

# SAFETY & ENVIRONMENTAL PROCEDURES

## Demolition

### **1.0 INTRODUCTION**

Demolition and dismantling includes the deliberate pulling down, destruction or taking apart of a structure, or a substantial part of a structure. It includes dismantling for re-erection or re-use. Demolition does not include operations such as making openings for doors, windows or services or removing non structural elements such as cladding, roof tiles or scaffolding. These operations may, however, form part of demolition or dismantling work when carried out alongside other activities.

Demolition is a high-risk activity involving a number of intrinsic hazards that must be considered in order to produce an adequate safe system of work.

Essentially, but not exclusively, these hazards are:

- (a) Persons falling from height
- (b) Materials falling from height
- (c) Injury from electricity, gas, water and pressurised supplies
- (d) Unintended collapse of building/structure/s
- (e) Unintended collapse of temporary works
- (f) Contact with plant and machinery
- (g) Contact with or the release of harmful substances/Asbestos/noise/vibration
- (h) Fire and explosion
- (i) Unauthorised entry by third parties

This procedure applies to all related works undertaken by "company", their sub-contractors and service providers.

### **2.0 LEGISLATION**

Demolition or dismantling work is covered by various pieces of legislation including:-

- Health & Safety at Work Act 1974
- The Management of Health & Safety at Work Regulations 1999
- Construction (design & management) regulations 2007

There are many other pieces of legislation that are relevant to demolition which are too numerous to list out. Advice should be sought from your local SEA.

### **4.0 PROCEDURE**

The Project Management Team will at the Initial Risk Assessment meeting review the project and identify all demolition or dismantling work.

Consideration will then be given to the method, sequence, specific risk areas and any specialist advice / contractors that may be required.

A specialist demolition contractor must carry out demolition works with significant risk.

Specialist contractors must be able to demonstrate competence in their specialist field.

Such competence could include membership to the National Federation of Demolition Contractors, able to demonstrate the competence of their workforce.

A competent structural engineer must independently check all significant temporary works in accordance with the Temporary Works Procedure.

Adequate risk assessment and method statements must be available and communicated to those involved prior to work commencing.

Relevant information and instructions must be produced and communicated at specific safety briefings to all persons involved in the demolition.

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Provide adequate management and supervision to monitor contractor's safety performance to ensure statutory compliance. Consult the demolition checklist to help ensure key issues have been addressed. Reference should be made to relevant standards and to BS 6187 "The Code of Practice for Demolition"

### **5.0 ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

5.1 Your local H&S ADVISOR can provide specific in depth advice on all of the topics mentioned above. The HSE website also has information regarding Demolition ([www.hse.gov.uk](http://www.hse.gov.uk)) and the GE 700 CITB manual can also be consulted. An additional hazard which people often here about is WEILS DISSEASE, the following link contains information on this subject

### **REFERENCE**

CITB Construction Site Safety Notes GE 700  
BS 6187 "The Code of Practice for Demolition"

### **6.0 CHECKLIST**

1. Is the method of demolition clearly defined for all parts of the structure? i.e.: Hand, Piecemeal, Progressive, Mechanical.
2. What mechanical means are to be used? i.e., 180° and 360° machine fitted with:- Grab, Crusher, Demolition pole, Hydraulic breakers.
3. How will machines be inspected and maintained?
4. Are mobile cranes to be used?
5. With or without a demolition ball?
6. How will the integrity of the crane be monitored?
7. Are the training requirements of all plant/machine operatives defined?
8. What are the access/egress requirements at every stage of demolition? This is of particular importance when scaffold is in use to ensure adequate ties remain in place.
9. How will falls from edges, floors, roofs and into voids, cellars, etc. be prevented?
10. Are the requirements for restricted areas, exclusion zones, signs and demarcations set out?
11. Any specific requirements for the protection of the public?
12. Written confirmation will be required from the buildings owner or statutory authorities that all services are disconnected. Is this clear?
13. How will noise and dust emissions be kept to a minimum?
14. Are there any adjacent structures and if so is there a shoring/design requirement?
15. What is the labour requirement and how will they be supervised? What hours are they expected to work?
16. What PPE is required?
17. Are there any hazardous substances? e.g., lead paint, asbestos, mineral fibres.
18. Are the operatives competent?

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