

Risk Assessment

TASK / ACTIVITY: Strimming

TASK DESCRIPTION:

Use of trimmers and brush-cutters

MAIN HAZARDS:

Crushing	<input type="checkbox"/>	Direct electrical contact	<input type="checkbox"/>	Hot ambient temperature	<input type="checkbox"/>
Cutting / shearing	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Indirect electrical contact	<input type="checkbox"/>	Cold ambient temperature	<input type="checkbox"/>
Entanglement	<input type="checkbox"/>	Short circuit / overload	<input type="checkbox"/>	Adverse weather conditions	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Trapping	<input type="checkbox"/>	Fire / explosion	<input type="checkbox"/>	Asphyxiation / drowning	<input type="checkbox"/>
Impact	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Ionising radiation	<input type="checkbox"/>	Significant noise	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
High pressure injection	<input type="checkbox"/>	Repetitive actions	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Significant vibration	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Abrasion	<input type="checkbox"/>	Stressful postures	<input type="checkbox"/>	Hazardous substance	<input type="checkbox"/>
Slips / trips	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Lifting / handling	<input type="checkbox"/>	Localised hot surface(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Falls from height	<input type="checkbox"/>	Fatigue / stress	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Localised cold surface(s)	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Violence / assault	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other:	<input type="checkbox"/>

Please specify:

PERSONS EXPOSED:

Employees	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Visitors	<input type="checkbox"/>	Maintenance staff	<input type="checkbox"/>
Public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Contractors	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Other:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Vulnerable Groups	<input type="checkbox"/>	Cleaners	<input type="checkbox"/>	Please specify: Students	

CURRENT CONTROL MEASURES:

- All staff/students undertaking strimming work have been suitably trained and are familiar with the equipment with which they are using.
- The operator's manual is available for reference.
- Ongoing maintenance and inspection of equipment prior to start of work.
- Use of PPE including weather proof outer garments, safety footwear, gloves, hearing protection, goggles or face shield or safety helmet incorporating visor and ear defenders.
- Equipment features anti-vibration handles, mounts and grips; and, silencers are fitted.
- Correctly fitted and adjusted harness.

LEVEL OF RISK?

Low Med High

ADDITIONAL CONTROLS REQUIRED:

DATE

- The Safe Working Procedure should be followed and its compliance monitored by management.

NOTES:

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**ASSESSOR'S
NAME: JONATHAN
ENSELL**

DATE: September 2017

SIGNATURE:



REVIEW DATE: September 2018

**JOB TITLE: COMPANY
DIRECTOR**

Safe Working Procedure

TASK / ACTIVITY: Strimming

TASK DESCRIPTION:

Use of trimmers and brush-cutters

MAIN HAZARDS:

Injuries to the operator and others can be caused by being hit by thrown debris.

CONTROL MEASURES:

INSTRUCTION / TRAINING

- Only authorised, trained staff/ students or those undergoing supervised training may use the equipment.
- Read and follow the manufacturers' handbook.

PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT

- The appropriate personal protective equipment should be worn at all times when operating trimmer / brush cutter. This should include: goggles or visor, gloves, weather proof outer garments and safety footwear.

PRE-START

- The harness should be fitted and adjusted correctly prior to operation. Check that the weight of the trimmer is spread evenly over both shoulders and that the shaft hangs straight in front.
- Pre-start and periodic checks are required: of the operation of the switch and general condition and fixings; and, the blade guard and anti-vibration mounts, to ensure their serviceability.

USE OF THE STRIMMER

- Always try to start on a level area free from debris.
- Always run full throttle to ensure a safe cutting stroke.
- Stop cutting immediately if you see anyone within 15 metres of where you are working.
- Never place your hand close to the cutting zone while the trimmer is in motion.
- If the trim wire thimble requires replacement switch the machine off before removal.

SPECIAL HAZARDS

- Always carry fuel in a clearly marked container which incorporates a non-spill spout. Ensure the equipment is left to cool before you refuel it and if prolonged work is expected take along another trimmer / brush cutter in order that refuelling while hot is not necessary.
- Ensure that all 'O' rings are in place and caps refitted before attempting to restart.
- Avoid skin contact with plant sap / materials and irrigate thoroughly if this occurs.

THIRD PARTIES

- Always consider third parties when assessing the area where the trimmer / brush cutter is to

be used. Never work within 15 metres of other workers.

EMERGENCY PRECAUTIONS

- A personal First-Aid kit should be carried or available close by.

FURTHER INFORMATION:

Please see Risk Assessment.

REVISION:	1	DATE:	September 2017	REVIEW DATE:	September 2018
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