

QSCU OHS&R MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

PROCEDURE 57 – Working in Heat & Cold

1. PURPOSE

This procedure defines requirements to minimise adverse effects from working in thermal extremes or in extreme cold.

It defines requirements to avoid heat exhaustion, heat stroke, heat cramps and other adverse health affects arising from exposure to heat and hypothermia affects arising from exposure to extreme cold.

2. MANDATORY REQUIREMENTS

1. There shall be documented risk assessments to identify possible work practices or environments which have the potential to cause heat / cold stress or hypothermia i.e. include air temperature, radiant heat, humidity, physical activity (duration and nature / exertion) and clothing / PPE requirements as a minimum.
2. Where the initial assessment identifies the potential for heat / cold stress or hypothermia to occur, a quantitative assessment of the risk shall be performed by an appropriately qualified hygienist and controls shall be introduced to reduce the risk as far as practicable.
3. In the event that there is a significant residual risk of heat / cold stress or hypothermia, taking into account the control measures introduced, the task shall not be performed.
4. First aiders shall receive specific training in the recognition, treatment and management of conditions arising from heat / cold stress and hypothermia victims as appropriate.
5. OHS&R training records shall be retained indefinitely.
6. Regular reviews of this procedure shall be conducted to ensure compliance with the mandatory requirements.

3. RESPONSIBILITIES

Responsible Manager

Ensure compliance with the requirements of this procedure.

4. REFERENCE DOCUMENTATION

- A. AUSTRALIAN AND NEW ZEALAND OHS&R LEGISLATION