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Disclaimer.

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1.1 APPLICATION

This Safety Statement has been developed to assist ABC Company comply with relevant H&S standards and to ensure that clients are fully aware of ABC Company's commitment to high standards in H&S.

1.2 OBJECTIVES OF THE SAFETY STATEMENT

To provide a reference for the policies and procedures used in house. It is also used to assess and audit the levels of health and safety being achieved.

To provide evidence that the policies and procedures to ensure health and safety objectives are met and have been thought out and documented in order to help those who must execute them.

To provide a control document to record the pertinent changes to the Company Safety Statement, which become necessary due to the changing business environment.

To help identify training requirements that needs to be fulfilled in order to generate suitably qualified personnel to carry out the policies and procedures contained within the document.

To provide assurance that compliance with legal requirements for health and safety are being met or exceeded.

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1.3 COMPANY SAFETY STATEMENT

The general Statement on this page sets out the Safety Policy of ABC Company.

It is this Company's intention that its work will be carried out in accordance with the relevant statutory provisions of the Safety, Health & Welfare at Work Act 2005, the Safety, Health & Welfare at Work (General Application) Regulations, the Construction Regulations, the Working at Height Regulations and any other applicable regulations from those implemented in 2007. All reasonable practicable measures will be taken to minimise risk to employees or others who may be affected by company activities.

ABC Company have appointed Manager 1 as having responsibility for managing Health, Safety & Welfare. Reference should be made to the Manager 1, in the event of any difficulty arising in the implementation of this policy. Manager 2 will have ultimate responsibility for ensuring that the provisions of this Safety Statement are implemented.

The Success of the policy will depend on the co-operation of all employees. It is therefore important that you acquaint yourself with all areas of the Safety Statement. You should ensure that you understand your role and the overall arrangements for Health & Safety within the Company and within your individual area. You should also be aware that you have an obligation to take care of your own safety and that of others that might be affected by your actions.

Signed: _____
Manager 2

Date: _____

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1.4 Policy Statement:

The Management of ABC Company is committed to, protecting the Safety, Health and Welfare of all employees at work, avoiding product loss, preventing property damage and ensuring its processes will not damage the environment. The company shall take all reasonable and practicable steps to protect members of the public who may be affected either directly or indirectly by its activities.

All reasonable and practicable steps shall be taken through occupational risk assessment to ensure that workplace conditions, practices and procedures are safe and in compliance with relevant safety, health and welfare legislation.

It is our policy when purchasing raw materials, making process alterations, altering (by approval) existing equipment or changing a system of work; to study each proposed change to ensure that it is safe in so far as reasonably practicable.

All employees shall be adequately trained, supervised and equipped to carry out their duties and responsibilities in a safe manner, with all operating procedures clearly outlined. All employees will have access to the company's safety statement and should ensure that they are familiar with its content.

The company shall provide where necessary suitable protective clothing, equipment and training where hazards cannot be eliminated using all reasonable practicable steps.

Accidents/incidents reported shall be investigated by Management to determine the corrective action necessary to prevent recurrence.

Manager 2 and any sectional Manager shall implement this policy in all work areas and ensure that all managers and employees understand their responsibilities and cooperate with the implementation of this policy.

This statement shall be communicated throughout the organisation by consultation with the employees and be revised as often as is necessitated by changes in legislation or the addition of new processes and equipment and all resources shall be provided to ensure its full implementation.

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2.2 MANAGER 2

- ❑ Manager 2 will be responsible for implementation of the procedures within the Safety Statement.
- ❑ Manager 2 bears the ultimate responsibility for ensuring that staff are given correct information and training for them to do their job effectively.
- ❑ Responsible for ensuring that staff are supported in enabling them to reach the correct decisions in respect of health and safety matters.
- ❑ Supervise the Company Health and Safety programme.
- ❑ Review all safety rules bi-annually and, when necessary, recommend suitable changes.
- ❑ Investigate all major accidents and damage to Company property and recommend action.
- ❑ Ensure that accident records are maintained.
- ❑ Ensure that records of hazards/near miss reports are maintained.
- ❑ Ensure that the systems for ensuring that fire precautions are adequate.
- ❑ The Health, Safety, and Welfare of all employees are not compromised when all other performance standards are set.
- ❑ That adequate funding is reserved to meet regulatory needs of safety and health.
- ❑ That management will lead by example in adhering to stated policies to achieve the Company's aim to reduce accidents and health exposures.

