MPQBL02

Contribute to maintaining health, safety and environmental practices in the blasting environment

Overview

What is this standard about?

This standard specifies the skills, knowledge and understanding to demonstrate competence in contributing to the maintenance of health, safety and environmental practices in the blasting workplace. It includes awareness of health and safety hazards and environmental aspects, and when identified, dealing with them according to specified procedures and limits of personal responsibility, including awareness of their legislative responsibilities for themselves and others. It also includes the actions to be taken in the event of an emergency, and for the maintenance of security.

Who is this standard for?

This standard applies to all persons who have responsibilities for blasting operations, including shotfirers, explosive supervisors, explosives storemen, bulk explosive truck operators, face profilers, and blast designers.

Performance criteria

You must be able to:

1. carry out work activities according to the **approved policies, procedures and practices**
2. identify health and safety hazards and environmental aspects in the **blasting environment**
3. assess the suitability of the **protective measures** taken to control the health and safety hazards and environmental aspects identified
4. communicate to **relevant persons**
5. use and maintain tools and equipment according to manufacturers' instructions.
6. handle and store work materials and components
7. use approved manual handling techniques.
8. use, maintain and store personal protective equipment for the work activity
9. identify emergency equipment and evacuation routes for the work area
10. check security measures for the work area and activity are in place
11. maintain and leave the work area in a safe and secure condition, and in compliance with environmental requirements

Knowledge and understanding

You need to know and understand:

1. the **approved policies, procedures and practices** in the context of the work activity and **blasting environment**
2. your personal responsibilities under the health and safety statutory requirements, and local environmental requirements
3. health and safety hazards and environmental aspect associated with the **blasting environment**
4. how to identify and report suspected health and safety hazards and environmental aspects
5. how to assess the suitability of **protective measures** taken in the **blasting environment**
6. how to identify, check, maintain, use and securely store the types of tools and equipment to be used relevant to the work activity.
7. the types of materials and substances associated with the work.
8. the standards and systems for edge protection in the **blasting environment**
9. emergency precautions and procedures.
10. the potential causes of fires in the **blasting environment**, and how to deal with them
11. actions to be taken in the event of a fire on or in the proximity of a vehicle used to transport or store **explosive material**
12. the potential forms of personnel accidents or health emergencies in relation to the **blasting environment**
13. how to respond to health and safety accidents, and environmental incidents
14. your personal responsibilities for dealing with emergencies, accidents, incidents, hazards, risks and environmental aspects and impacts in the **blasting environment**
15. the potential security risks at the site and blasting environment
16. the security arrangements for the site and blasting environment.
17. the actions to take in cases of breaches of security, acts of vandalism and theft.
18. how to deal with unauthorised persons in the **blasting environment**
19. the roles and responsibilities of those **relevant persons** appointed to deal with emergencies, accidents, incidents, hazards, risks and environmental aspects and impacts on site or with relation to the work activity, and how to contact them

Scope/range

1. **explosive materials**: explosive articles or substances, and any blasting intermediaries, or as defined in current legislation, as appropriate to the work activity
2. **approved policies, procedures and practices**: legislative, organisational, operational, accident or emergency, health and safety, first aid, and environmental as appropriate to the work site and work activity
3. **blasting environment**: in relation to at least one blasting environment: mining, quarrying, demolition, tunnelling, civil engineering, under water
4. **relevant persons**: supervision, work colleagues, maintenance engineers, designated persons and/or those affected by the work activity, as appropriate to the work activity
5. **protective measures:** edge protection, blast shelter, stand-off bunds, traffic routes and demarcation, personal protective equipment, measures to protect water, wildlife and the environment as appropriate to the blasting site and operation

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