

Toolbox Talk Details	
Title	F07 - Water jetting
Reason	Water jetting can be a dangerous activity if it is not carried out in a controlled manner. High-pressure water, the equipment and additives used can cause serious injury.
Outline	This talk covers the dangers associated with water jetting and how they can be overcome.
Hazards	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The water jet is usually at a pressure above 140 bar (over 2,000 psi). A misdirected jet hitting a person would cause serious injury or death.</li> <li>2. Flying debris can also be a cause of injury.</li> <li>3. Some chemical additives used are hazardous to health.</li> <li>4. Equipment vibration can also result in health problems.</li> </ol>	
Safe use	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Never use water-jetting equipment unless you are trained and authorised to do so.</li> <li>2. Most water jetting is carried out by teams of three operatives. If you are managing with fewer people, is the work method safe? Working alone will require additional control measures.</li> <li>3. Water-jetting operations should be isolated to avoid injury to people not involved in the activity.</li> <li>4. Isolation can be achieved by erecting barriers and signs around the work area, or preferably by removing the item to be jetted to an isolated location.</li> <li>5. The pressure of the water jet will try to push the person holding the nozzle backwards. A secure footing is needed.</li> <li>6. If working at height on a scaffold platform, ensure that you are safe. It may be necessary to wear a safety harness and lanyard clipped to a designated anchor point.</li> <li>7. Ensure that you have been issued with, and wear, appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE).</li> <li>8. Read the control of substances hazardous to health (COSHH) assessments for any substances used or disturbed. (Do not water jet asbestos-containing materials (ACMs), as harmful fibres will be released.)</li> </ol>	
Equipment maintenance	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Due to the high pressures involved, it is vital that equipment is maintained in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions.</li> <li>2. If any part of the equipment is assembled incorrectly, high-pressure leaks could cause serious personal injury.</li> <li>3. Daily pre-use equipment checks must be carried out by someone who has been trained, competent and authorised to do so.</li> <li>4. Do not tamper with the equipment if you do not know what you are doing; you must be properly trained.</li> <li>5. Do not attempt to adjust the equipment in any way whilst it is pressurised.</li> </ol>	

Revision Date	Assessed By	Signature
January 2021	Michael Reddan	