**UNIVERSITY OF WESTERN SYDNEY**

**LABORATORY RISK ASSESSMENT FORM**


**PROJECT/EXPERIMENTAL DATA**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Staff/Researcher/Student:</th>
<th>Xinqun Zhu</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Supervisor/s (name and qual):</td>
<td>Chin Leo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>College/School:</td>
<td>SCEM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unit No./Course No.:</td>
<td>300040</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Location (Campus, Room No.):</td>
<td>Kingswood XBG09 &amp; Kingswood XBG02</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Project Title:</td>
<td>Strain Gauge Exp</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Briefly outline the procedure for this project/experiment:**

Students glue strain gauges to a steel bar. They then bend the bar in a hydraulic press and measure the strain using circuits provided.

**LEGAL OBLIGATIONS**

The NSW OHS Act 2000 and OHS Regulation 2001 (Chapter 2) requires identification of all foreseeable hazards in the workplace, assessment of the risks that these hazards pose to health and safety and the elimination or control of these risks.

**SUMMARY OF RISK ASSESSMENT**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Physical Hazards -</th>
<th>Yes ☒</th>
<th>No ☐</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Electrical Hazards -</td>
<td>Yes ☒</td>
<td>No ☐</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chemical Hazards -</td>
<td>Yes ☒</td>
<td>No ☐</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Biological Hazards -</td>
<td>Yes ☒</td>
<td>No ☐</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Radiation Hazards -</td>
<td>Yes ☒</td>
<td>No ☐</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Outdoor/Farm Hazards -</td>
<td>Yes ☒</td>
<td>No ☐</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Field Work Hazards -</td>
<td>Yes ☒</td>
<td>No ☐</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

If yes to any of the above complete the appropriate risk assessment attached.

If work involves ‘physical activity’ (e.g. exercise and sports assessment) of staff/students complete “pre-screening questionnaire” prior to commencement.

**DISSEMINATION OF RISK ASSESSMENT**

It is imperative that copies of this form be distributed to relevant personnel, such as technical staff involved in the project, laboratory supervisors and casual staff for undergraduate units.

Has a copy of this form been disseminated to all relevant personnel? Yes ☒ No ☐

**DECLARATION**

We the undersigned declare that this Laboratory Risk Assessment is a true record of the Risk Assessment undertaken. We agree to monitor the effectiveness of control measures and review this Risk Assessment in line with the requirements of the OHS Regulation 2001.

Student/Staff Researcher: Xinqun Zhu  
Date: 12-02-2013

Supervisor/s:  
Date:  

Signature:  
Date:  
Review Date: 1 of 13
| Head of School/ Academic Supervisor/Manager: | Date: |
**Physical Hazards**

- **Dropping equipment**
  - Risk (Harm): There may be a risk to feet if the bar is dropped on it.
  - Risk Rating (R): D IV L
  - Risk Control Measures: Students are told to wear closed shoes
  - Trained in Control Measure: D IV L N/A

- **Hot soldering iron**
  - Risk (Harm): Burns
  - Risk Rating (R): D III L
  - Risk Control Measures: Students advised of hazard
  - Trained in Control Measure: D III L N/A
RISK ASSESSMENT FOR ELECTRICAL HAZARDS

HIGH RISK plug in electrical equipment must be inspected, tested and tagged as required by Workcover, in accordance with the recommendations of the Standard AS/NZS 3760:2003 (currently every 12 months). Refer to [UWS Tagging & Testing for Plug-in Electrical Equipment](http://www.uws.edu.au/about/adminorg/corpserv/ohr/occupationalhealthsafetyandwelfare/uwsohspolproc/ohsindex) for further details.

HIGH RISK electrical equipment is cited as:

- Equipment that is handheld by an operator eg power tools
- Portable equipment or equipment that is routinely moved between places eg water baths, pH meters, balances, centrifuges
- Equipment that is used in a hostile work environment such as laboratories and workshops

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Equipment Description</th>
<th>Inspection Result</th>
<th>Maintenance Required</th>
<th>Tagged and Tested</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>240 volt power supply</td>
<td>OK</td>
<td>no</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

DO NOT USE equipment if it is faulty, requires maintenance and has not been tested and tagged by an authorised person. Contact your supervisor if necessary.
# RISK ASSESSMENT FOR CHEMICAL HAZARDS

Has MSDS* for each chemical been read, understood and made readily accessible?  
Yes ☒  No ☐  
If ‘Yes’, specify location of MSDS (room/building no.)

