
Overview

This standard is about chokering timber during extraction with a cable crane. An important aspect of this work is the communication between the choker man and the winch operator

When working with machinery you need to be appropriately trained or certificated in line with current legislation

Your work must conform to all current legislation and codes of practice

This standard is suitable for those working as part of a team to pull felled trees or timber within a forest or woodland environment

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Choker timber in cable crane work

Performance criteria

You must be able to:

- P1 assess risks associated with the site and the work to be carried out
- P2 select and implement appropriate working method in accordance with the assessed risks
- P3 maintain the security of machinery and equipment on site
- P4 carry out routine operator maintenance, pre-start checks and setting of the machine for use
- P5 ensure the cable is of adequate diameter capacity and length for the load to be applied and the distance to be pulled
- P6 carry out ongoing visual checks on winch cable and terminal components and ancillary equipment
- P7 identify and select timber for extraction according to specification
- P8 choker timber as appropriate to ensure safe and effective winching
- P9 ensure timber is in a safe position before releasing chokers (or attaching load to winch if skidding)
- P10 follow organisational and industry environmental good practice and minimise environmental damage
- P11 maintain the health and safety of yourself and others at all times in accordance with current legislation

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Knowledge and understanding

You need to know and understand:

- K1 how to identify hazards and assess risks
- K2 how to interpret risk assessments
- K3 emergency planning and procedures for the site
- K4 current guidelines on machinery operation, risk zones and safety clearances from overhead electricity conductors and what to do in the event of contact with power lines
- K5 the potential impacts of your work on the environment and how these can be minimised
- K6 the implications of terrain, ground conditions, season, weather type of timber and species to laying out cable and chokering timber
- K7 the operator checks necessary on the cable and its terminal, strops, pulleys, shackles, hooks, chokers etc. before and during use, including identification of the load bearing capacity of the equipment
- K8 the limitations to your own capabilities laying out cable and chokering timber
- K9 the additional problems, hazards and risks posed by working on steep slopes when laying out cable and chokering timber
- K10 how to interpret product specifications, recognise type of timber and species and select product categories to meet required specification when chokering
- K11 the various methods of chokering poles butt first and tip first including the optimum attachment position for the chokers on the timber
- K12 the types of chokers and chokering attachment and the cable methods available
- K13 what to look out for when routing the cable with regard to obstacles that may be encountered when the winch is operated
- K14 the additional points to consider when laying out the cable and chokering multiple stems
- K15 the signals and methods of signalling to the winch operator or intermediate banksman
- K16 how to deal with timber that has come against an obstacle as it is winched in
- K17 the effect of poorly chokered or awkward shaped loads on line wire extraction
- K18 your responsibilities under current environmental, health and safety legislation and codes of practice

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Additional Information

Scope/range

Timber can be both single and multiple stems

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Choker timber in cable crane work

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Relevant occupations Chainsaw and forest machine operators

Suite Treework

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