



Excavations

Only enter excavations when it is safe to do so. Excavations can cause serious injury in the event of collapse.

- A permit to excavate/dig must be in place and approved by the PSCS, before dig commences.
- All excavations must be risk assessed by a competent person. Where entry is required, an inspection must be completed daily and recorded on a AF3.
- Lower risk excavations, from 1.25m to 3m deep, a TWC should, using a design brief, assess the type of temporary works required (proprietary trench support system, battering, stepping of excavation sides etc. as determined by risk assessment).
- The use of any non-proprietary excavation supports including struts or bracing must be certified by a TWD.
- Higher risk excavations of any depth and all excavations >3m deep, requires a site-specific temporary work design, based on a design brief and certified by a TWD.
- Safe and unobstructed access and egress must be provided at all times.
- Works must only be carried out within trench support, where provided.
- Where there is a risk of persons falling into an excavation it must be fenced or securely covered.
- Protect excavations against unauthorised access, storage of materials, spoil, plant, equipment, and deliveries.

S|A|F|E

Stop and Think 'What are the hazards in this scenario?' 'What could go wrong?'

Assess the task, the work area, and the equipment.

Follow the procedures, protocols, and method statement.

Engage with your supervisor if an aspect of the task changes and requires deviation from the plan.