

## SOP - Air Blower for Entry into Confined Spaces

**DO NOT use this plant\* unless you have been inducted in its safe use and operation by an Authorised Experienced Operator**

This SOP may not cover all possible hazards and risks and should be referred to as a control measure in the risk assessment process. Additional training may be required for high risk plant. Site and task may change required PPE.

### PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT



Foot protection must be worn



High visibility clothing must worn

### POTENTIAL HAZARDS AND RISKS

- Manual Task Injury**  
Manual task injury from incorrect manual handling techniques
- Slip, Trips, Falls**  
Slip, trip, fall due to uneven or slippery work surfaces
- Other**  
Exposure to contaminated air
- Electrical Shock or Burn**  
Electrical shock or burn from damaged or poorly maintained electrical leads and cables
- Explosion**  
Explosion of gases, vapours or liquids

### PRE-OPERATIONAL SAFETY CHECKS

- ✓ Complete site specific risk assessment
- ✓ Complete visual plant check before operation
- ✓ Ensure you are familiar with plant operations and controls
- ✓ Ensure all electrical equipment required for the operation has current electrical check tags attached
- ✓ Check all electrical leads for damage (make sure electrical earth leakage switch is used)

### OPERATING PROCEDURES

- ✓ Load the air blower onto transport, two person lift using correct manual handling techniques
- ✓ Secure air blower to the vehicle as per load restraint guidelines (refer SOP Load Restraint)
- ✓ Proceed to work site, drive safely to road and traffic conditions
- ✓ Remove the air blower from the vehicle and position it away from the confined space and any source of contaminated air, including engine exhaust fumes and ensuring that the air blower poses no trip hazard risk
- ✓ Operate plant to the conditions of the work area
- ✓ Ensure power lead does not create a trip hazard
- ✓ Connect air hose securely to the air blower
- ✓ Place the end of the hose in the confined space vent pipe (where fitted and or applicable), or otherwise in a position to create maximum clean air flow. **Consideration should be given to the potential of aggravating a fire or explosive hazard by the introduction of air**
- ✓ Connect the power leads for the air blower to a power source
- ✓ Operate the air blower in conjunction with the Confined Space regulations
- ✓ Before making adjustments bring plant to a complete standstill and isolate

### ENDING OPERATIONS

- ✓ Allow plant to cool before performing any maintenance, refuelling or cleaning
- ✓ Ensure plant is in good working order and stored in the appropriate location

### DO NOT

- ✗ Do not use if plant is faulty. Attach a DO NOT OPERATE tag and report fault to your supervisor
- ✗ Do not leave plant running unattended
- ✗ Do not attempt this operation in rain and wet conditions
- ✗ Do not use mobile phone while operating plant

\*Plant in this SOP refers to any machinery, equipment, appliance, container, implement and tool.