

Mobile Powered Plant

Safety@Optus – Hazard Standard



What you need to know

Mobile Plant is a major cause of workplace death and injury in Australian workplaces. Incidents can arise through a range of factors; Therefore, multiple control strategies are required to ensure the effective safe management of Mobile Plant on construction sites.

It will be the responsibility of the Contractor / site supervisor to provide evidence of how it meets these requirements when Optus performs its site inspections

The requirements listed in this standard will be used by Optus as part of the contractor audit assurance framework to verify the management of the WHS contractual and legislative obligations.

This Standard “at times” will need be read and used in parallel with other WHS standards to ensure that all concurrent duty holders are aware of its WHS obligations, and all legislative requirements are being met

All necessary site safety documentation related to the use of mobile plant to facilitate the work must be kept and submitted to Optus as part of the site final phase handover pack

What is regarded as Mobile Plant

Powered Mobile plant is defined by the Commonwealth Work Health and Safety Regulation 2011 to mean any plant that is provided with some form of self-propulsion that is ordinarily under the direct control of an operator and not exclusively reliant on manual power.

The types of Mobile Plant typically used on Optus work locations can include

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Graders• Excavators• Mobile cranes | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Elevating work platforms• Forklifts and Telehandlers• Drilling rigs |
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This also includes any component, or anything fitted or connected to, any of those things.

Note: Plant that relies exclusively on manual power for its operation and is designed to be primarily supported by hand, e.g. a screwdriver, shovels, pics and rakes is not covered by this standard.

Australian Standards & Industry Codes

It is the responsibility of the Contractor working on behalf of Optus to be aware of and have documented a process of how it meets the WHS legislation, and relevant Australian standards when operating and working around Powered Plant.



Mobile Powered Plant

Safety@Optus – Contractor Requirements



1. The Contractor must have a process to identify all hazards associated with the operation and use of Mobile plant and the management of the potential risk of harm to people that may be present at the work location –
2. This must include the use of HIRAC, and how it uses "HIRAC" to establish the layers of risk control and the most effective management of risk.
3. The risk assessments must extend to whatever the type of environment the work location is in, both enclosed or open air
4. The information from the mobile plant and site risk assessment is to be incorporated to create clear and understandable safe systems of work for the site and a site specific SWMS (Safe Work Method Statement)
5. Site safe systems of work assessment and site-specific SWMS must also include the movement of plant around the site, taking into account: environmental & ground conditions
6. Safe systems of work and SWMS must address all above ground and underground services taking into account the identification and location of services and the management of works close to services and where necessary, the liaison with the asset owner.
7. The safe systems of work must have details of the site set up, the marking and placement of barriers and exclusion zones – pedestrian walkways and additional safe access / exit or work areas where required
8. The site assessment must incorporate Security and storage of Mobile Plant when not in use to prevent unauthorised use of the Mobile Plant.
9. The Contractor must have a process and be able to demonstrate how it factors this information into developing safe systems of work for all sites where mobile plant is in use, or present at the site and used by another Contractor company or PCBU.
10. Where applicable this must include any plans for lifting, excavation, drilling or utility overhead / DBYD plans – details of plant ROPs and FOPs or height restrictors'
11. The Contractor must have, and be able to demonstrate a process of it how it consults with workers and communicates all site requirements including the content of SWMS and controls to all workers–
12. A site specific SWMS is to be available at all sites where the use of mobile plant is required to perform the work on the behalf of Optus and acknowledges the use of Mobile plant by another contractor (sites with multiple PCBUs) or work crews
13. A process must be in place to ensure that any accessories, components, or additional equipment added, bolted on or fixed to the mobile plant is fit for purpose and used in accordance with manufacturers recommendations
14. There is to be accountable personal on site that can demonstrate the process that is in place to ensure that any mobile plant used by Optus Contractors is fit for purpose, not being used for tasks it was not designed to do, and is operated by correctly licenced and trained competent workers.

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15. The contractor must have a process in place and be able to verify that all required licence permits to work, service logbooks and if legally required, the applicable design or regulated registration details of any mobile plant. This is to be available upon request and on site with any additional plant documentation. Copies of this must also be kept as part of site safety folders and submitted to Optus at the end of the job
16. The Contractor must have its own process to conduct site inspections of work related to mobile plant and of the plant equipment. to ensure compliance with the WHS legislative and site obligation, SWMS and the safe systems of work that are in place. The inspection must also contain details that are specific to regulatory and registration requirements - manufacturers' inspection requirements – completion of pre-start inspections and commissioning prior to use on-site
17. The overall safe systems of work must acknowledge, "What to do" if any Mobile Plant is identified as faulty, impaired or damaged and poses a risk to health and safety,
18. Emergency procedures are established specific to the scope of works and have a component that targets the management of potential emergencies associated with Mobile Plant operations on the project (Breakdown, Rollover, Collision, Fire, etc) and are readily available to workers on site. Emergency Drills to be planned and regularly practiced.