Task Risk Control Sheet

Working on or Near Batteries

RCS No: NR/L3/MTC/RCS0216/GA12
Issue: 2

Key Risks !

- **Electric Shock**
- **Fire / Explosion / Toxic Fumes**
- **Contact with acid**

Personnel Involved		
	E&P	✓
	S&T	✓
	Track	✓
	Off Track	✓
	Property	✓

Tools / Equipment	None
Plant	None

Key Risks	Controls	Implemented By
Short circuiting battery / Fire / Explosion / Toxic Fumes	• Only staff trained and competent in charging batteries shall perform task	Line Manager
	• Access to battery charging areas shall be limited to authorised personnel only • Battery charging area shall be naturally ventilated or local exhaust ventilation shall be provided • Jewellery or watches shall not be worn when working on or near batteries • Smoking or naked flames shall not be permitted within 1 metre of battery charging • Use insulated tools for connection and disconnection work • Check that exposed terminals are shrouded / covered prior to work • Follow instructions contained within the COSHH risk assessment • When charging transportable equipment only the manufacturers recommended charger shall be used	Team Leader / All Staff
Incorrect charging procedure	• Correct battery chargers shall be provided	Line Manager
	• Only trained and competent staff shall be used to charge batteries • A battery charging procedure shall be available and followed at all times	Team Leader
Contact with acid	• Provide appropriate personal protective equipment e.g. gloves, overalls and goggles/visor to BS EN166.B and chemical splash guard • Provide eye-wash facilities in charging areas • A COSHH risk assessment shall be available	Line Manager
	• Personal protective equipment shall be worn at all times • Wash splashes with copious amounts of water • Any spillages shall be cleaned with suitable material and disposed of as special waste • Follow instructions contained within the COSHH risk assessment	Team Leader / All Staff

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Key Risks	Controls	Implemented By
Electrical Hazard	• Isolate equipment if practical • Use insulated tools as required.	Team Leader All Staff
Electric shock from a faulty charger	• Planned preventative maintenance shall be performed by a trained and competent person • Undertake a visual check of the battery charge prior to use to check that there are no obvious parts that will cause an electric shock	Line Manager Team Leader / All Staff
Acid Spillage	• Examine batteries prior to movement and lifting • Check that vent caps are in place and secure before movement and lifting • Check that personal protective equipment (e.g. gloves, overalls and goggles) is worn at all times • Wash splashes with copious amounts of water • Check that any spillages are cleaned with suitable material and disposed off as special waste • Follow instructions contained within the COSHH risk assessment	Team Leader / All Staff
Chemical Hazard	• Extreme caution shall be taken when handling chemicals • No smoking or naked flames within the building. • Eye protection shall be worn at all times when handling or filling batteries. • Protective rubber gloves shall be worn at all times when handling or filling batteries. • Chemical Hazards See Task Risk Control Sheet NR/L3/MTC/RCS0216/GH03 – Biological and Chemical Hazard	Team Leader / All Staff
Battery Trays in Equipment Rooms – personal injury	• When sliding battery trays in and out fingers shall be kept away from slide mechanism and gloves shall be worn • Battery trays shall be slid out slowly to prevent full extraction of tray from its slide guides	All Staff
Installation and removal	• Manual Handling See Risk Control Sheet NR/L3/MTC/0001/GH001 – Manual Handling • Dispose of batteries safely using the correct disposal bin.	All Staff
Manual Handling	• Provide manual handling training • See Risk Control Sheet NR/L3/MTC/RCS0216 /GH01 – Manual Handling • Use mechanical means of lifting and carrying where possible • Assess the weight before lifting and arrange for team lifting if required • Team lifting shall be controlled by one person	Line Manager Team Leader / All Staff

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