Civil Construction Industry

Plant Operator

2015

Comparative Summary

The scope of different job tasks that may be undertaken within any occupation, either by work specialization or by evolving project stages - means that the physical demands required to perform job tasks can vary quite significantly.

The table and graph below provides a summary of Civil Contruction Industry occupations and the indicative ergonomic physical demands.

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Occupation Ergonomics** | **Light** | **Moderate** | **Laboured** | **sum** |  |
| Road Construction Worker | 35.90% | 43.59% | 20.51% | 100% |  |
| Tunnel Worker | 33.33% | 51.28% | 15.39% | 100% |  |
| Foundation Worker | 35.90% | 48.72% | 15.38% | 100% |  |
| Road Marking Operator | 39.46% | 46.15% | 15.38% | 101% |  |
| Pavement Layer | 43.59% | 41.03% | 15.38% | 100% |  |
| Bridge Constructor | 43.59% | 41.03% | 15.38% | 100% |  |
| Plant Operator | 61.54% | 23.08% | 15.38% | 100% |  |
| Pipe Layer | 28.21% | 58.97% | 12.82% | 100% |  |
| Leading Hand | 38.46% | 48.72% | 12.82% | 100% |  |
| Directional Driller | 38.46% | 53.85% | 7.69% | 100% |  |
| Estimator | 89.74% | 5.13% | 5.13% | 100% |  |
| Supervisor | 66.67% | 33.33% | 0.00% | 100% |  |
| Project Manager | 71.79% | 28.21% | 0.00% | 100% |  |
| WHS Advisor | 84.62% | 15.38% | 0.00% | 100% |  |
| Civil Engineer | 87.18% | 12.82% | 0.00% | 100% |  |

Plant Operator

**Facilitating a Return to Work**

This document is a tool to assist General Practitioners’ in their examination of the functional ability of a worker and to assess possible restrictions after injury. It provides a summary of the occupational role and its physical demands.

**Physical Demands**

The physical demands required to perform job tasks can vary quite significantly and depend on the scope of the work, work specialization, worker skills and on the stage of the project. The following ergonomic assessment is indicative of a *usual* Worker’s physical demand requirements within this industry occupation.





**Range of tasks performed in the occupation**

Plant operators are responsible for the safe and efficient operation of their load shifting machinery.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| * Pre-start inspection of machines for operation | * Operate earthmoving plant & attachments |
| * Operate gradient levelling equipment | * Operate load shifting equipment |
| * Working from drawings and plans specifications | * Minor Plant maintenance & adjustments |

Plant Operator

**Alternative Titles**

Operator/s of: Load shifting, Backhoe, Bulldozer, Earthmover, Excavator, Front-end Loader, Grader, Rock-breaker, Loader, Paving Plant, Road Roller, Scraper, Skid Steer, Trench Digging Machine, Water Cart, Water Truck, Pipe-layer, Mobile Plant, and Driver (Mobile Plant).

**Education and Training:**

The formal qualification is Certificate III in Civil Construction (Plant Operations). This is a nationally recognized qualification. RTO based plant training and assessment is available for skilled operators seeking competency certification for categories, LE, LL, LB, LS, and Roller & Dump Truck.

**Overview of Occupation:**

Plant operators operate load shifting and earthmoving machinery. Some operators will acquire the skills to operate many and varied types of plant machinery, while some may specialise in a particular class or type.

**Employers Assessment**

It is recommended that this document be provided to an employee’s Medical Practitioner in the event of a workplace incident that causes harm. It has been designed to provide information about the ergonomic requirements for employees in their normal role, to support informed medical decisions, and to encourage safe and timely return to work after injury. Employers are encouraged to complete their own assessment using the table below. This provides information about the physical requirements of the specific employee’s work tasks. *Please complete by placing a tick in the cell that best represents the physical demands for the injured worker.*



|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Completed by (Manager) |  | Sign |
| Date of assessment |  |
| Business / Employers name |  | |
| Employee name |  | |