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1.1 APPLICATION

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

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 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.

Manager 2 has appointed Manager 1 as having responsibility for managing Health, Safety & Welfare. Reference should be made to 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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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.
- ❑ Manager 2 is also 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.
- ❑ All prescription and other drug records accurately recorded and retained.
- ❑ 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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2.4 Other Supervisors and Assistant Managers.

All Department Managers will be responsible for planned implementation of effective health and safety standards within their area of operation.

Department Managers bear the responsibility for ensuring that staff are given correct information and training for them to do their job effectively and that their work targets are realistic and do not compromise health and safety requirements.

They are also responsible for ensuring that staff reporting to them are supported in enabling them to reach the correct decisions in respect of health and safety matters.

SPECIFIC RESPONSIBILITIES

- ❑ Ensure that all procedures are complied with for all new employees.
- ❑ Implement an efficient communication procedure so that all Personnel are aware of workplace standards as measured against the Company's Safety Policy and are provided with information on accidents and other safety, health and welfare information.
- ❑ Plan and co-ordinate safety training as necessary.
- ❑ Plan and supervise all work processes in a safe manner and in accordance with the standards set out in the Safety Statement.
- ❑ Ensure that all employees directly under your control are aware of their specific responsibilities.
- ❑ Provide assistance to staff in carrying out their responsibilities, particularly in determining the most appropriate order and methods of working.
- ❑ Allocate work in such a way that health and safety standards are not compromised.
- ❑ 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 senior management.

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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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3.4 SAFETY CONSULTATION

Section 13 of the 2005 Act places a general obligation on ABC Company Ltd as employer to consult with and to take account of any representations made by the employees for the purpose of giving effect to its statutory duties.

To facilitate consultation on issues relating to the individuals safety at work, the company operates a Suggestion or Query form.

A folder of blank forms is held in the main office. Staff members complete a form as needed. The forms are reviewed on a weekly basis by Manager 1.

Manager 1 will seek more information as necessary from the relevant staff member and will then agree any actions arising from the Suggestions or Concerns if necessary.

3.4.1 SAFETY COMMITTEE

ABC Company have a Safety Committee on site. The members of the Safety Committee are Manager 1, Manager 2 and an Employee Representative. The committee meet on the first Monday of every month. The following is the agenda for each meeting:

- Review previous month's inspections.
- Review any reported accidents or incidents form the previous month.
- Review any suggestions or queries from staff.
- Plan a safety topic briefing for the coming month.
- Review any new safety guidelines/legislation that ABC Company have been made aware of.
- Post the minutes on the Staff Notice Board.

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3.8 WELFARE FACILITIES

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.

Safe access and egress shall be maintained at all times.

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3.12 Bullying at Work Policy

ABC Company Ltd recognises and accepts its responsibilities as an employer to provide a safe and healthy working environment for employees. As part of the policy of maintaining good employer practice, ABC Company Ltd wishes to clearly state that bullying of any kind will not be tolerated.

Bullying at work is defined as: 'Persistent criticism and personal abuse, both in public and in private which humiliates and demeans the individual, gradually eroding their sense of self. Bullying can be best described as repeated inappropriate behaviour, whether verbal, physical, or otherwise, conducted by one or more persons against another or others, at the place of work and/or in the course of employment, which could reasonably be regarded as undermining the individual's right to dignity at work. An isolated incident of the behaviour described in this definition may be an affront to dignity at work, but as a once off incident is not considered to be bullying.

ABC Company Ltd will strive to ensure that all employees are free to perform, their work in an environment, which is free from threat, harassment and intimidation. All complaints of objectionable or offensive behaviour should be made to either Manager 1, Manager 2 or the Safety Representative.

Manager 2 gives the undertaking to investigate all complaints sensitively and will resolve locally, if possible, the source and cause of the bullying behaviour. If the circumstances warrant it, the Company will not be deterred in invoking the formal disciplinary / grievance procedures.

All employees are invited to strive in ensuring that our working environment remains a pleasant and friendly atmosphere.

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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: Medium

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.

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

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4.6 ELECTRICITY

Set out below are the general controls for the company.

HAZARDS

- Electric Shock
- Fire
- Trips or falls from loose cables

RISK ASSESSMENT: Low

Likelihood	Severity	Risk Value
Score =	Score =	Result =

To ensure that all electrical equipment used by the company is in safe condition.

CONTROL MEASURES

Dangerous or defective cabling should be replaced or remedied in accordance with the E.T.C.I.'s rules. It is important that all extensions, alterations and repairs to electrical circuits are carried out in a proper manner in accordance with E.T.C.I.'s rules.

