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RISK ASSESSMENT AND METHOD STATEMENT

# Electrofusion welding, Footpath outside 3 to 9 Mill Lane, Stockport: water main repair

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

## Job details

| | |
|---|---|
| **Company** | Hollins & Reed Utilities Ltd |
| **Site and work area** | Footpath outside 3 to 9 Mill Lane, Stockport: water main repair |
| **Planned dates** | 12 to 14 October 2026 |
| **Customer** | Mill Lane Estates Ltd |
| **In charge on site** | Dan Hollins |
| **Team** | Two operatives: Dan Hollins is the trained electrofusion operator; Priya Shah prepares the pipe ends and looks after the generator. |
| **Work** | Electrofusion welding |
| **Prepared by** | Dan Hollins |
| **Signature** | |
| **Date** | |

## Work and boundaries

Join PE pipe with a socket. Areas: Repair excavation, about 2 m by 1 m

## 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: Footpath outside 3 to 9 Mill Lane, 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 **Check the pipe and fitting**
Confirm the pipe and fitting are compatible and the pipe end is sound and square. Keep the fitting sealed until preparation is ready.

3 **Check the weather before you start**
Stop handling long pipe and fittings when the wind is strong enough to catch them. Stop in heavy rain, ice or lightning.

4 **Carry the pipe and fittings 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.

5 **Prepare a clean, dry weld zone**
Remove dirt and the oxidised surface with the approved tool. Use an approved alcohol wipe and let the weld zone dry.

6 **Align and clamp the joint**
Insert the pipe to the marked depth and fit the specified alignment clamp. Keep the pipe and fitting still through welding and cooling.

7 **Run the fusion cycle**
Connect the control unit and scan the fitting barcode. Check the displayed time and voltage against the fitting information before starting.

8 **Cool and inspect the joint**
Leave the clamps in place for the full cooling time on the fitting. Check the cycle, melt indicators, insertion mark and fitting for faults before release.

9 **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<br>Step 1 | Workers, occupants and visitors | Mark or barrier the active work area. Store tools and materials away from access routes. |

| Hazard | Who might be harmed and how | Controls in place |
|---|---|---|
| A poor or incompatible joint failing in service<br>Step 2 | The fusion operator and people using the pipe | Use the fitting maker's instructions and the approved joint record. Stop if damage, ovality or compatibility is not resolved. |
| Wind catches the long pipe and fittings and blows them onto people nearby<br>Step 3 | The team and people nearby | Check the forecast before you start and agree when the wind stops the work. Tie down or take in loose materials before you leave. |
| Back and shoulder injury from carrying heavy or long items<br>Step 4 | 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. |
| Contamination causing a weak fusion joint<br>Step 5 | The fusion operator and people using the pipe | Keep hands, dirt and unapproved solvents away from the prepared surface. Keep the fitting in its packaging until needed. |
| Misalignment or movement leaving gaps in the joint<br>Step 6 | The fusion operator and people using the pipe | Use only the clamp specified for the fitting. Do not start fusion while the pipe is under avoidable stress. |
| Overheating, fire or an incomplete joint from the wrong fusion settings<br>Step 7 | The fusion operator and people nearby | Use the approved control unit and a stable power supply. Stop if the displayed settings do not match the fitting. |
| Disturbing a hot joint or accepting a visibly defective joint<br>Step 8 | The fusion operator and people using the pipe | Record the fusion and cooling details. Ask the fitting maker when a fault or interrupted cycle is found. |
| Debris, tools or unfinished work left in the area<br>Step 9 | Workers, occupants and visitors | Remove waste by the agreed route. Record and protect any unfinished work. |