Are adequate transport and storage facilities available?  
Yes ☒  No ☐  

Are appropriate chemical waste disposal systems available?  
Yes ☒  No ☐  

Are appropriate procedures in place in the event of a spill, leak or emergency?  
Yes ☒  No ☐  

Is health surveillance and/or monitoring required for any chemical?  
Yes+ ☒  No ☐  

* If ‘Yes’, contact OHS Technical Coordinator before commencing use of chemical.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Chemical Hazard</th>
<th>Qty and Conc.</th>
<th>Specific procedure for spill, leak or emergency</th>
<th>Risk (Harm)</th>
<th>Risk Rating (R)</th>
<th>Risk Control Measures</th>
<th>Risk Rating (R)</th>
<th>Trained in Control Measure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Araldite</td>
<td>small</td>
<td>Clean of skin</td>
<td>R36/38 R43</td>
<td>D   II   M</td>
<td>Ventilation provided</td>
<td>D   III   L   N/A</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>A</th>
<th>C</th>
<th>P</th>
<th>R</th>
<th>A</th>
<th>C</th>
<th>P</th>
<th>R</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Material Safety Data Sheet
### RISK ASSESSMENT FOR BIOLOGICAL HAZARDS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Biological Hazard</th>
<th>Risk (Harm)</th>
<th>Risk Rating (R)</th>
<th>Risk Control Measures</th>
<th>Risk Rating (R)</th>
<th>Trained in Control Measure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

Has approval been given by the UWS Biosafety and Radiation Safety Committee (BRSC)?

- **Yes**
- **No**

If ‘Yes’, specify BRSC application number and date of approval

Does the approval cover all hazards associated with this project?

- **Yes**
- **No**

If ‘No’ for either question above continue risk assessment below.

Are adequate transport and storage facilities available?

- **Yes**
- **No**

Are appropriate biological waste disposal systems available?

- **Yes**
- **No**

Are appropriate procedures in place in the event of a spill, leak or emergency?

- **Yes**
- **No**

Has a staff:student ratio of 1:15 been applied as per BRSC recommendations for high risk biologicals/potential pathogens?

- **Yes**
- **No**

Is health surveillance and/or vaccination required?

- **Yes**
- **No**

*If health surveillance is required contact OHS Technical Coordinator before commencing work.*
## RISK ASSESSMENT FOR RADIATION HAZARDS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Radiation Hazard</th>
<th>Risk (Harm)</th>
<th>Risk Rating (R)</th>
<th>Risk Control Measures</th>
<th>Risk Rating (R)</th>
<th>Trained in Control Measure Y/N/NA</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- **Is the premises where radiation work is conducted registered with the EPA?**
  - **Yes** ☐, **No** ☐
  - **Has approval for radiation work been given by the UWS Biosafety and Radiation Safety Committee (BRSC)?**
  - **Yes** ☐, **No** ☐
  - **If ‘Yes’, specify BRSC application number and date of approval**
  - **If ‘No’ to either of the above, do not commence work and contact the BRSC immediately**

- **Are adequate storage or containment facilities available?**
  - **Yes** ☐, **No** ☐
  - **If ‘Yes’, specify location**

- **Are appropriate procedures in place in the event of an emergency?**
  - **Yes** ☐, **No** ☐

- **Are appropriate monitoring procedures available?**
  - **Yes** ☐, **No** ☐

- **Are appropriate radioactive substance storage, waste and disposal systems in place?**
  - **Yes** ☐, **No** ☐

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**Signature:**

**Date:**

**Review Date:**

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**RISK ASSESSMENT FOR OUTDOOR/FARM HAZARDS**

If ammonium nitrate fertilisers are used, refer to UWS Laboratory Safety Guidelines for further details.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Outdoor/Farm Hazard</th>
<th>Risk (Harm)</th>
<th>Risk Rating 1</th>
<th>Risk Control Measures</th>
<th>Risk Rating 2</th>
<th>Trained in Control Measure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>A C P R</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

