



ATM-RISK ASSESSMENT

TASK:	Use of Chain Saws	RA No:	ATMRA2020/006				
EQUIPMENT / MATERIALS USED	Chain Saws, Fuel						
PERSONS AT RISK:	CHAIN SAW AND OTHER SITE OPERATIVES (All operatives or teams of operatives are to ensure that the daily on-site risk assessment is completed prior to commencing any work on site.)						
HAZARD / RISK	RISK LEVEL			CONTROL MEASURES	RESIDUAL RISK		
	S	L	RL		S	L	RL
Contact with driven saw chain Cuts, abrasions, amputation	5	3	12	Only competent operators are to operate this type of equipment Operators are not to work alone when operating this type of equipment. The Fully trained and experienced chainsaw operative will assess the tree for Nails, Staples, and other hard objects which could cause the Chainsaw to Kick Back before cutting. All un-authorized personnel are to be removed from the immediate vicinity of any chain saw operations being carried out. Operators are to carry out pre-use equipment checks, that are recorded and visual inspections of safety measures prior to use. Defective equipment shall not be used. Operatives will be provided with and required to wear specialist PPE for carrying out this type of operation. This will include; Safety Helmet, Ear Defenders, Eye Protection, Leg Protection (trousers with insert pads), gloves with protective guarding on the rear of the left hand, Safety Boots, High Visibility No Snag or loose clothing. All chain saw operatives will be provided with a personal first aid kit. Where operatives are acting as part of a larger team, a fully stocked first aid kit will be held on site. All plant and machinery shall be completely shut off when not in use.	5	2	8
Risks to other persons Contact with driven blade Flying debris, eye injuries	5	3	15	Operators are to remain vigilant to the whereabouts of others and are to cease cutting if persons stray into the 'danger zone'. Signage should be put in place indicating that the equipment is in use.	5	1	5

ATMRA2020/006	Original Author:	Rob Whamond	Date:	01-06-2021
	Reviewed By:	Dale Nelson	Next Review Date:	01-06-2022
Use the table below to calculate the severity and likelihood. (Severity X Likelihood = RISK)		Use the table below to indicate whether the Residual Risk Rating is:		
Severity of Outcome; 5 Fatality / Loss of Limb. 4 Serious Injury. 3 Moderate. 2 Minor Injuries. 1 Negligible. Likelihood of Harm; 5 Almost Certain, 4 Very Likely, 3 Fair Chance, 2 Remote, 1 Very Unlikely.		1 – 6 = Low Risk		Page 1 of 3
		7 – 11 = Medium Risk		
		12+ = High Risk		



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Chips and other ejected debris Cuts, abrasions, eye injuries	4	3	12	Operatives will be provided with and are required to wear specialist PPE for carrying out this type of operation. This will include, Safety Helmet with forestry visor, Ear Defenders, Eye Protection, Leg Protection (trousers with insert pads), gloves with protective guarding on the rear of the left hand, Safety Boots, High Visibility No Snag or loose clothing. All chain saw operatives will be provided with a personal first aid kit. Where operatives are acting as part of a larger team, a fully stocked first aid kit will be held on site.	4	1	4
Noise Hearing damage Vibration Loss of dexterity, Vibration white finger	3	3	9	The company has carried out a noise assessment and noise level measuring of its powered equipment. This document should be referred to as a point of reference. All chainsaw operatives will be required to wear adequate hearing protection whilst operating this type of equipment. The company has carried out a HAVS assessment. For information on the levels emitted by the equipment, refer to this document. The company's chain saws are fitted with anti-vibration devices and the operator is to report any defect noted during use. These devices are to be inspected before use and as part of any routine maintenance schedule. Where necessary, they are to be replaced in accordance with the manufacturer's specifications.	3	2	6
Fumes & Dust Respiratory irritation	1	2	2	Chainsaws are only to be operated outdoors. Properly functioning saws should not produce excessive fumes or dust. If a unit starts produce increased level of either, works shall stop and the unit shall be serviced or replaced.	1	1	1
Falling Trees, Branches Cuts, abrasions, head injuries	5	3	15	Operators are to remain vigilant to the whereabouts of others and are to cease cutting if persons stray into the 'danger zone'. Signage should be put in place indicating that the equipment is in use. Whenever cutting operations involve climbing or work at height, ATM Ltd will use a specialist sub-contractor for this type of work. An exclusion zone shall be setup, maintained and monitored below the working area.	5	1	5

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Risk of Fire during re-fuelling operations Burns, serious injury, fatality	5	3	15	See ATMRA020/89 Re-fuelling of equipment.	5	1	5
Manual Handling Cuts, sprains, strains, musculoskeletal disorders	3	3	9	All ATM Ltd's operatives have undergone Manual Handling training.	3	2	6
Slips, Trips and Falls Cuts, abrasions	3	3	9	All staff are to take care when working on any uneven ground or adverse weather conditions. Any such hazards should be briefed out during the start of shift briefing and recorded on the point of work risk assessment. Operatives shall be required to wear suitable safety footwear when completing work activities and ensure they keep their footwear free from muck build up, to maintain good grip. Ensure that and vehicle access points, steps etc are free from mud.	3	2	6

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