

CLEAN-DOWN OF SETTLED DUST

ACTIVITY RAMS — ADAPT TO SITE BEFORE USE

Before following trades enter · no dry sweeping · M/H-class vacuums · fit-tested RPE · asbestos and lead stops

KD-RA-LG-005 Rev A0

Statutory basis: COSHH 2002 regs 6 and 7 with HSE ACOP L5 (6th edition, 2013) for assessing and controlling dust exposure; EH40/2005 (4th edition, 2020) for the workplace exposure limits; HSE HSG53 (4th edition, 2013) and HSE INDG479 (2019) for RPE selection and fit testing; Control of Asbestos Regulations 2012 for suspect asbestos found during the clean; CDM 2015 regs 13 and 15. This document is the recorded safe system of work required by HSWA 1974 s.2(2)(a) and MHSWR 1999 regs 3 and 5.

1 DOCUMENT AND PROJECT IDENTIFICATION

RAMS REFERENCE	PROJECT / SITE REF	SITE NAME AND ADDRESS	DATE PREPARED	NEXT REVIEW DATE
CLIENT / PRINCIPAL CONTRACTOR	PLANNED START	DURATION	OPERATIVES	SUPERVISING THE WORK

2 SCOPE OF WORKS

Cleaning down floors, surfaces, ledges and voids after soft strip, hard strip and demolition, before following trades enter: removal of settled construction dust — respirable crystalline silica, wood dust and mixed debris — by vacuum and damp methods, with the RPE, clothing decontamination and air monitoring that go with it, and the stop for suspect asbestos or lead.

This document does not cover: dust suppression and boundary monitoring while demolition or breaking is under way (KD-RA-DM-003), the strip-out and demolition work itself (KD-RAMS-DM-001 to DM-004), cleaning of asbestos debris of any kind (asbestos contractor only), cleaning where lead paint has been disturbed (KD-RAMS-LD-002), and routine builders' cleans in finished areas (KD-RAMS-SL-001).

SITE-SPECIFIC SCOPE, LOCATIONS AND LIMITATIONS

3 RISK ASSESSMENT — SCORE EACH RISK FOR THIS SITE, THEN ADD WHAT IS MISSING

The hazards and controls below are the starting point for this activity, written by a working main contractor. They are not complete for your site until a competent person has scored each risk, added the site-specific hazards, and struck out anything that does not apply. Rate risks High / Medium / Low before and after controls.

1. Silica and wood dust inhaled as settled dust is disturbed

At risk: Cleaners, following trades

Controls: No dry sweeping and no compressed air: settled dust lifted with M-class or H-class vacuums and damp wiping; heavy debris lightly damped before shovelling; worked from high to low towards the exit. The workplace exposure limits in EH40/2005 (4th edition, 2020) — respirable crystalline silica 0.1 mg/m³, hardwood dust 3 mg/m³ and softwood dust 5 mg/m³, all 8-hour time-weighted averages — are ceilings, not targets; where hardwood and softwood dust are mixed, the hardwood limit applies.

INITIAL (H/M/L)	RESIDUAL (H/M/L)	SITE-SPECIFIC ADDITIONAL CONTROLS, OR N/A	ACTION OWNER	BY WHEN

2. RPE not protecting — wrong type, poor fit or facial hair

At risk: Cleaners

Controls: RPE of the protection the COSHH assessment specifies, FFP3 or better for silica dust; tight-fitting facepieces fit-tested for each wearer and worn clean-shaven where the seal sits, as HSE HSG53 (4th edition, 2013) and HSE INDG479 (2019) describe; RPE on before entering the area and removed last, after leaving it.

INITIAL (H/M/L)	RESIDUAL (H/M/L)	SITE-SPECIFIC ADDITIONAL CONTROLS, OR N/A	ACTION OWNER	BY WHEN

3. Dust carried out of the area on clothing

At risk: Cleaners, others

Controls: No brushing or blowing dust off clothing; disposable coveralls vacuumed down with an M-class or H-class vacuum, or removed inside out and bagged, before leaving the area; work clothing not taken home unbagged.

