



C-8 EXCAVATION CHECKLIST

(To be completed by a Competent Person)

SITE LOCATION: _____

DATE: _____

TIME: _____

COMPETENT PERSON: _____

SOIL CLASSIFICATION: _____

EXCAVATION DEPTH: _____ EXCAVATION WIDTH: _____

TYPE OF PROTECTIVE SYSTEM USED: _____

Indicate for each item: a check mark or N/A for not applicable

1. General Inspection of Jobsite:

- ☐ A. Excavations, adjacent areas, and protective systems inspected by a competent person daily before the start of work. Field level Hazard Assessment completed
- ☐ B. Competent person has the authority to remove employees from the excavation immediately.
- ☐ C. Surface encumbrances removed or supported.
- ☐ D. Employees protected from loose rock or soil that could pose a hazard by falling or rolling into the excavation.
- ☐ E. Hard hats and safety shoes worn by all employees.
- ☐ F. Spoils, materials, and equipment set back at least 1 meter from the edge of the excavation.
- ☐ G. Barriers provided at all remotely located excavations, wells, pits, shafts, etc.
- ☐ H. Walkways and bridges over excavations four feet or more in depth are equipped with standard guardrails and toe boards and clear of obstructions.
- ☐ I. Warning vests or other highly visible clothing provided and worn by all employees exposed to public vehicular traffic..
- ☐ J. Warning system established and utilized when mobile equipment is operating near the edge of the excavation.



☐ k. Employees prohibited from working on the faces of slopes or benched excavations above other employees.

☐ L. Signage Visible

2. Utilities:

☐ A. Utility companies contacted and/or utilities located.

☐ B. Exact location of utilities marked.

☐ C. Underground installations protected, supported, or removed when excavation is open.

3. Means of Access and Egress:

☐ A. Lateral travel to means of egress no greater than 3 meters in excavations four feet or more in depth.

☐ B. Ladders used in excavations secured and extended 1 meter above the edge of the trench.

☐ C. Structural ramps used by employees designed by a competent person.

☐ D. Structural ramps used for equipment designed by a registered professional engineer (RPE)

☐ E. Ramps constructed of materials of uniform thickness, cleated together on the bottom, equipped with no-slip surface.

☐ F. Employees protected from cave-ins when entering or exiting the excavation.

4. Wet Conditions:

☐ A. Precautions taken to protect employees from the accumulation of water.

☐ B. Water removal equipment monitored by a competent person.

☐ C. Surface water or runoff diverted or controlled to prevent accumulation in the excavation.

☐ D. Inspections made after every rainstorm or other hazard-increasing occurrence.

5. Hazardous Atmosphere:

☐ A. Atmosphere within the excavation tested where there is a reasonable possibility of an oxygen deficiency, combustible or other harmful contaminant exposing employees to a hazard.

☐ B. Adequate precautions taken to protect employees from exposure to an atmosphere containing less than 19.5% oxygen and/or to other hazardous atmospheres



- ☐ C. Ventilation provided to prevent employee exposure to an atmosphere containing flammable gas in excess of 10% of the lower explosive limit of the gas.
- ☐ D. Testing conducted often to ensure that the atmosphere remains safe.
- ☐ E. Emergency equipment, such as breathing apparatus, safety harness and lifeline, and/or basket stretcher readily available where hazardous atmospheres could or do exist.
- ☐ F. Employees trained to use personal protective and other rescue equipment.

6. Support Systems:

- ☐ A. Materials and/or equipment for support systems selected based on soil analysis, trench depth, and expected loads.
- ☐ B. Damaged materials and equipment used for protective systems inspected by a registered professional engineer (RPE) after repairs and before being placed back into service.
- ☐ C. Protective systems installed without exposing employees to the hazards of cave-ins, collapses, or threat of being struck by materials or equipment.
- ☐ D. Members of support system securely fastened to prevent failure.
- ☐ E. Support systems provided in ensure stability of adjacent structures, buildings, roadways, sidewalks, walls, etc.
- ☐ F. Removal of support systems progresses from the bottom and members are released slowly as to note any indication of possible failure.
- ☐ G. Backfilling progresses with removal of support system.