

SAFE WORK PRACTICE SWP-63

Revised: July 18, 2025 Demolition

# **PURPOSE/APPLICATION**

To provide guidance for safe demolition execution. Demolition activities should be directed and/or executed by persons trained specifically in demolition and deemed competent by the site Owner/Prime Contractor.

Preparatory operations will include the overall planning of the demolition job, including the methods to be used to bring the structure down, the equipment necessary to do the job, and the measures to be taken to perform the work safely.

**PPE** • Strike Minimum Requirements

 Additional requirements as identified in the Hazard Identification, Assessment and Control (HIAC) Process

Gravity

Motion

**TRAINING** • Equipment Specific

HAZARDS & CONCERNS • All 13 Strike Hazard

Sources should be considered

dered • Toxic • Biological Noise

Fire/Explosion

Injury

Flying/ Falling debris



### **PRECAUTIONS**

Planning for a demolition job is as important as actually doing the work. Therefore, all planning work should be performed by a competent person experienced in all phases of the demolition work to be performed.

## DO'S

- **DO** Ensure an engineered survey of the structure to be demolished is conducted by a competent person to help understand the current condition of the framing, floors, and walls
- DO Complete checks on adjacent structure(s) or improvements when advised
- **DO** Assess the site for harmful substances such as asbestos, lead, heavy metal, potentially flammable or explosive material, NORMs, and/or toxic gases
- DO Complete Site-Specific Safety Plan(s) (SSSP) or Exposure Control Plan(s) (ECP), as required, to control the hazardous substances identified
- **DO** Complete a Pre-Job Hazard Assessment (CF-S-56)
- **DO** Complete an Emergency Response Plan (ERP)
- DO Acquire, pre-inspect, and properly utilize the protective equipment required to handle the harmful substances, conditions, and/or potential emergencies as identified by the Engineered Survey, SSSP, ECP, ERP, and/or CF-S-56
- **DO** Ensure personnel completing the work are competent for the type of work to be completed (e.g. Electricians complete electrical demolition, pipefitters complete mechanical demolition, etc.)
- **DO** Ensure a HIAC (CF-S-01) is completed prior to work onsite beginning and is supplemented with guidance within Strike's HSE Library
- **DO** Ensure reassessments are completed throughout the day to help capture changing conditions such as, but not limited to:
  - Restricted/Confined space conditions created through the demolition process,
  - Fall Protection requirements are being met,

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Overhead risks to personnel such as unsecured walls left standing without bracing or

- Overhead risks to personnel such as unsecured walls left standing without bracing or overhead work where objects could be dropped
- Placement of demolition and/or combustible material that blocks emergency routes or equipment
- Identification of hazardous materials
- General housekeeping
- DO Ensure utilities that need to remain in-service are adequately protected from demolition activities (relocation, guards/barricades, etc.)
- **DO** Ensure personnel are made aware of the location and status of in-service utilities prior to beginning demolition work
- **DO** Ensure all utilities entering structure to be demolished are cut, capped, or otherwise controlled outside the building
- **DO** Ensure glass that could endanger workers is removed prior to demolition. Remove glass in a top to bottom sequence
- **DO** Secure materials and debris against unintended movement from weather or concurrent activities
- **DO** Install signage to inform personnel of hazardous areas
- **DO** Ensure heating devices are used in accordance with manufacturer's specifications
- **DO** Ensure roadways between and around combustibles are at least 5 meters/ 15 feet wide and remain free from accumulation of rubbish, equipment, or other materials
- **DO** Maintain a minimum of 6 inches of clearance between exhausts and combustible materials

#### **DON'Ts**

- **DON'T** Begin demolishing a structure before understanding the condition of the framing, floors, and walls as this could result in a premature collapse of the structure.
- **DON'T** Demolish or break integrity on a structure or system without knowing the contents that were, or still could be, within.
- **DON'T** Break integrity on systems you are not competent to work on (e.g., If you are not an electrician, do not complete first breaks on electrical components)
- **DON'T** Leave dangerous areas unbarricaded or otherwise accessible to the public
- **DON'T** Smoke outside of designated areas. Ensure safe receptacles are provided within designated smoking areas.



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# **REFERENCES / ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

- HSEMS Section 2 Hazard Identification, Assessment, and Control
- HSEMS Section 6 PPE
- Strike ERP Template
- SDS Binders / CHAMPs
- COP 03 Confined Space Entry & Rescue
- COP-05 Lock Out Tag Out
- COP 06 Fall Protection
- SWP 03 Breaking System Integrity
- SWP 05 Fire Extinguishers
- SWP 16 Asbestos
- SWP 17 Chemical, Biological Hazards and Harmful Substances
- SWP 18 Tools, Equipment, Machinery
- SWP 19 Housekeeping
- SWP 31 Fueling
- SWP 58 Fire and Explosion
- SWP 67 Lead
- SWP 73 NORM
- SWP 74 Wrench Use
- SWP 85 Dropped Object Hazard Management

# **REGULATIONS**

# **Alberta OHS Code**

Part 20 - Construction, Excavation and Demolition

# **British Columbia OHS Regulation**

• Part 20: Construction, Excavation and Demolition

# Saskatchewan OHS Regulation

Part 27 Demolition Work

# **Manitoba OHS Regulation**

Part 33 Demolition Work

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1.	NWJHSE	2.	Scott Capaniuk	Date:	July 18, 2025
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1.	HSE Committee			Date:	July 18, 2025
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