

Task/Operation:	Use of winches		
Group(s) affected:	DCS staff, volunteers, public site users.		
Person(s) undertaking assessment:	GAVIN PITT	Date:	28.06.2004
Employee(s) consulted:	JULIE BENNETT/ RICHARD TAYLOR/ ALAN CAMERON/ DAVID OWEN / MARK GASH		
Union Safety Rep(s) consulted:	ANDY PEGG		

Reviews			
Next Review Required	Date actually reviewed	Changes Required? (Yes/No)	Assessor Signature
28.06.2005	20.10.05	No	RTT
20.10.2006			

Hazard	Resultant effect(s)	Before control			State control measures and person responsible to action each one	After control		
		L	S	R		L	S	R
Inexperienced personnel at risk from injury from winch use or proximity to winch in use.	Increased risk of harm and injury	2	2	4	Only Fastco or equivalent trained operators to operate hand or vehicle mounted winch. Only trained operators to action and supervise winch use activity.	1	2	2
Cable / winch rope handling	Deep cuts, abrasion, hand crush injury	3	2	6	Trained operator only to handle cable. PPE use to be obligatory. Follow all safety guidelines available for reducing handling and close contact of cable. All winches to be changed to Plasma ropes. Manufacturers safety device to be applied.	1	2	2
Manual handling & ground condition dangers while winch operations are in progress.	Sprains, strains, trips, fatigue	2	2	4	Assess site condition prior to winch operations. Remove / reduce ground hazard obstacles. Utilise all appropriate PPE	1	2	2

Winch cable / rope failure under strain	Serious injury	2	3	6	Trained operator to establish appropriate safe working distances and second person to maintained cordoned area under operator's guidance. Weighted object added to centre of cable recommended e.g. blanket. Use blocking effect of vehicle with raised bonnet if safe to operate vehicle winch from this position.	1	3	3
Faulty condition of winch and components	Injury from component failures	2	3	6	Winches and associated slings and strops to be subject to statutory inspection regimes. No damaged items to be used operationally. Winches in use to be maintained as per Lifting Equipment regulations, inspected prior to use, and on completion. Positive recording in vehicle defect book. Damaged items to be removed from service.	1	3	3