



ATM-RISK ASSESSMENT

TASK:	Strimming / Brush Cutting	RA No:	ATMRA2020/043				
EQUIPMENT / MATERIALS USED	This assessment covers the cutting/trimming of grass or vegetation in small areas or around obstacles which make the use of mowers unsuitable. – Petrol Powered Strimmer.						
PERSONS AT RISK:	OPERATOR, PERSONS IN THE VICINITY, OTHER EMPLOYEES, CONTRACTORS, VISITORS, MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC. (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
Collision with moving vehicles Serious injury, fatality	5	3	15	<p>All staff are to wear high visibility clothing.</p> <p>Operatives are to ensure that all vehicle warning signs lights etc, are used when leaving and entering any live carriage way.</p> <p>Where practical, road closures will be sought prior to any strimming works being carried out.</p> <p>Staff are to remain vigilant at all times.</p> <p>Staff are not to cross live carriage ways when using any strimming equipment.</p>	5	1	5
Flying/ejected debris Cuts, abrasions, eye injuries	3	3	9	<p>All users are to be adequately trained in safe methods of operation.</p> <p>Before use, operators are to carry out visual inspections of the machine to ensure that all guards, stop switches, filters and exhaust silencers etc are secure and in working order.</p> <p>Operators are to be vigilant to the presence of others, including other operators especially those entering areas where debris is likely to be thrown.</p> <p>Correct PPE appropriate to operation</p>	3	2	6
Manual handling & general fatigue Back pain, discomfort, musculoskeletal disorders	3	3	9	<p>Fatigue can cause serious accidents and fatigue is more likely in different situations such as working up and down slopes.</p> <p>Operatives are to take regular breaks if they experience fatigue.</p> <p>Operatives are also to ensure that they have sufficient supplies of fresh drinking water before any strimming operations commence.</p>	3	2	6

ATMRA2020/043	Original Author: Rob Whamond Reviewed By : Dale Nelson	Date: 05-09-2021 Next Review Date: 01-06-2022	05-09-2021 01-06-2022
Use the table below to calculate the severity and likelihood. (Severity X Likelihood = RISK) 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.		Use the table below to indicate whether the Residual Risk Rating is: <div style="text-align: center;"> 1 – 6 = Low Risk 7 – 11 = Medium Risk 12+ = High Risk </div>	
		Page 1 of 4	



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HAZARD / RISK	RISK LEVEL			CONTROL MEASURES	RESIDUAL RISK		
	S	L	RL		S	L	RL
Risk of Fire during re-fuelling operations Burns, serious injury, fatality	5	3	15	See ATMRA2020/89 Re-fuelling of equipment.	5	1	5
Slips, Trips and Falls Cuts, abrasions	3	3	9	A visual site survey should be carried out prior to any strimming tasks taking place, in order to identify any potential problems with regard to possible trip, slip or fall hazards. Care is to be take at all times whilst working on slopes. All ATM operatives are to wear the ATM standard PPE equipment as issued to them upon joining the company. 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.	3	2	6
Noise Hearing damage Vibration Loss of dexterity, Vibration white finger	4	3	12	Operatives will only use this equipment in accordance with the company safe HAV exposure Limits All operatives will be provided with health surveillance for both noise and HAVS. Both noise and vibration assessments have been carried out for this equipment All operatives have been provided with adequate hearing protections which they are to wear when carrying out this type of operation. Where possible, strimming tasks are to be rotated in order to reduce possible exposure times. All ATM controls for noise producing equipment shall be compliant with Control of Noise at Work Regulations All ATM controls for vibrating equipment shall be compliant with the Control of Vibration at Work Regulations	4	2	8

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	S	L	RL		S	L	RL
Using trimmer with a blade or a circular blade, moving parts, flying debris Cuts, abrasions, serious injury	4	3	12	<p>All users are to be adequately trained in safe methods of operation.</p> <p>Before use, operators are to carry out visual inspections of the machine to ensure that all guards, stop switches, filters and exhaust silencers etc are secure and in working order.</p> <p>Before using, check the tightness of the nuts for blade. All operatives to be trained in the use of fitting blades to trimmers.</p> <p>Metal blades are only to be used on heavy/woody vegetation where cord is not suitable.</p> <p>Correct PPE appropriate to operation, E.G Forestry Spec safety helmet with integrated visor and ear protection, Gloves, Hi vis work wear and safety boots.</p> <p>Metal blades should not be used for clearance around structures/street furniture or other fixed obstructions. Where this can't be avoided due to heavy/woody vegetation then an un-trimmed margin of 1 meter is to be left and cleared with a corded head or by hand.</p> <p>All operatives are to keep a safe working distance from each other, a minimum of 15m.</p> <p>Operators are to be vigilant to the presence of others, including other operators especially those entering areas where debris is likely to be thrown.</p>	4	2	8
Contact with items that present a hazard (Unburied Cables, traffic signs laid in the grass, large waste items, misc debris)	5	3	15	<p>Day shift A nominated spotter shall walk along the hard shoulder, no more the 500 meters ahead of the rest of the operations team performing de-vegetation works, to identify any potential hazards within the verge.</p> <p>Night Shift A nominated spotter shall walk along the hard shoulder, no more the 200 meters ahead of the rest of the operations team performing de-vegetation works, to identify any potential hazards within the verge.</p> <p>Any potential hazards identified in the working area shall be removed only if safe to do so.</p> <p>Items that cannot be removed safely are to be marked in an appropriate manner to the working conditions. During day shifts, spray markings maybe used. During night shifts, operatives shall use a twin / double lamp system.</p> <p>In all cases, the spotter shall communicate any findings with all the operatives onsite conducting vegetation clearance.</p>	5	1	5

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Contact with wild animals and nesting birds (including nest and habitats)	5	3	15	<p>Operatives removing vegetation in any area shall perform a walkthrough of the site to identify features highlighting the presence of wildlife that could be injured by clearance operations.</p> <p>Operatives shall remain vigilant throughout vegetation clearance, as it cannot be assumed that all animals will run away from noisy equipment and machines.</p> <p>If features are identified, they are to be reported to the site supervisor and the contract manager to ensure proper handling if they impact on the work.</p> <p>ATM will ensure that operations are compliant with regulations and laws protecting wildlife that maybe effected by its operations.</p> <p>Where possible ATM shall employ ecologists to monitor and identify key features on a site.</p>	5	1	5

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