



Risk Assessment – Use of Excavator.

Company:	SES Engineering (Newark) Ltd	Date:	16.05.2022	Review Date:	16.05.2023	Ref:	SES/0038
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Operation:	Use of Excavator.			Persons at risk:	Employees, 3 rd parties		
HAZARD	Assessment			CONTROL MEASURES TO REDUCE THE RISK	Re-assessment		
	S	L	R		S	L	R
Operator error.	4	3	12	Only trained, competent, certified, and authorised personnel are to operate excavator. Certification must be held also for attachments where these are used. Persons taking medication should consult their line manager prior to operating. Never to be operated under the influence of alcohol or drugs.	4	1	4
Mechanical Failure.	4	4	16	At the beginning of every working shift or day, visual safety checks must be carried out. If any defects are found remove from service immediately and inform line manager. Weekly inspection to be recorded. To be maintained by competent persons only.	4	1	4
Collision.	4	4	16	Operate the excavator in a safe controlled manner, only in areas designated and in good lighting conditions only. Sound horn before emerging from behind a blind corner and reduce speed to an appropriate level. When not in use the excavator should be isolated with keys kept in a separate, secure location. Reverse alarms to be fitted, and in use at all times.	3	2	6
Explosions and fire.	4	3	12	Ensure that the excavator is fit for use and has no defects e.g., leaking fuel pipes, by doing a pre-use check and recording the findings. Report any problems. Refuelling to take place in designated area only.	4	1	4
Striking of overhead lines.	4	4	16	Undertaking of excavation work close to, or below such lines should be carefully considered and avoided where possible. Contact the electricity company to agree diversion of supply, safe working distances or any other safety precautions. Highly visible barriers and solid goalposts should be erected at the set safe distance, which will be determined in accordance with electricity company and GS6 requirements. Height restrictors (set in accordance with electricity company advice) should be in place on all plant working in direct proximity to lines. Ground directly under power lines should be inspected to guarantee that surface has no hidden gradients or gullies which in effect could render the height restrictors ineffective and increase the likelihood of the plant coming into contact with the lines.	4	1	4
Other personnel.	4	3	12	Make sure that other personnel are aware of the operation and that no persons are within close proximity of the excavator during operation. Always drive carefully and slowly when pedestrians are about and never trap a person, so they have no means of escape. Always remember that it is the driver's responsibility to be aware of pedestrians. Reverse alarms to be fitted and in use at all times.	4	1	4



Trapping.	4	3	12	Do not place arms, legs, hands, or head between any working parts of the machine. Always keep to the confines of the truck. Never allow anyone to stand or walk near the excavator when in use.	4	1	4
Excessive Speed.	4	4	16	All drivers, vehicles will obey the site-specific speed limits and will obey vehicle and pedestrian signage.	4	1	4
Pedestrian movements.	4	4	16	Pedestrians to always use designated footpaths and walkways and wherever use pedestrian crossings. Vehicle drivers to be aware of pedestrians at crossings.	4	1	4
Reversing.	4	4	16	Minimise the need for reversing operations. Keep personnel clear of areas where vehicles need to reverse. Provide markings to guide drivers. Ensure that banksman is used when reversing. Ensure rotating beacons, reverse alarms and reverse cameras are used and are all in working order.	4	1	4
Parking.	3	3	15	Vehicles should be parked in designated parking bays. Reversing into bays is preferred wherever possible to make exiting the bay safer. Do not obstruct vehicle or pedestrian routes and it must be safe to enter/exit the vehicle.	3	1	3

Likelihood →	Likely	Probable	Possible	Unlikely	Very unlikely
↓ Severity	(5)	(4)	(3)	(2)	(1)
Death (4)	20	16	12	8	4
Major Injury (3)	15	12	9	6	3
Minor Injury (2)	10	8	6	4	2
No Injury (1)	5	4	3	2	1

KEY: S = Severity

L = Likelihood

R = Risk rating

12-20 High risk
8-10 Medium risk
1-6 Low risk

PPE Required:

Hard hat	Y
High vis clothing & boots	Y
Eye/ ear protection	Y
Suitable gloves	Y
Respiratory equipment	As necessary
Safety harness	Y

Risk assessment to be reviewed every 12 months or following an accident / incident.