

Permission to Carry Out Works in Public Sewer / Manhole

No person shall open any manhole cover or access the public sewer by any means without the prior permission of PUB.

QP/contractor shall submit Form B to PUB to obtain the permission before entering any public sewer to carry out any works, inspection or CCTV sewer inspection. Failure to obtain permission from PUB is a violation of the Sewerage and Drainage Act. Offenders are liable for enforcement actions.

(I) Risk Management: Risk Assessment

All contractors who wish to work in sewers, pumping mains, manholes, chambers, sumps and other confined spaces shall ensure that all safety procedures are adhered to. Risk assessment shall be conducted at all workplaces. Employers, self-employed persons and principals (including contractors and sub-contractors) have the responsibility of identifying safety and health hazards at the workplace and taking appropriate actions to eliminate the hazards or reduce the risk associated with the hazards. These requirements are specified in the Workplace Safety and Health (Risk Management) Regulations.

The details and Form can be downloaded from MOM website at:
<http://www.mom.gov.sg/workplace-safety-health/safety-health-management-systems/Pages/risk-management.aspx>

II) SAFETY AND PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT

The following equipment for the safety and protection of the workmen shall be provided by the contractor. This equipment shall be made available at the worksite before the commencement of any work. The contractor shall ensure that his workmen are familiar with the use of all safety and protective equipment required.

Safety Apparatus - Multi-gas monitor, lifting harness, torchlight, first aid kit, lifelines, aluminium ladder, air blower, breathing apparatus, oxygen meter;
Protective Equipment - Safety belt, safety helmet and gloves, knee length rubber boots, overall illuminous vest;

Other Equipment & Tools - Portable air blower, traffic warning lights and signs, barricades, pedestrian warning signs, manhole gratings, non-sparkling tools, flame proof lights;

The Contractor shall ensure that his workmen practise good personal hygiene and take precautions such as wearing facemask, goggles, glove, rubber boot etc, to avoid contact with wastewater when working in the sewerage system.