

Statutory basis: LOLER 1998 reg 8 for planning, supervising and carrying out lifting operations safely; BS 7121-1:2016 for the lift plan; HSE HSG144 (2nd edition, 2009) for plant movements and marshalling; The Health and Safety (Safety Signs and Signals) Regulations 1996 for hand signals; HSE GS6 (4th edition, 2013) for plant and loads near overhead power lines; 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

The signaller's task in lifting operations and in plant movements within a work area where the operator cannot see the load or the travel path: agreeing the signal code, positioning the signaller, hand signals and radio procedure, relaying for blind lifts, and what happens when communication is lost.

This document does not cover: vehicle reversing, gate control and delivery marshalling on site roads (KD-RAMS-SL-004), slinging and rigging the load (KD-RA-PL-001), and the lift plan and crane operation (KD-RAMS-PL-003).

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. Conflicting or misread signals — more than one person signalling

At risk: Operator, slingers, everyone in the lift or travel path

Controls: One named signaller per operation, identified to the operator by a tabard or armband marked for the role; the only signal anyone else may give is the emergency stop; the code agreed and demonstrated with the operator before the first movement.

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

2. Signaller out of the operator's view or standing in the danger zone

At risk: Signaller

Controls: Positioned where the operator sees them clearly and they see the load or travel path — never between the load and a fixed object, under the load, in the plant's travel line or blind spot — with an escape route kept open; the signaller moves only when the load or plant has stopped.

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

3. Blind lifts — nobody sees both the load and the operator

At risk: Everyone at the pick-up and landing

Controls: Blind lifts identified in the lift plan with every signalling position named; radio is the primary means with a signaller at the load; where a relay is unavoidable, the relay passes signals on and never originates them.

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

4. Radio failure, flat batteries or crosstalk on the channel

At risk: Operator, slingers

Controls: Dedicated channel agreed and tested at the working positions before the operation; charged batteries and spares at the workplace; continuous talk-through during blind lifts — if the operator hears nothing, the operator stops; other site radio traffic kept off the lifting channel.

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

5. Plant or load approaching overhead power lines

At risk: Operator, signaller, slingers

Controls: Overhead lines identified on the plan and marked on the ground; work near them only under the overhead lines permit with the exclusion and controls HSE GS6 (4th edition, 2013) sets out; the signaller watches the clearance and stops the movement before the boundary is reached.

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

6. Rain, fog, low light, glare or noise degrading signals

At risk: Signaller, operator

Controls: Signals given with deliberate full-arm movements; signal positions lit for dusk and night work; the operation suspended when the operator cannot clearly see the signaller or the load, or cannot hear the radio.

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

7. Signaller distracted or doing a second job*At risk: Everyone in the operation*

Controls: The signaller signals and does nothing else during the movement — no handling the load, phones or gates; relief at breaks only by another competent signaller briefed on the plan, with the operation stopped for the handover.

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

8. Visiting or agency operators unfamiliar with the site code*At risk: Everyone in the operation*

Controls: Hand signals follow the Schedule 1 code in The Health and Safety (Safety Signs and Signals) Regulations 1996, or an alternative code the Regulations permit, agreed and recorded in the lift plan; every operator briefed on it before the first movement and asked to demonstrate the stop, emergency stop and main signals back.

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

9. Untrained slingers, signallers or makeshift rigging*At risk: Slingers, everyone near the lift*

Controls: Slinging and signalling only by persons trained and assessed for the role, with the card (CPCS, NPORS or equivalent) checked before start; home-made accessories, knotted slings and improvised lifting points are never used.

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

- Read the lift plan or work-area plan: movements, pick-up and landing positions, blind zones, overhead lines and the named signaller.
- Agree the signal code with the operator face to face, as recorded in the lift plan; demonstrate the stop and emergency stop signals and have them confirmed back.
- For radio, set the dedicated channel, test both ways at the working positions, and confirm spare batteries.
- Take position in the operator's clear view with sight of the load or travel path and an escape route; wear the signaller identification.
- Clear the travel path and landing area; confirm slingers are out of the danger zone before the first signal.
- Signal one movement at a time; keep continuous talk-through on radio during blind lifts.
- Move position only when the load or plant has stopped, and tell the operator before moving.
- Watch overhead lines, structures and anyone entering the zone; give the stop signal at once if anything changes.
- Stop the operation if signals are unclear, the radio fails, weather or noise prevents communication, or anyone enters the zone — the operator stops on any doubt.
- Hand over only to a briefed, competent signaller with the operation stopped.
- Record near misses and communication failures the same day.

SITE-SPECIFIC AMENDMENTS TO THE SEQUENCE

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5 PLANT, EQUIPMENT AND MATERIALS

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|---|--|
| Two-way radios on a dedicated channel, with spare batteries | Exclusion barriers and signage |
| Signaller tabard or armband | Overhead line marking and goalposts where applicable |
| Lighting at signal positions for low light | |

INSPECTION / THOROUGH EXAMINATION REFS

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COSHH ASSESSMENT REFS

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

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|-----------------|---------------------|---|
| Head protection | Gloves — task-rated | Signaller tabard or armband over high-visibility clothing |
| 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-LO-008 — Lifting Operations Permit

Every lift signalled under this document runs under the permit and lift plan.

PERMIT NUMBER

KD-PTW-OH-031 — Work Near Overhead Power Lines Permit

Where plant or loads work near overhead lines.

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.