

Forkway Risk Assessment – RA 011

Task/ Activity	This assessment covers Forkway Engineers working on or near water.			Persons Exposed		
Location	Forkway locations and customer sites throughout the UK and Republic of Ireland.			Briggs Employees	Customer Employees	Members of Public
Name of Assessor(s)	Vic Hargreaves (Regional SHEQ Advisor)	Date of Assessment	12/04/2024 (V2)	1 - 2	May be in area	May be in area
		Date of Next Review	12/04/2025			
Stop and Think						
Before undertaking any task/ activity it is essential that you have read and understood all the control measures in this document and are satisfied that the control measures herein are suitable and sufficient. If you find the control measures are not suitable and sufficient, contact your line manager before proceeding.						
The personal protective equipment required at all times throughout the task is Safety Boots, Overalls, Nitrile Gloves and Safety Glasses. Where additional PPE is required it will be identified at the relevant points in this risk assessment, supporting risk assessments, supporting safe working methods and relevant COSHH assessments.						

Hazard	Initial			Control Measures	Residual		
	Likelihood	Severity	Rating		Likelihood	Severity	Rating
1. Slip or trip into water.	3	5	15	Avoid working on or near water (within 3m) where possible. If working on the water, on a boat, jetty or similar a life jacket must be worn at all times regardless of whether barriers are in place. If work near water cannot be avoided, a life jacket must be worn unless there are suitable fixed barriers in place that would prevent you from reaching the water. Ensure there is no slip or trip hazards in the work area or immediate vicinity before starting.	1	5	5
2. Fall into water from access equipment used alongside water.	2	5	10	As above. If access equipment is required to be used, there must be at least the equivalent distance on the ground between you and the water's edge of the highest possible height that can be reached using the access equipment plus a further 3m.	1	5	5
3. Slide down banking/ slope into water.	3	5	15	Work must not be undertaken on any steep banking or slope which leads onto water under any circumstances. Equipment must be recovered from this location by the customer.	1	5	5
4. Slip on ice or frost into water.	3	5	15	Work near water must not be undertaken in icy or frozen conditions under any circumstances. Equipment must be recovered from this location by the customer or wait until ice has melted.	1	5	5
5. Falling through ice into water.	3	5	15	Engineers must never attempt to walk across or stand on ice that has formed above a body of water. Take care when walking as iced surface may be covered/ disguised by leaves or debris.	1	5	5

MULTIPLY THE LIKLIHOOD AND SEVERITY TO GET THE RISK RATING

Likelihood - (5=Very Likely, 4= Likely, 3= Possible, 2= Unlikely, 1= Highly Unlikely)

Severity - (5=Very Severe, 4= Severe, 3= Moderate, 2= Slight, 1=Negligible)

0- 5 = Low Risk - No Action Required.

6-15 = Medium Risk - Ensure adequate controls are in use.

16-25 = High Risk - Stop operation and implement adequate control measures

Hazard	Initial			Control Measures	Residual		
	L	S	R		L	S	R
6. Driving vehicle or plant into water.	3	5	15	Extreme care and caution must be taken when operating your service vehicle or any plant equipment near water. Never operate within 3m of the water's edge regardless of whether there are barriers or similar. Do not operate any plant equipment unless you are fully trained to do so and fully familiar with the controls. Select the lowest gear/ speed setting and operate with caution. For larger vehicles or plant remember to consider the swing when turning.	1	5	5
7. Tidal rise/ sudden change in water level allowing water to reach or come closer to work area.	2	5	10	Before work begins consider anything which could cause the water level to rise or come closer to you, like heavy rain or tidal water. Enquire with customer as to whether the water is tidal and what the current position is. If water is tidal, establish the furthest point at which the water can reach and work at least a further 3m away from this point. Continue to dynamically assess the situation on an ongoing basis throughout the job. If water levels rise or tidal water comes within 3m of you stop the task and move the work area.	1	5	5
8. Struck, knocked over or swept into water by large wave.	2	5	10	Assess work area before starting for risk of waves striking you. If there is any potential for this to happen do not continue and seek a new work area. Continue to dynamically assess the situation on an ongoing basis throughout the job.	1	5	5
9. Fall into water from collapse of bridge or gangway over water.	3	5	15	Work should never be undertaken on a bridge, gangway or similar over water. Avoid moving vehicles or plant over bridges or gangways, request customer delivers equipment to your work area. If this cannot be avoided, enquire with customer contact as to the maximum load bearing capacity of the bridge/ gangway before proceeding. Ensure the vehicle or plant does not exceed this and drive carefully with caution. If you are in any doubt, contact your line manager before proceeding.	1	5	5
10. Equipment becoming detached from dock.	2	4	8	Before any work commences to any equipment that is docked the tether lines must be secured correctly to prevent the equipment from becoming detached from the dock	1	4	4
11. Fall into water from collapse of ground near water.	2	5	10	Assess work area before starting for risk of the ground near the water collapsing. Look for signs of weak ground or of previous collapses and consult customer. If there is any potential for this to happen do not continue and seek a new work area. Continue to dynamically assess the situation on an ongoing basis throughout the job and remain vigilant for anything which may cause ground to weaken, like heavy rain or increased loading from other plant equipment.	1	5	5
12. Tether rope tension change with tidal levels.	3	4	12	Before work begins consider anything which could cause the water level to rise such as like heavy rain or tidal water. Enquire with customer as to whether the water is tidal and what the current position is. If water is tidal, establish if this could affect the tether rope tension and the safety of the work being carried out or compromise the safety / stability of the equipment which is tethered.	1	4	4

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13. Leptospirosis or other water borne disease from contact with water.	2	5	10	Engineers are trained in recognising the symptoms of leptospirosis and carry a leptospirosis card. Good levels of personal hygiene must be observed at all times. Wash hands immediately following task and before eating, drinking, or going to the toilet. Overalls, nitrile gloves, safety glasses and safety boots must be worn at all times throughout task.	1	5	5
14. Hypothermia from falling into the cold water.	2	5	10	Change of clothes must be carried by all persons who work on or near water. Steps must be taken to dry off and warm up immediately. Wet clothing must be changed and use service vehicle heating to get warm. Drink hot drinks if available and inform site contact and line manager as soon as possible. Seek medical advice immediately if any symptoms of ill health are felt following the incident.	1	5	5
15. Electric shock from use of mains powered tooling or equipment.	3	5	15	No mains powered tools or equipment to be used on or near water: use battery operated tools and equipment only.	1	5	5
16. Lone working – no means of rescue / raising the alarm following a fall into water.	3	5	15	Lone working must not be undertaken on or near water under any circumstance.	1	5	5

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