WIRING STANDARDS

All new fixed and temporary wiring will be to the latest Irish standards and, where practicable, in compliance with the national rules for electrical installations.

Precautions to be included either are or will be as follows:

- All portable electrical equipment shall be tested annually by a competent person to ensure safety.
- Flexible cables will also be adequately protected against external mechanical damage.
- Flexible cables for portable equipment will be properly mechanically restrained within plugs and couplers.
- Enclosures, plugs etc. should be maintained as part of the portable appliance of which they form part, but damaged leads, plugs, etc. should not be allowed to remain in service should the equipment not be due for maintenance.

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4.9 HAZARDOUS SUBSTANCES (Not Medicines)

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: Low

Likelihood	Severity	Risk Value
Score =	Score =	Result =

CONTROL MEASURES

The control measures in this section are general in nature. In the pharmacy there are many items for sale that are hazardous by nature. Any items that come under the term "Medicines" are under the strict control of a Pharmacist at all times.

Other items for sale such as Spirits, Skin Toners and even some cosmetics can be flammable or have other hazardous properties. Every item shall be stored in accordance with the suppliers guidelines and the label on the container.

SUPERVISION WHEN NECESSARY

- The Workplace Supervisor will ensure that:
- All cleaning materials, pharmacy substances (methylated spirits, etc) and other substances are listed in a safety file.
- All cleaning materials, pharmacy substances and other substances have an up to date Material Safety Data Sheet (MSDS) on file.
- The control measures listed in the MSDS are followed.
- A written assessment, control measures and other information are on site.
- All cleaning materials, pharmacy substances are stored in an appropriate unit that is fire retardant and can contain spillages where needed.
- 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.

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4.10 Ladders (Step ladders for cleaning, decoration etc.)

HAZARDS

Note: Ladders must only be used for short periods and only where there is no suitable alternative.

- Items falling from ladders
- Working from ladders
- Throwing waste material from ladders
- Overreaching
- Overbalancing
- Ladders Falling
- Falls from Ladders
- Defective Ladders

Person at risk:

Employees / Sub-Contractors / Visitors / Others

Risk Assessment – Low

Likelihood	Severity	Risk Value
Score =	Score =	Result =

CONTROL MEASURES

Maintenance of ladders and folding step-ladders.

- Ladders are only used by ABC Company for short periods and only for accessing items stored on shelving etc. in the offices or removal of seasonal decorations and other similar activities.
- Ladders and folding step-ladders must be of good construction, of suitable and sound material and of adequate strength for the purpose for which it is used and must be properly maintained.
- Ladders must not be used if one or more rungs are missing or where one or more rungs are defective.
- Rung must be properly fixed to the stiles or sides.
- Rungs must not be supported solely on nails, spikes or other similar fixing.

Use of ladders and folding step-ladders

- Any part of a building or other structure used to support a ladder or folding step-ladder must be of sound material and sufficiently stable and sufficiently strong to give safe support.
- Ladders standing on a base (e.g. standing on the ground) must:
 - Be securely fixed

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4.14 Pesticides (only for sale)

HAZARDS

- Poisoning

Risks Identified - Low

Likelihood	Severity	Risk Value
Score =	Score =	Result =

CONTROL MEASURES

General

Pesticides are no in use within the Pharmacy, however we do sell them therefore the following shall be implemented.

The storage area must conform to the following criteria:

- It should be easily locked secure.
- Children should not be bale access the area.
- Should be adequate for the maximum quantity of pesticide required at any one time without the need for stacking of containers.
- A supply of absorbent material must be available to mop up spillages. Spillages must never be flushed as this can expose the eyes to splashes and spread the contamination to other areas.
- Should be located as to provide access and in the event of a fire.
- Must be marked with an appropriate warning sign to highlight the dangers involved in the area.
- A water supply must be available in the area outside the store.
- Wash facilities should be convenient to this area.
- A pesticide stock sheet that describes the contents and Quantities of chemicals should be available.

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4.17 Violence and Aggression

HAZARDS

- Physical abuse
- Hold up and robbery

Risks Identified - Medium

Likelihood	Severity	Risk Value
Score =	Score =	Result =

The pharmacy maintains CCTV coverage of the entire premises.

Difficult customers and others such as members of the general public can expose staff to a risk of violence. The following steps are taken by the Business to minimise this risk.

It is the policy of ABC Company not to have staff working alone, except when this cannot be avoided. In general there will be at least two members of staff on hand at all times.

