TRADE AREA: CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY- PAINTING:
Some possible workplace hazards and possible ways for Host employers and Apprentices/Trainees in controlling these hazards.

What are possible hazards?	What could be possible control measures?
Hazardous Tools & equipment(e.g. disc & belt sanders, portable air compressors, spray painting equipment, high pressure water cleaners, powered drills, scrapers & knives)	• A/T training in correct use of the tools and equipment • Safe systems of work in place to ensure the tools & equipment are used as the manufacturer intended • Current MSDS available • PPE provided and A/T wears at all times when required (e.g. safety glasses or goggles, earplugs, protective gloves, overalls, safety shoes/boots) • Host has a maintenance program in place to ensure equipment is inspected regularly and withdrawn from use if it could be unsafe • Adequate supervision provided • A/T inspects tools & equipment for defects before using them • A/T aware to notify any incident or near miss to enable Host/supervisor to investigate its causes and take remedial action
Working at Heights	• Perform the task on the ground if possible • Paint can be applied with a roller, using an extendable handle to reach high walls • Fall protection devices installed (e.g. temporary work platforms or scaffolding) • Work positioning system used (e.g. a rope system to position and support the worker for the duration of the task) • Fall injury prevention system in place (e.g. an industrial safety net or a safety harness) • Ensure ladders are compliant with AS 1892 • Ladders are always visually inspected prior to use, to ensure no damage or wear has occurred that could make them unsafe • Inspect the work area prior to the commencement of work to ensure that all platforms & surfaces are stable and structurally sound • Specific risk areas clearly signposted • On-site risk assessment developed every time work is to be done at height to outline the way the hazard will be managed • Provide training to employees to provide them with the skills& knowledge to do their work safely such as training in the use of falls protection equipment etc • Monitor the work at height practices of all employees to ensure they are working safely
Dangerous goods & Hazardous substances (e.g. solvents, wood dust, paints containing lead, paint fumes, thinners, glues, fixatives)	• Adequate ventilation provided- doors & windows open where practicable • Splash guards in place where applicable • Written risk assessments conducted to identify hazardous substances and control the risks • MSDS sheets available for substances classified as hazardous/dangerous • Substances are stored safely and securely when not in use • Flammable solvents stored and dispensed in approved safety cans only • A/T trained in the safe use of hazardous/dangerous substances and the required PPE • All hazardous/dangerous substances are labeled • First aid kits provided • First aid & emergency procedures in place and communicated to A/Ts • Least hazardous product for the job used • Frequent fresh air breaks scheduled • Appropriate PPE provided (e.g. overalls, mask or respirator, appropriate footwear)
Manual handling (bending, reaching, stretching, pulling, lifting, repetitive motions,	• Mechanical load shifting devices (e.g. hand trucks, pipe trolleys) used to move materials around the site or from the site • Mechanical devises used to lift and hold pipes in position

awkward postures)	• Smaller sizes of ordered materials (e.g. cement bags of 20kg instead of 40 kg) • Walkways are clear for barrows • Avoid working in front of face and always away from the body • Sharp edges of metal sheeting and strips are covered. • Protective caps fitted to the end of all thread droppers & exposed rebars • PPE suited to the task (e.g. long trousers, boots, knee protection pads, puncture/impact/resistant gloves) • Training provided in safe manual handling techniques
Using hand tools	• Power tools are lightweight, low vibration, noise restricted and fitted with clutches and suitable for the task • Rotate workers through a variety of tasks so workers are not undertaking the same task or holding the same postures for extended periods • Shovels etc are suitable for the type of digging task, including long handles to minimize bent postures • Manual digging avoided by using mechanical excavation methods where possible • Pipe cutters used instead of hacksaws • Work gloves absorb impact energy , provide protection from sharp edges and are puncture resistant • A/T provided with instruction in safe use of hand tools
Slips, trips and falls	• Highest levels of falls protection (e.g. guard railing, scaffolds, physical barriers or elevated work platforms) • Ensure all working areas and access ways are clean, level, well-lit, in good repair and clear of potential/actual tripping hazards • Unwanted material and construction waste regularly removed from the site so it does not accumulate • Construction materials, power leads, tools and equipment positioned to avoid creating tripping hazards.
Noise	• Hearing loss prevented by using noise insulated hired, subcontracted, directly owned) equipment (e.g. silence compressors) • Barriers and screens used to block the direct path of sound • Hearing protection provided and worn when using power tools • Warning signs placed in areas of excessive & continual noise • Employees are not exposed to noise that exceeds the national exposure standard • Source of the noise is eliminated • Noisy equipment positioned away from other work areas • Powered tools are maintained to reduce noise • A/T 's exposure to excessive noise is limited • A/T trained in how to use hearing protection correctly • Audiometric tests undertaken as required
Working at ground or floor level	• Tables, benches or stands used to bring work to waist height • Tools used with extension handles (e.g. nail guns etc) to avoid bending • Personal protective equipment provided (e.g. knee pads etc) • Workers rotated through a variety of tasks
Hot weather conditions	• Work re-scheduled when extreme weather conditions present risk • Regular rest breaks provided • Water facilities available • A/T dressed appropriately for the conditions
Fire	• Fire warden in place • Fire extinguisher regularly checked • Fire evacuation drills conducted annually/six monthly • Evacuation map and procedures displayed & staff instructed in correct evacuation procedure • Surveillance system in place to spot intruders
Electric shock	• Rubber –soled shoes worn

	• Check the power is off – never assume it is • Electrical source isolated with a lockout/tagout procedure • Circuits are tested before commencing work • Work avoided in damp conditions • A non-conductive (fiberglass) ladder is used when working with electricity • Testing & tagging is current
Open flame operations	• A/T adequately trained in use of blowtorch or plumber's furnace • Devices not used in small, unventilated spaces • Explosive vapours or dust removed before work stated • An appropriate fire extinguisher is on hand • All combustible material removed
Dangerous goods & Hazardous substances (e.g. natural gas, oxyacetylene, glues, solvents)	• Adequate ventilation provided • Splash guards in place where applicable • Written risk assessments conducted to identify hazardous substances and control the risks • MSDS sheets available for substances classified as hazardous/dangerous • Substances are stored safely and securely when not in use • A/T trained in the safe use of hazardous/dangerous substances and the required PPE • All hazardous/dangerous substances are labeled • First aid kits provided • First aid & emergency procedures in place and communicated to A/Ts
Poorly maintained heating, ventilation & air conditioning	• Regular maintenance undertaken to ensure heating, ventilation and air conditioning working efficiently at all times • Appropriate personal protective equipment provided to A/Ts
Bullying and harassment	• Bullying & harassment policy displayed in the workplace • Bullying & harassment policy & procedures explained to all employees • Procedures for reporting & resolving incidents in place and explained to all employees • Workers have received information, instruction and training in relation to dealing with bullying and harassment • Workers are trained in recognition of, communication for & management of bullying & harassment • Procedures in place to ensure timely and appropriate counseling is provided to workers following a workplace bullying/harassment/aggressive/violent incident
Working overhead or above shoulders	• Mechanical devices used • Workers positioned at a height (e.g. scaffolds) which allows work to occur without reaching above the head
Working alone	• There is a system in place for communicating with workers working alone • The system ensures that workers have means of communicating in the event of emergency (e.g. mobile phones, duress alarms) • The system requires regular contact to be maintained with workers to ensure safety & supervision • The employer has knowledge of the location of all workers at all times during work shifts.