

RETAIL STRIP-OUT WITHIN A TRADING ENVIRONMENT

ACTIVITY RAMS — ADAPT TO SITE BEFORE USE

Soft strip of a retail unit behind hoarding while the centre trades

KD-RAMS-SF-001 Rev A0

Statutory basis: HSWA 1974 s.2(2)(a) and MHSWR 1999 regs 3 and 5 — this document is the recorded safe system of work. CDM 2015 applies in full to fit-out: shopfitting projects routinely have more than one contractor, and the mall or landlord interface does not displace the duty-holders. HSG151 (2nd edition, 2009) governs the boundary with the public — a trading mall is a public place held back from the work by hoarding, not by goodwill. The Work at Height Regulations 2005, COSHH 2002 and the Manual Handling Operations Regulations 1992 apply as the activities require. Landlord and centre-management rules (permits to work, night-works windows, fire watch conditions) are conditions of access and are treated as site rules. Prepared against legislation current at 10/08/2026.

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

Soft strip of an existing retail unit — fixtures, finishes, ceilings, non-structural partitions and redundant services — behind hoarding, within a trading centre or street frontage.

This document does not cover: structural demolition and slab breaking (KD-RAMS-DM series), licensed or notifiable asbestos work, and any strip-out before the asbestos survey for the unit is in hand.

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. Work beside the trading public — the mall, the street, the neighbouring units

At risk: Public, neighbouring traders, operatives

Controls: Solid hoarding to the landlord's specification before any work behind it; deliveries and waste through the service corridors and in the windows the centre sets; no materials, leads or plant in the mall; dust and noise held inside the unit — noisy and dusty work in the agreed windows only; the centre's permit and induction conditions treated as site rules.

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

2. Services of the unit and its neighbours hidden in walls, floors and ceilings

At risk: Operatives, neighbouring traders

Controls: The unit's isolation confirmed and locked off before strip-out; scan and trace before cutting or fixing into any surface; the landlord's record drawings requested and their limits respected — a mall wall carries the neighbour's services too; anything found live and unexpected stops the task until identified.

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

3. Disturbing asbestos-containing materials in existing buildings

At risk: Operatives, building occupants

Controls: Check the asbestos register before any intrusive work (CAR 2012). No register, or unclear entries, means stop and refer. If suspect material is found: STOP, withdraw, secure the area and report it — the discovery procedure applies before any further work.

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

4. 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 workplace; 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

5. 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

6. 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

7. Slips, trips and housekeeping*At risk: Everyone in the work area*

Controls: Keep the workface clear, remove waste and offcuts as they are created, route leads at high level or under mats, and maintain task lighting.

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

8. Falling fixtures and suspended elements during strip*At risk: Operatives*

Controls: Strip top-down; suspended ceilings dropped in bays with the area below clear; fixtures supported before their fixings are cut; nothing left part-detached at a break.

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 Centre induction and permits in place; hoarding complete and signed off by the landlord before the first fixture moves.
- 02 Unit isolations confirmed — electric, water, gas where present — locked off and proved dead at the point of work.
- 03 Asbestos survey for the unit reviewed with the gang; any suspect material stops the task under the stop-work procedure.
- 04 Soft strip top-down — ceilings, then wall finishes and fixtures, then floor finishes — waste bagged or binned as it is made.
- 05 Redundant services cut back only when proved dead, capped and labelled at the point of disconnection.
- 06 Waste out through the service route in the agreed windows; the mall face inspected at every break and end of shift.

SITE-SPECIFIC AMENDMENTS TO THE SEQUENCE

5 PLANT, EQUIPMENT AND MATERIALS

- Podium steps and low-level access
- Waste cages and skips via the service corridor
- 110V reciprocating saws and breakers for fixture removal

INSPECTION / THOROUGH EXAMINATION REFS

COSHH ASSESSMENT REFS

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

- Head protection
- Gloves — task-rated
- FFP3 where strip generates dust
- Safety footwear
- Eye protection
- High visibility
- Hearing protection

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

PERMIT NUMBER

Where the centre or principal contractor operates a permit system for strip-out

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	2026-08-31	first-issue	First issue.	— not yet approved —
D1	2026-08-31	review	Reviewed against the internal H&S director's batch findings; no change to this document.	— not yet approved —
A0	2026-08-31	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.