

CUTTING AND REMOVAL OF STRUCTURAL OPENINGS

ACTIVITY RAMS — ADAPT TO SITE BEFORE USE

New openings in walls and floors · diamond cutting · needle and prop

KD-RAMS-DM-005 Rev A0

Statutory basis: CDM 2015 reg 20 — demolition or dismantling must be planned and carried out so as to prevent danger, and the arrangements recorded in writing before the work begins; this document is part of that record. BS 6187:2011 practice. HSWA 1974 s.2(2)(a) and MHSWR 1999 regs 3 and 5; COSHH 2002 for silica and dust, against the workplace exposure limits in EH40/2005 (4th edition, 2020); CAR 2012 for asbestos.

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

Forming structural openings: needle and propping, diamond cutting (track, wire and floor saws), removal of the cut element, and installation interface for new supports, to the engineer's design.

This document does not cover: design of the opening and supports (the engineer's), and openings in post-tensioned elements.

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. Unplanned collapse of structure or elements

At risk: Operatives, everyone nearby

Controls: Demolition sequence from the temporary works engineer where stability is affected; no removal of structure outside the written sequence; props and back-propping installed before cutting; daily condition checks; exclusion zones sized to the element being dropped.

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

2. Respirable silica and general dust from cutting and drilling

At risk: Operatives, others in the area

Controls: On-tool extraction (M-class) or wet suppression; RPE to the COSHH assessment (FFP3, face-fit tested) where extraction cannot adequately control exposure; sheet and segregate the work area in occupied buildings.

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

3. Noise from cutting, fixing and plant

At risk: Operatives, others in the area

Controls: Select quieter methods and tools where practicable; hearing protection in designated zones and for noisy operations; agree noisy-works windows with the occupier in occupied buildings.

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

4. Striking live services during strip-out or demolition

At risk: Operatives

Controls: All services isolated, proved dead and capped before strip-out starts — recorded on the isolation certificate; CAT-scan before cutting into any surface; any unrecorded service found = stop and reassess.

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

5. Manual handling of boards, materials and components

At risk: Operatives

Controls: Mechanical aids first — trolleys, board lifters, hoists. Two-person lifts for boards and long components; order materials in manageable sizes; plan storage close to the workforce; keep carrying routes clear and lit.

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

6. Falling and flying debris

At risk: Operatives, others below and beyond

Controls: Exclusion zones enforced; debris netting and fans where work is above access routes; drop zones agreed and cleared; no debris dropped through voids without a controlled chute or drop zone.

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

7. Work at height from steps, podiums, towers or MEWPs

At risk: Operatives, and anyone below

Controls: Select access by the Work at Height hierarchy — podium or tower before steps; MEWPs by trained (IPAF) operators only. Inspect access equipment before use, establish an exclusion below overhead work, and secure tools and materials against dropping.

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

8. Uncontrolled release of the cut element

At risk: Operatives, those below

Controls: Support the cut piece before the final cut — chain blocks, props or machine; never let a cut element fall; plan the lowering and removal route before cutting starts.

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

9. Water and slurry from diamond cutting

At risk: Operatives, the building

Controls: Slurry contained and collected — never into drains; water management for cutting over occupied or live areas; electrical protection for wet cutting equipment.

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 H/...	RESIDUAL...	ACTION OWNER	BY WHEN

4 METHOD — SEQUENCE OF WORK

- 01 Engineer's design for the opening and temporary support received; propping installed and checked before any cutting.
- 02 Scan and confirm no live services cross the cut lines; isolate and divert first.
- 03 Establish exclusion both sides of the element; protect below for floor openings.
- 04 Cut with water suppression; support the piece before the closing cut; lower under control.
- 05 Remove arisings; install the permanent support to the design before loading the structure.
- 06 Contain and dispose of slurry; leave edge protection at floor openings.

SITE-SPECIFIC AMENDMENTS TO THE SEQUENCE

5 PLANT, EQUIPMENT AND MATERIALS

- Track / wire / floor saws
- Props and needles

- Chain blocks and lifting points
- Slurry management

INSPECTION / THOROUGH EXAMINATION REFS

COSHH ASSESSMENT REFS

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

- Head protection
- Safety footwear
- High visibility

- Gloves — task-rated
- Eye protection
- Hearing protection

- FFP3 RPE
- Wet-work gloves

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

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-GP-003 — General Permit to Work

Where the site requires a permit for structural alterations.

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	2026-08-09	first-issue	First issue.	— not yet approved —
D1	2026-08-10	material	BS 6187 dated to the 2011 edition; respirable crystalline silica cited against EH40/2005 (4th edition, 2020). Legislation position reviewed against Product Legislation Register KD-REG-01 Rev R01.3 and the August 2026 horizon scan; cutoff moved to 10 August 2026.	— not yet approved —
A0	2026-08-27	review	Approved for issue by the author. Content unchanged from D1; 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.