For further information see UWS Farm Safety Guidelines
(http://www.uws.edu.au/about/adminorg/corpserv/ohr/occupationalhealthsafetyandwelfare/uwsohspolproc/ohsindex)

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For specific questions and details, please refer to the UWS Laboratory Safety Guidelines.
# RISK ASSESSMENT FOR FIELDWORK

## Hazards

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Question</th>
<th>Yes</th>
<th>No</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Is the fieldwork classified as <strong>LOCAL</strong> fieldwork?</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>If ‘Yes’</strong> proceed to Risk Assessment Table for Fieldwork Hazards and see UWS Fieldwork Safety Guidelines Section 3.3 and Attachment 1. (<a href="http://www.uws.edu.au/about/adminorg/corpserv/ohr/occupationalhealthsafetyandwelfare/uwsohspolproc/ohsindex">http://www.uws.edu.au/about/adminorg/corpserv/ohr/occupationalhealthsafetyandwelfare/uwsohspolproc/ohsindex</a>)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Is the fieldwork classified as <strong>REMOTE</strong> fieldwork?</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>If ‘Yes’</strong> continue risk assessment below:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Outline the Fieldwork Activity:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Name of designated ‘Fieldwork Supervisor’ leading the fieldtrip:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Name of designated contact person within UWS and/or elsewhere not involved in the fieldtrip:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contact details of nearest emergency services and/or hospital:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Have all staff/students/volunteers completed a “Fieldwork Health &amp; Safety Acknowledgement Form”</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- (eg mobile/sat. phone, radios, GPS for boats &amp; land vehicles)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Are all staff &amp; students trained in the various operations and emergency procedures of the fieldtrip?</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Is there a reliable means of communication if in a remote area?</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Are there appropriate SOPs for working in sun, heat, wet, cold, and/or windy conditions on the fieldtrip?</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>If ‘Yes’</strong> please specify:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Are there any vehicles including 4WDs being used on the trip?</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Does the fieldtrip involve the use of boats?</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>If ‘Yes’</strong> boating fieldtrips must comply with Maritime legislation see NSW Safe Boating Handbook</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

List specific hazards that may be present in the fieldwork in table following and continue risk assessment procedure.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fieldwork Hazard</th>
<th>Risk (Harm)</th>
<th>Risk Rating (R)¹</th>
<th>Risk Control Measures</th>
<th>Risk Rating (R)²</th>
<th>Trained in Control Measure ³</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>A C P R</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

RISK ASSESSMENT FOR FIELDWORK HAZARDS (Local & Remote)

Signature: Date: Review Date: 10 of 13
Laboratory Risk Assessment Guidance Notes

1. The **Risk Rating (R₁ and R₂)** is determined using the Risk Assessment Table below.

For each hazard, *using the Risk Assessment Table*, record the outcomes or adverse consequences (AC) – i.e. how severely could it harm someone if they are exposed to that hazard? Consider the worst-case scenario. In the column ‘AC’, record A, B, C or D as follows:

- **A** fatality, etc
- **B** long-term illness, etc
- **C** medical attention, etc
- **D** first aid needed, etc

Then, *again using the Risk Assessment Table*, judge the probability (P) or likelihood of each consequence occurring. In the column ‘P’, record I, II, III, or IV as follows:

- **I** very likely
- **II** likely
- **III** unlikely
- **IV** rare

Using the Risk Assessment table, determine the Risk Rating for each hazard, and record the priority for action (T, M, or L) in the column ‘R’. The risk rating number, from 1 – 6, indicates the level of priority i.e. it shows how important it is to do something about the hazard:

- **T** Top priority 1 & 2
- **M** Medium priority 3 & 4
- **L** Low priority 5 & 6

All hazards must be addressed using the hierarchy of control measures in the following *order of priority* - elimination, substitution, isolation, engineering, administrative, personal protective equipment (PPE) – (refer to the UWS “Hazard Identification, Risk Assessment and Control Procedure”). The best approach will be to use a combination of any or all of the control measures.

Top priority hazards must be isolated and fixed immediately. It is extremely important to do something about this hazard as soon as possible. Procedures using such hazards should not be allowed to continue.

