

USSL Risk Assessment

Risk Assessment No		4	Activity		Duct Laying and Testing		Locations		Site Works		
Assessment Undertaken by		M. Watson		Assessment Date		Jun-17		Review Date		1/6/18	
Persons at risk (PAR)		Severity / Harm Rating (S)				Likelihood (L)					
E	Employees / Contractors	1	Negligible injury or no injury			1	Extremely unlikely to occur at any time				
P	Members of Public	2	Minor injury requiring First Aid			2	A rare combination of factors would be required for an incident to occur				
V	Visitors	3	Lost time injury			3	Could happen, but considered unlikely under normal circumstances				
C	Clients	4	Single serious injury or single death			4	Not certain, but an additional factor may result in an incident				
		5	Multiple deaths and or serious injuries			5	Almost inevitable that an incident will result - Highly likely to occur				
Tolerance rating											
15 - 25		DANGER - Task/activity should not proceed. Further control measures are to be put in place to reduce risk. When in place the level of risk should be re-assessed for adequacy before the work recommences.									
7 - 14		SIGNIFICANT RISK is attached to this task/activity. Look critically at ways of reducing the level of risk to a more tolerable level by improving existing control measures or by introducing new controls.									
1 - 6		TOLERABLE RISK - Consider if risk is "as low as reasonably practicable". If not try to reduce risk further by improving control measures. Keep under review and continue with task/activity, but with caution									
NB. Full PPE will be utilised as a matter of course during any works undertaken											
Initial Assessment No controls						Risk Mitigation Measures					
Item No	Hazard Identification	PAR	S	L	Score	Control Measures	S	L	Revised Score	Risk Acceptable	
1	Pedestrians & vehicles	E,P,V,C	3	4	12	At least one operative on site to hold relevant NRSWA qualifications Operatives to wear high-viz clothing and other relevant PPE (hard hats / Gloves / Safety Footwear / Ear Defenders / Goggles etc. Signing & guarding to comply with Chapter 8 / NRSWA requirements Where an excavation is 2 metres deep or more, substantial guard rails must be provided to prevent falls into the excavation, e.g. Heras fencing. Where there is a risk of children gaining access to a deep excavation ensure that the excavation is either backfilled, guarded with Heras fencing or securely covered	3	2	5	Yes	
2	Existing Underground Services	E	4	4	16	All excavations must be carried out in compliance with HS (G) 47. 'Avoiding Danger from Underground Services'. Read and implement the control measures detailed in Risk Assessment 01 Avoiding Danger from Underground Services.	3	2	6	Yes	
3	Excavation in the highway / footpath	E,P,V,C	3	3	9	Carry out safe digging practices. Never excavate directly above an identified service, excavate to the side then undermine the service (Safe Digging Practices) Consider cable protection for exposed services	3	2	6	Yes	
4	Excavated spoil	E	3	4	12	Ensure that all excavated spoil is stored at a safe distance from excavation, e.g. if the excavation is 1 metre deep, the leading edge of the spoil must be 1 metre away from the top of the excavation, if the excavation is 2 metres deep, then the leading edge of the spoil must be 2 metres away from the top of the excavation etc. Ensure Excavations are inspected on a daily basis any movement in the excavation must be documented on the excavation inspection form Do not cross contaminate excavated materials Ensure excavated materials are stored in such a place so as not to create a Hazard to pedestrians or other road users.	3	2	6	Yes	
5	Flooding / Groundwater	E,P,V,C	3	5	15	Pump / bale out ground water and maintain dry trench. If the ground is permanently saturated and will not stay dry, contact your supervisor.	3	1	3	Yes	
6	Collapse of trench	E	4	4	16	Assess the ground conditions, establish if the ground is stable or unstable (Ensure ground conditions are documented on the job paperwork) Ensure that shoring is in place before entry into trench and that spoil and equipment is stored away from the edge of the trench. If there is insufficient material on site to adequately support the excavation, stop work and advise your supervisor. DO NOT work in an unsupported excavation. Ensure that the supports are fixed securely in order to prevent displacement.	4	1	4	Yes	
7	Materials / plant or equipment falling into the excavation Storage of materials on site	E,P,V,C	3	4	12	Do not store materials close to the excavation Do not park or operate vehicles or plant close to the sides of the excavation. Position stop blocks where vehicles or plant must operate close to the excavation Ensure poling boards are protruding over the top of the excavation in order to prevent objects falling into the excavation Ensure that all materials and spoil are stored within a barriered area at all times.	3	2	6	Yes	
8	Manual Handling and Duct Laying	E	3	3	9	Follow Manual Handling Guidance Ensure Ducts are stored correctly Consider your surroundings when handling long lengths of ducts. Place ducts in excavations utilising fine fill bedding ensuring sufficient depth of cover	3	2	6	Yes	
9	Fumes	E	5	4	20	Do note site petrol or diesel-engine equipment such as generators or compressors in, or near the edge of an excavation unless fumes can be ducted away or the area can be ventilated. Prior to working in excavation do tests for toxic gases or oxygen depletion. This test should then run continually whilst working in the excavation.	5	1	5	Yes	
10	Deep Excavations	E,P,V,C	4	4	16	Excavations deemed deep will require Confined Space control measures (See Separate Risk Assessment for Entry into Confined Space) Excavations 1.2m or deeper will require a "Deep Excavation" permit & must be shored. However where poor ground conditions exist at depths shallower than 1.2m shoring must be installed. Ensure safe access and egress is maintained via ladders that are footed and secured at the top. Prior to the commencement of any work a risk assessment must be carried out in relation to each excavation. All excavations may need to be shored to ensure ground stability in compliance with Services Ltd Method Statement & Risk Assessment 03 'Shoring of Deep Excavations' If poor ground conditions are experienced then appropriate shoring must be installed. Ensure that a continuous atmospheric monitoring takes place and the results recorded. Inspection of the excavation must take place, in accordance with the inspection schedule. All excavated areas must be protected with a suitable barrier system e.g.Heras fencing. Safe digging practices must be observed. Works to be Supervised at all times Spoil from the excavation must be stored away from the edge of the excavated area.	4	1	4	Yes	
11	Compressed air injuries during rope blowing.	E	3	3	9	Operatives to be assessed before using compressed air equipment and instructed in its dangers.	3	2	6	Yes	
12	Exiting of 'bung' from duct casing injury to receiving operative.	E	4	3	12	Operatives to be clear of receive manhole prior to rope blowing taking place.	4	1	4	Yes	
13	Rope catching around adjacent objects.	E,P,V,C	3	3	9	Sites to be kept tidy, rope to be fed from free running drum and its payout controlled.	3	1	3	Yes	
14	Pulling of Brush & Mandrill causing muscle / back strain.	E	3	2	6	Operatives to be advised of the basics in lifting techniques and their adaptation for pulling operations. Brush and Mandrills are only to be pulled by hand. No other means are to be used.	3	2	6	Yes	
15	Injury to hands from 'Rods'.	E	2	3	6	Gloves to be worn during operations and instruction in correct technique to be given.	2	3	6	Yes	