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2.5 All Employees

- ❑ All Employees are to co-operate with management in the wearing of the correct safety equipment, using the appropriate safety devices and following proper safe systems of work.
- ❑ All Employees are to co-operate in the investigation of accidents and the reporting of them and also the reporting to their supervisors of any local hazards of which they become aware.
- ❑ All Employees will be encouraged to promote ideas on the improvements of health and safety standards and also provide suitable suggestions for reduction in risks.
- ❑ All Employees are forbidden to interfere with or misuse any specified items of safety equipment or any safety device.
- ❑ All Employees are required to take care of their own health and safety and they should not indulge in horseplay, wilful unsafe acts or carry out or play practical jokes on other employees.
- ❑ Employees found guilty of wilful unsafe acts may be liable to summary dismissal.
- ❑ Employees are advised that strict requirements under the Health and Safety at Work Act can be used by the enforcing authorities against such persons if found guilty of reckless behaviour.
- ❑ All employees must clean up their working area or assist in tidying up thereof and also to help maintain clear passageways and maintain high standards of local housekeeping and hygiene.
- ❑ Do not smoke in designated "No Smoking" areas and dispose of spent matches, cigarette ends etc. properly.
- ❑ Know the location of the First Aid Box.
- ❑ Ensure that you know the procedure in the event of a fire.
- ❑ Report any accident or damage, however minor, to management.

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3.5 SAFETY REPRESENTATION

In agreement with the 2005 Act the employees may select and appoint a person, to be called a Safety Representative, from their numbers at their place of work to represent them in consultations with ABC Company.

The rights of the Safety Representative include:

1. Information from the employer as necessary and particularly from the Safety Statement, to ensure the Safety Health and Welfare of employees.
2. To be informed by the employer of a visit by the H.S.A. Inspector.
3. Investigate accidents and dangerous occurrences provided it does not interfere with the performance of any statutory obligation required to be performed by any person.
4. Make representations to and receive advice from the H.S.A.
5. Carry out inspections and investigate hazards and complaints subject to agreement.
6. Accompany a H.S.A. Inspector on any visit except when this is for accident investigation.
7. Time off as may be reasonable to act as Safety Representative or to acquire the knowledge to carry out that function.

ABC Company will facilitate the Safety Representative in carrying out their functions as defined in the Act and as outlined above.

Currently the staff have not elected a representative, if they do so in the future the position will be recognised by the company. After that time, all representations by the Safety Rep must be made to the company via the Foreman.

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3.8 WELFARE FACILITIES

The Client's Site Management will ensure that adequate welfare facilities are provided on the premises for all personnel.

Adequate toilet facilities shall be provided and maintained in a good clean hygienic condition.

Adequate washing facilities and washing and drying materials/equipment shall be provided and maintained.

Arrangements for eating foodstuffs shall be provided in the form of a canteen/tea room facility on the premises.

An adequate supply of drinking water shall be provided on the premises.

Adequate cloakroom facilities shall be provided for the storage of wet coats, etc. at the installation location.

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3.13 Young persons and inexperienced workers policy

ABC Company Ltd does not employ inexperienced workers. ABC Company Ltd do not offer permanent work to any persons under the age of 18.

New employees who are experienced in their profession receive in-house induction training and spend an agreed period of time working with experienced staff.

Where ABC Company choose to offer work experience placements to school children (typically from transition year programmes) the Health and Safety requirements of the relevant school shall be followed. While on the premises these schoolchildren will be supervised at all times and shall not be asked to undertake any tasks for which they do not have suitable knowledge, skills and experience.

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4.3 ACCESS AND EGRESS

HAZARDS

Inadequate access and egress facilities can result in:

- Restriction of an orderly evacuation of the premises
- Trips and falls
- Obstruction of emergency exits

RISK ASSESSMENT:

Likelihood	Severity	Risk Value
Score =	Score =	Result =

CONTROL MEASURES

All doors and access points shall be kept clear and maintained.

All passageways shall be kept clear of obstruction.

All floor covering and surfaces shall be kept clean and in good condition.

Adequate lighting shall be provided at all entry, exit points and along corridor and passageways.

Waste shall be removed regularly and systematically stored in a secure place until collected for disposal.

It is vital that all fire escape routes are not obstructed at any time.

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4.5 MANUAL HANDLING

HAZARDS

- Incorrect method of lifting
- Attempting to lift something which is too heavy
- Lifting sharp/awkward shapes

The main injuries associated with manual handling and lifting are:

- Back strain, slipped disc.
- Hernias.
- Lacerations, crushing of hands or fingers.
- R.S.I.
- Bruised or broken toes or feet.
- Various sprains, strains, etc.

RISK ASSESSMENT:

Likelihood	Severity	Risk Value
Score =	Score =	Result =

CONTROL MEASURES

Loads which must be manually handled shall be assessed on the basis of their risk to health and safety and due caution exercised where there is a risk of back injury etc. The method of handling shall take account of the size, weight, shape, condition and position of the load to be handled.

Where possible measures shall be taken to reduce the amount of manual handling to a minimum and mechanical handling devices supplied and used in so far as is reasonably practicable.

