	Medium (2)	Engineering: - Stormwater drains bunded within 10m; waste media captured before disposal Admin: - Coating applied per RPD spray painting SWMS where airless spray is used - Waste media classified per EPA guidelines — licensed facility if contaminated - Mechanical aids for loads >25 kg; team lift minimum (CoP: Hazardous Manual Tasks)	Low (1)	- WKR — apply coating per spray SWMS; capture and contain waste media - SUP — stormwater protection in place; waste manifest completed	STOP-WORK TRIGGER - Stormwater contamination uncontrolled - Ventilation inadequate for interior spray - Contaminated waste not contained RISK CODE: ENV-M2

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CCVS TABLE

Task	Critical Control	Who Checks	How Often	What They Look For
Equipment commissioning (Step 2)	Blast pot registration current; all whip checks fitted; dead-man tested functional	Supervisor	Before each shift	Registration cert on file; whip checks on all connections; dead-man test on pre-start
Media — silica-free confirmation (Step 2)	Blast media SDS on site — confirmed free of crystalline silica before loading	Supervisor	Every new media batch	SDS current; silica content nil confirmed; batch recorded in site register
Substrate asbestos check (Step 3)	Existing coating assessed or tested for asbestos before blasting commences	Supervisor	Before blasting on any new surface type	Lab result or asbestos register review on file before first blast
WAH pre-start (Step 4)	EWP PSV current or scaffold green tag; harness and anchor inspected before elevated work	Supervisor	Before each shift at height	Licence recorded; pre-start signed; scaffold tag green; harness inspection recorded

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RISK RATING MATRIX — Consequence × Likelihood					
Risk Level	Description of Consequence or Impact	Consequence	Unlikely (1)	Possible (2)	Almost Certain (3)
HIGH	Actual/Potential fatality, disability or irreversible damage. Major structural failure. Off-site environmental discharge not contained, significant long-term environmental harm.	Major (3)	Medium (3)	High (6)	High (9)
MEDIUM	Actual/Potential temporary disability, MTI or LTI. Structural failure/damage, >1-day outage. On-site environmental discharge contained, minor remediation, short-term harm.	Moderate (2)	Low (2)	Medium (4)	High (6)
LOW	Incident requiring first aid. Environmental discharge immediately contained, minor clean-up, no short-term environmental harm.	Minor (1)	Low (1)	Low (2)	Medium (3)
Level	Likelihood / Probability				
Almost Certain (3)	Occurs frequently; >66% chance of occurring				
Possible (2)	Could happen occasionally; >33% but <66% chance of occurring				
Unlikely (1)	May occur only in exceptional circumstances; <33% chance of occurring				
Class / Ranking	Description / Requirements				
High 6, 9	STOP immediately. Implement controls. Controls recorded on a SWMS.				
Medium 3, 4	Planned control. Controls recorded on a SWMS.				
Low 1, 2	Managed via routine procedure.				
Note — WHS Act s.18 "reasonably practicable": Requires consideration of the likelihood of the risk, degree of harm, knowledge of the hazard, availability and suitability of controls, and cost vs. risk. If you cannot show how that decision was made, the action becomes harder to defend after an incident.					

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WORKER SWMS INDUCTION SIGN-OFF			
Date:	Name:	Signature:	I confirm I have read and understood this SWMS. I will verify that critical controls are in place prior to commencing high-risk tasks and will suspend work if controls are not established.
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If work methods, site conditions, or hazards change — stop, complete this table, re-brief all workers, obtain new sign-offs. Required under WHS Regulation r.300(3).

SWMS AMENDMENTS						
Under WHS Act s18, "reasonably practicable" requires consideration of likelihood of risk, degree of harm, what the person knows about the hazard, availability and suitability of controls, cost vs risk. If you cannot show how that decision was made, the action becomes harder to defend after an incident.						
Date	Work Activity / Task	Hazard / Risk	Risk Rating (Pre)	Controls — Hierarchy of Control	Risk Rating (Post)	Responsible

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