

## Safe Work Instruction - Stormwater Drainage Pits Cleaning

**DO NOT use this plant\* unless you have been inducted in its safe use and operation by an Authorised Experienced Operator**

This SWI may not cover all possible hazards and risks and should be referred to as a control measure in the risk assessment process. Additional training may be required for high risk plant. Site and task may change required PPE.

### PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT



Eye protection must be worn



Foot protection must be worn



Hand protection must be worn



Head protection must be worn

### POTENTIAL HAZARDS AND RISKS

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Manual Task Injury</b><br/>Manual task injury from awkward body posture</li> <li><b>Manual Task Injury</b><br/>Manual task injury from incorrect manual handling techniques</li> <li><b>Manual Task Injury</b><br/>Manual task injury from repetitive movements</li> <li><b>Other</b><br/>Exposure to hazardous chemicals</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Cutting, Stabbing or Puncturing</b><br/>Injury from sharp edges or burrs</li> <li><b>Cutting, Stabbing or Puncturing</b><br/>Injury from falling object</li> <li><b>Slip, Trips, Falls</b><br/>Slip, trip, fall due to uneven or slippery work surfaces</li> <li><b>Other</b><br/>Injury due to plant malfunction or misuse</li> </ul> |
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### PRE-OPERATIONAL SAFETY CHECKS

- ✓ Complete site specific risk assessment
- ✓ Complete the appropriate pre-operational plant checklist if applicable
- ✓ Ensure you are familiar with plant operations and controls

### OPERATING PROCEDURES

- ✓ Have your sharps container and tools on hand to remove any syringes you may find as you are cleaning the pit, work in accordance with SWI33 Hypodermic Needle & Syringe – Handling & Disposal Safe Work Instruction.
- ✓ Establish the worksite – erect signage, traffic cones, barrier boards etc.
- ✓ Before lifting the pit lid take note of the size of the lid e.g. 450 x 450 x 70mm, use crow bars and a two man lift; anything bigger use the crane on the truck.
- ✓ Use of Crane
  - Engage the Power Take Off (PTO) in the truck and make sure both stabiliser legs are down and stable. Check the lifting gear for defects and ensure it can lift the weight required for the job.
  - Unpack the crane and hook lid up. Take the weight on chains to assess what is going to happen to the lid. If okay proceed with lift and place the lid on the back of the truck or on the ground and allow the weight to come off the chains.

- ✓ Manual Lift
  - Two man lift – place crow bars under the lid to get lid up, put a foot on bar and both crew members take hold of the lid and prepare to lift. Ensure both crew members lift at the same time as per Council's P15 Hazardous Manual Tasks Procedure. Remove the lid and rest it on the ground.
  - Alternatively, use a lid lifter with a short length of chain attached and a crowbar through the hook on the end of the chain to eliminate bending over and the potential of finger crushing.
- ✓ Pit Cleaning using a Truck
  - Once the pit lid is removed start to set up the street sweeper for vacuuming out the pit.
  - Release vacuum arm from the truck and swing to rear or side of the truck near the work area ready to attach the sucker extension arms.
  - Start truck, ensure all necessary PPE is on; move the truck into position as required; start to vacuum and clean out the pit. (From previous experience we have learnt that a little water running into the structure or pit to lubricate the debris keeps everything moving freely and

decreases the number of blockages in the vacuum hose.) Wherever possible try to loosen compacted silt and leaf litter in the pit or structure with shovels or crow bars before attempting to vacuum to avoid blockages.

✓ Manual Pit Cleaning

- Refer to P16 Confined Spaces Procedure to assess whether the pit is a confined space.
- Assess whether you can remove object from top following correct manual handling procedure and using three points of contact to enter the pit.
- Use litter tongs if required.

**ENDING OPERATIONS**

- ✓ Allow plant to cool before performing any maintenance, refuelling or cleaning
- ✓ Refuel plant at least 3 metres from combustibles
- ✓ Ensure plant is in good working order and stored in the appropriate location

**DO NOT**

- ✗ Do not use if plant is faulty. Attach a DO NOT OPERATE tag and report fault to your supervisor
- ✗ Do not leave plant running unattended
- ✗ Do not leave keys in machinery whilst unattended
- ✗ Do not wear loose jewellery
- ✗ Do not use mobile phone while operating plant

\*Plant in this SWI refers to any machinery, equipment, appliance, container, implement and tool.