All appropriate staff shall be trained in safe manual handling techniques. Staff are initially trained using the **Simple Safety Series** from the HSA (download from www.hsa.ie). Follow up training is by an external Manual Handling Trainer.

Where loads have to be manually handled, safe access shall be assured.

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4.8 OFFICES

HAZARDS

While office work may not be considered as a high-risk activity unsafe work systems and layout may result in injury or illness.

RISK ASSESSMENT:

Likelihood	Severity	Risk Value
Score =	Score =	Result =

CONTROL MEASURES

- Adequate office space is allocated for the working personnel.
- All furniture, fittings and equipment shall be arranged so that staff can move about without collision with sharp corners of desks etc.
- Only one drawer of a filing cabinet shall be opened at any one time. All drawers should be closed after use.
- Sufficient lighting and ventilation shall be provided.
- Electric or telephone cables shall not trail unprotected across the floor. Cable covers shall be supplied and used.
- Chairs desks or drawer should never be used to access higher areas. Step ladders shall be used.
- All items stored above head level shall be stored properly to prevent falling.
- The mains power supply shall be disconnected before attempting to move electrical equipment.
- All damaged floor covering, furniture equipment or machinery shall be reported, replaced, or repaired.
- Before using chemicals (e.g. photocopier toners) read the instructions on the container and avoid contact with skin or clothing.
- Floor areas shall be kept clear of materials and litter.
- Dangerous waste e.g. broken glass, bulbs, shall be properly disposed of.

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4.10 HAZARDOUS SUBSTANCES

See also section 4.14 on chlorinated solvents.

HAZARDS

Health hazards from substances can be divided into the following categories:

- External contact - corrosive, skin absorption, dermatitis.
- Inhalation - gases, fumes, vapours.
- Ingestion - swallowing.

RISK ASSESSMENT:

Likelihood	Severity	Risk Value
Score =	Score =	Result =

CONTROL MEASURES

SUPERVISION WHEN NECESSARY

- All staff trained in the risks, use and storage of cleaning chemicals and wear personal protective equipment as instructed.
- Cleaning chemicals marked 'irritant' substituted, where possible, for milder alternatives.
- Staff reminded to report any health problems they think may come from cleaning, and to check for dry, red or itchy skin on their hands.
- The Workplace Supervisor will ensure that:
 - All substances are listed in a chemical register.
 - All substances have an up to date Material Safety Data Sheet (MSDS) on file.
 - The control measures listed in the MSDS are followed.
 - Procedures planned to handle or use any hazardous substance or process are carried out fully.
 - Any, equipment, hygiene measures or protective clothing are provided and maintained as required.
 - All measures necessary to protect other workers and the general public from any substance hazardous to health will be provided and maintained.

Guidance to staff:

- Always follow carefully any instructions and training information given in the use of cleaning chemicals.

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- ❑ When handling substances, especially concentrates (if unavoidable), always wear the protective clothing provided, eg rubber gloves.
- ❑ If there is any danger of splashing, wear eye protection suitable for splash risks, eg goggles or visors, and ensure an eyewash bottle is available.
- ❑ Check that gloves are free from holes, tears or thin patches. If any of these faults are present ask for replacements immediately.
- ❑ Tell your supervisor if you experience any irritation or allergy from gloves you have used.
- ❑ Never mix chemicals.
- ❑ When diluting always add the concentrated liquid to water, not the water to the concentrate.
- ❑ Ensure spray bottles for spot cleaning and other containers are clearly marked with their contents.
- ❑ If aerosols are used for cleaning, never spray onto hot surfaces as this can produce harmful vapours.
- ❑ Only use cleaning chemicals in well-ventilated areas. Sometimes an open window will be enough.
- ❑ Always clean up any spills on floors or work surfaces immediately.
- ❑ Always store chemicals as manufacturers advise, for example away from heat, sunlight, foodstuffs and members of the public, especially children.
- ❑ Ensure chemicals are disposed of properly, as instructed by your employer following the information given in the safety data sheet.
- ❑ Let your supervisor know immediately if you experience any adverse reactions to substances, for example headaches, nausea, skin complaints.

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4.11 General Cleaning Work

HAZARDS

- Multi hazard

Risks Identified:

Likelihood	Severity	Risk Value
Score =	Score =	Result =

CONTROL MEASURES

- Slips trips and falls
 - Single step units are used for medium level dusting, ladders and height are addressed alter in the assessments.
 - The right cleaning equipment is used for the right job, and staff follow safe systems of work.
 - Staff monitor entrances for wet floor surfaces walked in.
 - Warning cones placed around spillages, and removed as soon as spillage clear and floor dried.
 - Staff do not leave cleaning materials/equipment unattended.
 - Cleaning of stairs done outside of trading/working hours.
 - All areas well lit.
- Chemicals
 - See section on Hazardous Substances.
- Manual Handling and MSD
 - All staff trained in lifting safely, and follow safe systems of work.
 - All staff using cleaning machines trained in their use, according to manufacturers' instructions.
 - Trolleys provided for moving bags of clothes and staff use them.
 - Staff do not overfill bags.
- Cleaning and washing machines
 - Machines provided are the right ones for the job.
 - Staff trained in the safe use of machines.
 - Pre-use checks done for damaged plugs, cables and on/off switches.
 - Machines regularly examined and maintained by competent person.

