



Safety Bulletin EM 385-1-1

Mobile District Safety and Occupational Health Office

Bulletin 46-09

EXCAVATION AND TRENCHING PLAN

The 15 September 2008 Safety Manual (yellow book) is now in effect for most new contracts and government operations. Please note the changes for excavation and trenching as stated below.

25.A.01 Excavation/Trenching Plan. An Excavation/Trenching Plan will be submitted and accepted by the GDA prior to beginning operations. At a minimum, the plan shall include:

- a. Conditions: For excavations/trenches less than 5 ft (1.5 m) in depth, an AHA is required; plan is optional. For excavations or trenches greater than 5 ft (1.5 m) in depth an AHA and plan are required;
- b. Identification and credentials of Competent Person;
- c. Diagram or sketch of the area where the work is to be done, with adjacent and nearby structures shown;
- d. Projected depth of the excavation;
- e. Projected soil type and method of testing to determine soil type;
- f. Planned method of shoring, sloping and/or benching;
- g. Planned method for confined space entry, trench access and egress and atmospheric monitoring processes;
- h. Location of utility shut offs (if required);
- i. Proposed methods for preventing damage to overhead utility lines, trees designated to remain, and other man-made facilities or natural features designated to remain within or adjacent to the construction rights-of-way;
- j. Plan for management of excavated soil/asphalt/concrete;
- k. Plan for traffic control;
- l. Digging permits (Excavation permits). All underground lines/utilities (communication lines, water, fuel, electric lines) shall be located and protected from damage or displacement. Utility companies and other responsible authorities shall be contacted to locate and mark the locations and, if they so desire, direct or assist with protecting the underground installations. The Contractor shall obtain a "Digging Permit" (excavation permit) from Base Civil Engineers or other authority having jurisdiction prior the initiation of any excavation work. Requests for the permits will be processed through the GDA.
- m. Certification of UXO clearance. Where excavations are to be performed in areas known or suspected to contain explosives, unexploded munitions, or military ordnance, surface and subsurface clearance by qualified explosive ordnance disposal (EOD) personnel shall be accomplished prior to excavation work.
- n. For Cofferdams: Controlled flooding plan, Fall protection, Access/egress; Evacuation procedures.



Please post and share with others

7-30-09