INITIAL (H/M/L)	RESIDUAL (H/M/L)	SITE-SPECIFIC ADDITIONAL CONTROLS, OR N/A	ACTION OWNER	BY WHEN

4. Vacuums spreading dust — wrong class, full bags or damaged filters

At risk: Cleaners, others nearby

Controls: M-class vacuums as a minimum, H-class where the assessment requires; filters and bags checked before use and changed as the manufacturer directs; bags sealed before removal; domestic vacuums never used.

INITIAL (H/M/L)	RESIDUAL (H/M/L)	SITE-SPECIFIC ADDITIONAL CONTROLS, OR N/A	ACTION OWNER	BY WHEN

5. Suspect asbestos debris in dust, debris or voids

At risk: Cleaners, everyone downstream

Controls: The refurbishment and demolition asbestos survey checked for the area before cleaning; any suspect fibrous material, board fragments or lagging debris: STOP, withdraw, keep people out and report under the site discovery procedure (Control of Asbestos Regulations 2012).

INITIAL (H/M/L)	RESIDUAL (H/M/L)	SITE-SPECIFIC ADDITIONAL CONTROLS, OR N/A	ACTION OWNER	BY WHEN

6. Lead dust where old paintwork was stripped

At risk: Cleaners

Controls: Where lead paint has been disturbed, or the survey or age of the building suggests it may have been, the clean is not done under this document — it follows the lead assessment and method in KD-RAMS-LD-002.

INITIAL (H/M/L)	RESIDUAL (H/M/L)	SITE-SPECIFIC ADDITIONAL CONTROLS, OR N/A	ACTION OWNER	BY WHEN

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7. Dust escaping to occupied or finished areas

At risk: Occupants, other trades

Controls: Area kept sealed with sheeted screens and closed doors until the clean is finished; waste bagged and sealed inside and removed by the agreed route; any negative pressure units left by the strip-out kept running and checked.

INITIAL (H/M/L)	RESIDUAL (H/M/L)	SITE-SPECIFIC ADDITIONAL CONTROLS, OR N/A	ACTION OWNER	BY WHEN

8. Exposure not known for this clean

At risk: Cleaners

Controls: Where the COSHH assessment cannot show from published data or earlier measurements that exposure is adequately controlled, personal air sampling by a competent occupational hygienist during the first clean, with the results briefed to the team.

INITIAL (H/M/L)	RESIDUAL (H/M/L)	SITE-SPECIFIC ADDITIONAL CONTROLS, OR N/A	ACTION OWNER	BY WHEN

9. Nails, glass and blades in the debris

At risk: Cleaners

Controls: Rigger gloves for debris picking; sharps into rigid containers; no hands into voids unsighted — torch and tool first.

INITIAL (H/M/L)	RESIDUAL (H/M/L)	SITE-SPECIFIC ADDITIONAL CONTROLS, OR N/A	ACTION OWNER	BY WHEN

Site-specific hazards not listed above — every site has at least one:

HAZARD	WHO IS AT RISK	CONTROLS	INITIAL HI...	RESIDUAL...	ACTION OWNER	BY WHEN

4 METHOD — SEQUENCE OF WORK

- Confirm the strip-out or demolition is complete in the area, the asbestos survey covers it, and whether lead paint was disturbed.
- Brief the COSHH assessment — dust types, exposure limits, methods, RPE, clothing decontamination and waste route.
- Check fit-test records and that each wearer is clean-shaven where the seal sits; issue RPE and coveralls.
- Check vacuums — class, filters, bags and hoses — and podiums (not steps) for high-level ledges.
- Keep the area sealed; set up the waste bagging and coverall removal point inside it.
- Lightly damp and pick up heavy debris; sharps into rigid containers.
- Vacuum from high to low — ledges, services, walls, then floors — working towards the exit.
- Damp-wipe what the vacuum cannot finish; no dry sweeping or blowing down.
- Stop and withdraw on finding suspect asbestos or signs of lead paint, if a vacuum fails, or if dust becomes visible in the air.
- Carry out air sampling where the assessment requires it and record the results.
- Seal and remove waste bags; vacuum down or remove coveralls inside out and bag them; clean vacuums before they leave the area.
- Leave the area, then remove RPE; wash before breaks; hand the area back once it has been inspected clean.

SITE-SPECIFIC AMENDMENTS TO THE SEQUENCE

5 PLANT, EQUIPMENT AND MATERIALS

- | | |
|--|---------------------------------|
| M-class or H-class vacuums with spare filters and bags | Heavy-duty waste sacks and ties |
| Damp-wiping materials and hand sprayers | Sheeted screens |
| Rigid sharps containers | Podiums for high-level ledges |

INSPECTION / THOROUGH EXAMINATION REFS

COSHH ASSESSMENT REFS

6 PPE — THE LAST LINE OF CONTROL, NOT THE FIRST

- | | | |
|-----------------|---------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Head protection | Gloves — task-rated | FFP3 or better RPE, face-fit tested |
| Safety footwear | Eye protection | Disposable coveralls |
| High visibility | Hearing protection | |

RPE TYPE, FACE-FIT STATUS, AND ANY OTHER PPE REQUIRED

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7 PERMITS REQUIRED BEFORE THIS WORK STARTS

A permit authorises this work in that place, on that day. It extends the safe system of work in this document — it does not replace it (HSE HSG250). The site issues the permit; record its number before work starts.

KD-PTW-PE-009 — Permit to Enter

Where the clean-down is in a live or occupied building.

PERMIT NUMBER

8 EMERGENCY ARRANGEMENTS — COMPLETE FOR THIS SITE

FIRST AIDER AND LOCATION

NEAREST A&E

ASSEMBLY POINT

HOW THE ALARM IS RAISED

EMERGENCY ACCESS FOR THIS WORK AREA

SPILL / ENVIRONMENTAL RESPONSE

9 BRIEFING RECORD — EVERYONE WORKING UNDER THIS RAMS SIGNS BEFORE STARTING

By signing you confirm the contents of this RAMS have been explained to you, you understand the hazards and controls, and you will work to the sequence stated. Tell the supervisor if the work or the site does not match this document — work stops until it does.

NAME	COMPANY	SIGNATURE	DATE

10 PREPARED AND ACCEPTED

Prepared / adapted for this site by — I confirm I have adapted this document to the site, scored the risks, and that it describes how the work will actually be done.

PRINTED NAME	ROLE / COMPETENCE	COMPANY	SIGNATURE	DATE	TIME

Accepted for the site by — principal contractor or site manager review.

PRINTED NAME	ROLE	COMPANY	SIGNATURE	DATE	TIME

Review this RAMS if the work, the site or the law changes, and at least before each new phase of the works. Flatten the completed PDF before filing so the record cannot be silently edited.

R REVISION HISTORY

Every revision of this document, and every review that found nothing to change. The revision on the front of this sheet is the one you are holding — check kubitdocs.com for the current one before use.

Rev	Date	Class	What changed	Authorised by
D0	2026-09-11	first-issue	First issue.	— not yet approved —
A0	2026-09-11	review	Approved for issue by the author. Content unchanged from the reviewed draft; the draft status strip is removed. No independent third-party review has been carried out.	Author — director, UK principal contractor, SMSTS. Not an independent review.

Class: first-issue · material (the law, a control, a field or the scope changed — past buyers are notified) · editorial (wording or layout only) · review (checked, nothing changed) · withdrawal. Revision prefix D = draft, not approved and not for sale; A = approved for issue by the person named, on the date shown.