

USSL Risk Assessment

Risk Assessment No		19	Activity		Use of Chain Saws		Locations		Site Works	
Assessment Undertaken by		M. Watson	Assessment Date		Jun-17		Review Date		1/6/18	
Risk Ratings										
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	4	4	16	Operatives to wear high-visibility clothing and hard hats Signing & guarding to comply with Chapter 8 Acop	4	1	4	Yes
2	Untrained Operatives	E	4	4	16	Operatives MUST be competent and MUST have received training and hold specific certification in the use of chain saws. DO NOT use chain-saws if you are not competent in their use and if you have not received training and hold the relevant certification for the use of such equipment.	4	1	4	Yes
3	Cuts/lacerations/face & eye injuries	E	3	5	15	Operatives MUST wear gloves, face visors and non-snagging clothing at ALL times during ALL chain saw operations. Ensure a fully equipped First-Aid Box is on site and available at all times. Ensure that operatives are trained in Emergency First Aid techniques.	3	2	6	Yes
4	Noise	E,P,V,C	3	4	12	Ear protection MUST be worn whilst operating chain saws.	3	2	6	Yes
5	Operating chain saws at height	E	5	4	20	You MUST NOT operate a chain saw at heights unless you are trained to do so and the necessary equipment is on site and available. If you have not received the necessary training for operating a chain saw at heights or if you do not have the correct equipment for working at height with a chain saw STOP WORK and inform your Supervisor immediately.	5	1	5	Yes
6	Steep/hazardous terrain	E	4	4	16	STOP WORK and consult your Supervisor immediately.	4	1	4	Yes
7	Refuelling Operations	E	4	4	16	Fuel the chainsaw in a well ventilated area, outdoors only. Always shut off engine and allow to cool Remove filler cap carefully to allow any pressure in the tank to be released. Never remove filler cap when the engine is running DO NOT SMOKE OR BRING ANY NAKED FLAMES NEAR THE FUEL OR CHAINSAW WHEN REFUELLING. Select bare ground for refuelling and move away from the fuelling area before starting the engine. Check for fuel leaking while refuelling and during the operation. Clean away any fuel spillage before starting the engine Take care not to get fuel on clothing, if this occurs change clothing immediately. Make sure fire extinguisher is on site during refuelling If fuel or oil leakage is found do not use the chainsaw and contact the supervisor	4	1	4	Yes
8	Dust	E,P,V,C	4	4	16	Ensure that the correct respiratory equipment is used.	4	1	4	Yes
9	Manual Handling	E	3	4	16	Avoid hazardous manual handling operations so far as reasonably practicable All staff to receive manual handling training Heavy Equipment to be carried by a minimum of 2 people	3	1	3	Yes
10	Working at Height	E	4	4	12	Avoid working at height where reasonably practicable Use telescopic cutting tools and loppers to reduce working at height Operatives to be trained in safe working at height techniques Ladders to be inspected and records kept. If working at height safety harnesses, belts, ropes, lanyards, slings and carabineers must be used	4	1	4	Yes
11	Vibration (HAVS)	E	3	4	12	Operatives are advised not to grip the handles too tightly Operatives must keep their hands and arms warm i.e. wear gloves and suitable clothing in order to maintain blood supply to the hands, fingers and arms. Periodically rotate the use of the chain saw with other trained operators to minimise exposure limits. Select the right equipment for the job. Always check tools before use, ensure tools are properly maintained. Remember to exercise fingers/hand after using vibration tools.	3	2	6	Yes
12	Contact with sharp branches and falling debris	E	3	4	12	Operatives must wear the necessary gloves, face visors helmets, ear defenders, trousers, jackets, and boots at all times during all tree cutting/pruning operations.	3	1	3	Yes
13	Weather Conditions	E	4	4	16	Do not climb trees if snow covered, wet, icy or during periods of high winds	4	1	4	Yes
14	Contact with vermin and Insects	E	4	4	16	Area to be inspected for signs of vermin/ Insects If bees/wasps nests are present contact supervisor If area is overrun with mice/rats contact supervisor Ensure gloves are worn at all times and hands are washed once work has stopped.	4	1	4	Yes
15	Defective Equipment	E	3	3	9	Equipment must be inspected for defects prior to use. Defective equipment must not be used	3	1	3	Yes
16	Transporting the Chainsaw, by hand	E	4	5	20	When carrying the saw the engine must be stopped. Grip the front handle and place the muffler away from the body. The chain guard (scabbard) must be over the chain and guide bar When carrying the saw the bar should be behind you	4	1	4	Yes
17	Transporting by Vehicle	E	4	4	16	Keep chain and bar covered with chain guard. Secure properly to prevent turnover, fuel spillage or damage to the saw.	4	1	4	Yes
18	Contact with overhead power lines	E	5	4	20	Inspect area prior to use, if power lines are present, stop work and contact supervisor for advice	5	1	5	Yes