The priority rating for medium and low priority hazards should be reduced to the lowest possible number (risk) before proceeding. Laboratory environments are inherently potentially dangerous and there will always be a level of risk associated with the work undertaken. You will need to make a judgement as to whether the level of risk is acceptable given a defined set of circumstances.

**R₁** refers to the Risk Rating *before* risk control measures have been determined.

2. **R₂** refers to the Risk Rating *after* control measures have been determined and implemented.
3. All personnel involved in the procedure must be satisfactorily trained in the required control measures. Such measures include engineering controls (e.g. containment, fume cupboards, isolation), administrative procedures (e.g. written safe operating procedures, job rotation to restrict hours worked in hazardous situations, appropriate staff training), use of personal protective equipment (e.g. gloves, safety glasses, respirator, laboratory coat, safety boots).

4. The Review Date. Regular monitoring and review is required to assess the effectiveness of the hazard assessment and control measures. A risk assessment must be undertaken for all new procedures, when there are substantial changes to the workplace or procedure, when new equipment is used, when new or relevant information regarding health and safety becomes available from an authoritative source, after an incident, accident or workplace illness, when there is evidence that the assessment is no longer valid, or 5 years has elapsed.

5. Please specify if a specific procedure for spill, leak or emergency is required, and state its nature. For example, some chemicals required specific first aid or spill procedures.

6. For procedures covered by this risk assessment that have been given approval by the UWS Biosafety and Radiation Safety Committee (BRSC), attach a copy of the application to this form. Continue to complete the risk assessment for any hazards, procedures or other details not covered by the BSRSC application.

7. Biological Hazards include microbiological hazards, pathogenic organisms, genetically modified organisms (GMOs), human tissue/liquid, animal tissue/liquid, and carcinogenic/mutagenic/teratogenic/allergenic and zoonotic hazards.

8. All work involving the use of ionising radiation sources must have approval from the UWS Biosafety and Radiation Safety Committee (BRSC) before commencement. If the procedure covered by this risk assessment has approval from the BRSC, specify the application number and date of approval as indicated. For work with all other sources of radiation, continue to complete the risk assessment.

9. Radiation Hazards include X-rays, gamma rays, alpha particles, beta particles, neutrons, protons, ultraviolet radiation, high intensity visible light sources, lasers, infrared radiation, radio-frequency radiation, acoustic and ultrasonic radiation (AS2243.4-1998 and AS 2243.5-2004).

10. Outdoor/farm hazards refer to all such work conducted on UWS campuses. Outdoor work conducted off campus should be considered in the Fieldwork section.

11. Fieldwork is any work, study or research authorised by the University and undertaken by staff, postgraduate or undergraduate students or authorised volunteers at sites other than the campuses of the University.

12. Local Fieldwork involves visits to shops, factories, buildings, galleries, hospitals etc, within the Sydney metropolitan area.

13. Remote Fieldwork is fieldwork in areas where it would be difficult to summon help and/or emergency assistance eg inland waterways/estuaries, woodlands, ocean, geological/mine sites, and off-road areas.
RISK ASSESSMENT TABLE

How dangerous is the hazard you've found? For each risk associated with a hazard think about:
1 – How severe are the adverse consequences or outcomes (AC) if exposed?
2 – How likely or probable (P) is it to occur?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PROBABILITY (or likelihood)</th>
<th>I Very likely Could happen any time</th>
<th>II Likely Could happen sometime</th>
<th>III Unlikely Could happen but very rarely</th>
<th>IV Rare Could happen but probably never will</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A Fatality or permanent disability, or property or environmental damage over $50,000</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B Long term illness or serious injury, or property or environmental damage between $5,000 and $50,000</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C Medical attention and several days off work, or property or environmental damage between $500 and $5,000</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D First aid needed, or property or environmental damage up to $500</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The numbers below show you how important it is to do something, and the action to take:
1 & 2 Top Priority (T) Eliminate or isolate the hazard immediately. Must fix the cause(s) immediately.
3 & 4 Medium Priority (M) Must reduce the risk to the lowest possible level using hierarchy of control measures. Regularly monitor the cause(s) and hazard to ensure level of risk remains acceptable.
5 & 6 Low Priority (L) Reduce the risk further if possible and manage by routine procedures. Regularly monitor the cause(s) and hazard to ensure level of risk remains acceptable.