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RISK ASSESSMENT AND METHOD STATEMENT

Abrasive cleaning, Unit 3, Canal Side Business Park, Stockport

Hollins & Reed Contracting Ltd · 12 to 14 October 2026 · In charge: Dan Hollins

Job details

Company	Hollins & Reed Contracting Ltd
Site and work area	Unit 3, Canal Side Business Park, Stockport
Planned dates	12 to 14 October 2026
Customer	Thornley Vale Estates Ltd
In charge on site	Dan Hollins
Team	Two operatives: Dan Hollins leads and checks the area each morning; Priya Shah works with him.
Work	Abrasive cleaning
Prepared by	Dan Hollins
Signature	
Date	

Work and boundaries

Dry abrasive blasting. Areas: As marked on the client's site plan

Working arrangement

- Access: the floor or ground.
- The work area will be kept clear of other people.

Emergency arrangements

Continuous siren; assemble at the site gate. First aider: Dan Hollins, first aid kit in the van. Ambulances come to the main entrance: Unit 3, Canal Side Business Park, Stockport. Dan Hollins calls 999 and meets the ambulance.

Planned method

1 **Set up the work area**
Confirm the work area and scope before starting. Keep other people outside the active work area. Keep entrances and escape routes clear.

2 **Get the power off in the area first**
Ask the site to switch off and lock off the lights, sockets and any fittings in the area you are blasting. Get it proved dead before you start, and cover or tape anything that has to stay live.

3 **Check the blasting equipment**
Set up the blast pot, hose, nozzle, air supply and recovery equipment to the maker's instructions. Check connections, guards and safety devices before pressurising.

4 **Check for asbestos before you disturb anything**
Check the asbestos survey covers exactly what you will disturb, to the full depth. Register only, or nothing: get a refurbishment survey or a sample first. Read what it says about old coatings, masonry and sealants. No survey, or a material you do not recognise: stop and get it checked.

5 **Carry the abrasive and equipment safely**
Plan the route, clear it, and get help with anything long or heavy. Store materials close to the work so nobody carries further than they need to.

6 **Set the blast boundary**
Separate the work with barriers and warning signs. Allow only authorised, trained people inside.

7 **Keep the blast contained**
Fit the enclosure or local vacuum before dust and spent grit are made. Keep sheeting closed and recovery running while blasting.

8 **Keep dust under control**
Keep the agreed extraction and respiratory protection in use while blasting. Keep other people out of the dust area and clean with the recovery equipment.

9 **Test the surface first**
Confirm the marked substrate and coating before directing the blast. Use a small agreed test area and stop if the surface breaks up or changes unexpectedly.

10 **Use the specified abrasive**
Use only this job's silica-free abrasive; never use sand. Keep the product information with the job record.

11 **Record the abrasive product**
Write the product name, supplier and composition into the job record. Check recycled or mineral grit is confirmed silica-free before use.

12 **Clear the blast waste safely**
Collect spent abrasive, coating and dust in the agreed sealed route. Do not brush or blow settled dust into the air.

13 Clear and hand back the area

Remove tools, waste and unused materials. Check the area is clean and ready to use. Tell the customer or whoever runs the site when the work is complete.

Risk assessment

Hazard	Who might be harmed and how	Controls in place
People entering the work area or tripping over materials Step 1	Workers, occupants and visitors	Mark or barrier the active work area. Store tools and materials away from access routes.
A shock from water or abrasive hitting live wiring, lights or sockets Step 2	The blaster, the helper and anyone in the area	Only an electrician isolates, locks off and proves dead; do not do it yourself. Stop and ask if you find wiring or a fitting nobody has dealt with.
A hose, coupling, nozzle or safety device fails under pressure Step 3	Blaster and maintenance workers	Use compatible equipment within its stated limits. Remove damaged equipment from service.
Breathing asbestos fibres from old boards, sheets, sealants or insulation Step 4	The team and anyone in the building	Do not cut, drill or break any material until it is confirmed asbestos free. Licensed work is not for this method; hand it to a licensed contractor.
Back and shoulder injury from carrying heavy or long items Step 5	Everyone handling materials	Use a trolley or sack truck on the flat where the load suits one. Where the work is up a level, hand items up or hoist them. Never carry them up a ladder.
A person enters the abrasive or dust cloud and is struck or exposed Step 6	Blaster and people nearby	Keep the exclusion zone closed. Use a spotter where the boundary could be crossed.
Abrasive and dust escape into occupied areas or contaminate nearby work Step 7	Workers and occupants	Check the enclosure for gaps during the job. Stop if the recovery system fails.

Hazard	Who might be harmed and how	Controls in place
Respirable dust damages the blaster's lungs and spreads to other workers Step 8	Blaster and other workers	Stop if dust control is not working. Use the assessed RPE for the actual abrasive and coating.
The blast damages the surface or releases an unexpected hazardous coating Step 9	Blaster and building occupants	Keep unexpected material untouched until it is assessed. Stop if the test does not match the agreed method.
Silica or an unknown abrasive creates harmful dust or unexpected surface damage Step 10	Blaster and other workers	Check the product before loading the blast pot. Stop if the actual abrasive differs from the agreed method.
The abrasive is changed or reused without its dust and waste information Step 11	Blaster and supervisor	Keep the product information at the work area. Recheck the product after any delivery or change.
Spent abrasive and dust are inhaled or spread during clean-up Step 12	Blaster, cleaners and other workers	Use suitable recovery equipment. Keep waste contained until its route is confirmed.
Debris, tools or unfinished work left in the area Step 13	Workers, occupants and visitors	Remove waste by the agreed route. Record and protect any unfinished work.