Staff are given the following guidelines in dealing with potential robbery and aggression/violence situations:

- Always keep aware of customers or other individuals who may become violent or threatening
- Never argue or otherwise engage with someone who shows signs of violence
- If someone becomes aggressive or violent, obtain assistance. Never attempt to get involved directly or to restrain the person.
- If attacked, withdraw from the confrontation if possible.
- If and when it is safe to do so, raise the alarm.

Robbery/ Attempted Robbery

Robbery of cash and other valuable items can expose staff to a risk of violence. The following steps are taken by the Business to minimise this risk.

It is policy to put measures in place to minimise the risks to staff from robbery. These include:

- Minimising the quantities of cash and other valuable items held;
- Putting appropriate entry and security safeguards in place.
- Staff are given the following guidelines in dealing with potential robbery situations
- If a robbery is attempted, even by someone who appears to be unarmed:

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4.18 Cytotoxic Drugs

HAZARDS

- Drug interactions and side effects

Risks Identified - Medium

Likelihood	Severity	Risk Value
Score =	Score =	Result =

CONTROL MEASURES

General

- Cytotoxic Drugs are only prepared by fully trained Pharmacists
- The work area is restricted and no other staff are allowed within while preparations are being made.
- Pregnant employees may not be bale to prepare these drugs. The full description of the drug will be consulted before hand.
- Disposable gloves and gowns should be worn. The glove and gown cuffs should be worn in a manner that produces a tight fit (e.g., loose glove tucked under gown cuff; tight glove fitted over gown cuff).

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4.20 Hazardous Drugs handling and storage

HAZARDS

- Drug interactions
- Side effects
- Bio Hazards

Risks Identified - Low

Likelihood	Severity	Risk Value
Score =	Score =	Result =

CONTROL MEASURES

General

- Drugs are only dispensed or prepared by fully qualified pharmacists.
- Pharmaceutical assistants may assist with some minor preparations under the direct supervision of a Pharmacist.
- All drugs are stored in locked cabinets and a full inventory is on file.
- CCTV covers the storage and preparation areas.
- Material Safety Data sheets are available for all hazardous drugs and all medicines have full patient information leaflets attached.
- Pharmacists have received training in the following:
 - Methods and observations that may be used to detect the presence or release of a hazardous drug in the work area (such as monitoring conducted by the employer, continuous monitoring devices, visual appearance or odor of covered HD's being released, etc.).
 - The physical and health hazards of the covered HD's in the work area.
 - The measures employees can take to protect themselves from these hazards. This includes specific information such as identification of covered drugs and those to be handled as hazardous, appropriate work practices, emergency procedures (for spills or employee exposure). Personal protective equipment and the details of the hazard.

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4.22 Prescriptions policies procedures (general safety points, full procedure set out in Pharmacy control documents)

HAZARDS

- Drug interactions
- Side effects

Risks Identified - Medium

Likelihood	Severity	Risk Value
Score =	Score =	Result =

CONTROL MEASURES

Prescription check

- Check patients name and Doctor details on RX.
- Check the date.
- Check for repeats
- Check the medicine details.

Medicine check

- Prepare all medicines on the prescription.
- Recheck against prescription.
- Verify patients name, dosage, administering instructions and medicine name on the container label.
- Ensure patient information leaflet is provided where necessary.

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4.24 General Shop/Pharmacy Floor Hazards

HAZARDS

- Slips and falls
- Fire

Risks Identified - low

Likelihood	Severity	Risk Value
Score =	Score =	Result =

CONTROL MEASURES

General

- Housekeeping: - A good guide is to keep the premises, as you would wish to find your own home. Use bins provided for litter and waste. These are to be emptied regularly as per cleaning list requirements.
- Make sure that all aisles and passageways are kept clear. Pay particular attention to goods being placed on the floor in the shop area.
- Items to be placed on shelves must sit firmly and safely.
- Where hosepipes, electrical cables or vacuum cleaner pipes are in use, extra care must be taken not to create a hazard. Warnings should be given to people in the area either visually or verbally.
- Take extra care to ensure that sweeping brushes and other tools are always stored upright safely out of people's way and that they do not constitute a tripping hazard.
- Any spillage of water onto the floor or in the toilets should be protected immediately with a warning sign and the water taken off and mopped dry.
- Take care when unpacking goods delivered, not to allow wrappers and strapping to stay on the floor - plastic and cellophane can be extremely dangerous.
- Always wear uniform and sensible shoes as per policy.

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PART 8 Related Policies

8.1 ABC Company Environmental Policy

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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