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4.14 Use of Chlorinated Solvents

HAZARDS

- Staff may suffer from headaches, fatigue, nausea and other ill effects from breathing in perc vapour.

RISK ASSESSMENT:

Likelihood	Severity	Risk Value
Score =	Score =	Result =

CONTROL MEASURES

- Machine positioned away from customers, maintained regularly by a competent engineer and checked regularly by staff for leaks.
- Machine extraction system inspected every 14 months by competent engineer and maintained.
- Fumes vent to safe place.
- Staff wear personal dosimeters and check to make sure their exposure is as low as possible and certainly below the exposure limit (50 ppm over 8 hours).
- Staff trained in using machine safely.
- Shop has extraction fan and is well ventilated; staff also use room fan to disperse fumes further when machine door open.
- Staff know the hazards of perc and are trained in safe systems for storing and using it, eg replace lid immediately, don't remove articles from machine if they are still damp, wear correct PPE etc.
- Staff trained in safely cleaning up small spillages immediately, and in the emergency plan for large spillages.
- Display copy of emergency plan for large spillages.
- Display 'solvent precaution notice' provided by perc supplier).
- Make random spot checks. Check that staff know how to safely empty button traps, clean lint filters and clean the still.

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4.18 Machinery, Equipment and Maintenance

Explosion and fire is a hazard.

Person at risk:

Employees / Sub-Contractors / Visitors / Others

CONTROL MEASURES

General

The following precautions are taken when using machinery and equipment.

- PAT testing carried out as per approved schedules on all relevant items.
- All guarding, safety devices must be in place and working properly at all times.
- All machinery and equipment must be used in accordance with the manufacturers' instructions.
- Machinery and equipment must be properly maintained and all faults to be reported and corrected immediately.

Maintenance

ABC Company recognises that there may be additional risks associated with maintenance activities. In order to minimise the risks involved in maintenance activities, the Business takes the following actions.

- No maintenance is carried out by general staff, other than routine cleaning and similar activities which can be carried out without disassembling the equipment or disabling safety measures in any way.
- All maintenance is carried out by suitably capable and experienced staff or by outside suppliers.
- This competence includes:
 - Appropriate knowledge of the machinery and equipment
 - Relevant health and safety requirements (in the case of suppliers, they are checked to ensure that they meet the appropriate requirements, and this is generally demonstrated by the availability of a safety statement).
 - Outside suppliers are informed of any relevant health and safety information such as emergency evacuation procedures; any specific hazards on the premises, etc.
 - All machinery must be completely returned to correct operational condition by maintenance personnel before it is put back into operation.

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PART 8 Related Policies

8.1 ABC Company Environmental Policy Statement

ABC Company will seek to promote the conservation and sustainable use of natural resources and to minimise environmental pollution in all their activities and, where possible, by its influence over others. The objective will be to minimise the environmental impact of all operations.

Consideration will be given to substitution of polluting substances with "greener" alternatives wherever possible. Steps will be taken to minimise smoke, dust, noise, and vibration nuisance - the potential for which will be identified during the assessment process.

All waste disposals shall be carried out by registered carriers and removed to registered disposal sites. Documentation shall be held to demonstrate compliance with this. Wherever possible waste shall be recycled, reclaimed or reused.

Liquid pollutants will not be allowed to enter watercourses. All liquid storage will be bunded wherever there is a risk.

This policy will be enforced by managerial vigilance and shall be subject to regular auditing and review.

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8.2 ABC Company Equality Policy

ABC Company are an equal opportunities Employer & thus, as laid out in this policy, seek to comply with all legal regulations & directives with regard to dealing with individuals or groups in a fair & legal way.

It is the policy of ABC Company to deal (employ, pay, consult, interview, speak to, and write to etc.) with any person/s equally & with dignity Regardless of disposition:

- Gender
- Race
- Colour
- Creed (Religious Persuasion)
- Nationality
- Disability or Physical Impairment
- Financial Status

ABC Company, its Management and Staff must uphold & comply with this policy. Failure to comply with this policy could result in immediate disciplinary action & possible dismissal.

Should any person cause harm, harass, sexually harass or disadvantage any of the above because of their disposition, that person/s will be reported to the Authorities & will be dealt with on a legal basis.

It is the overall policy of this company to practice equality & to be fair to all.

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