



**CONSTRUCTION**  
Training Group

# **LEARNER GUIDE**

## **Mini Dumper**

### **MD**

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## Assessor Guidelines – Specific (Performance Assessment)

1. The Assessment requires the operator to check the equipment, plan the work and to safely and competently operate the Mini Dumper.

The Assessment is performed in three sections:

- 1.1 Conduct routine pre-operational check on Mini Dumper.
- 1.2 Inspect the site and plan the work.
- 1.3 Conduct pre-operational and post start up checks on the Mini Dumper.
- 2.1 Drives the Mini Dumper to the work area.
- 2.2 Load, transport, unload material.
- 3.1 Shut down the equipment and secure the site.

2. The performance assessment can be conducted at any location which has

- Sufficient clear space to operate the machine
- Ground suitable to load, transport, unload material

3. Equipment and resources required:

- A Mini Dumper
- Suitable site on which to use the Mini Dumper to load, transport and unload material
- Loading equipment to load the Mini Dumper

4. Unless other arrangements are agreed to by the Assessor, it will be the responsibility of the Applicant, Applicant's employer or trainer to provide the required equipment and resources.

5. To be assessed an Applicant must wear:

- Safety helmets (where required)
- Appropriate footwear
- Other protective clothing and equipment as appropriate

6. The performance of each Applicant is to be recorded on the Assessor's checklist.

7. Safety of personnel

When an Applicant is working dangerously, recklessly or without the necessary coordination, the Assessor must direct the Applicant to cease work and terminate the Assessment immediately.

8. The items in the shaded boxes are of critical importance. Failure to get any of these correct means that competency has not been achieved and the Applicant must be failed.

9. In cases where criteria cannot be physically performed the applicant is required to demonstrate his/her understanding of these criteria by answering relevant questions orally, or by simulation.

The type of answer provided is to be shown on the assessment sheet as:

- O** Oral assessment
- S** Simulated assessment
- N/A** Not Applicable

10. Where an Applicant is assessed as "not yet competent" he/she must be informed of the reason(s) for the failure in order to gain further appropriate training.

11. The full Performance Assessment can take up to forty minutes.

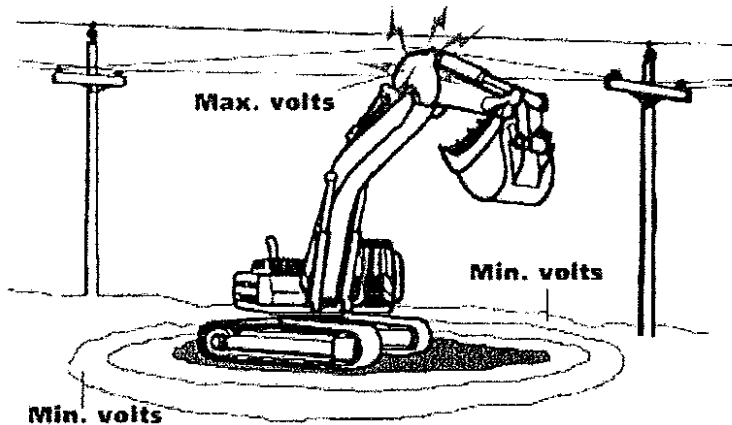
12. The Applicant's competence in each unit is to be summarised for both performance and knowledge on the summary sheet.

Competency is achieved for a unit when the required number of boxes for the unit has been ticked or marked "O", "S" or "N/A".

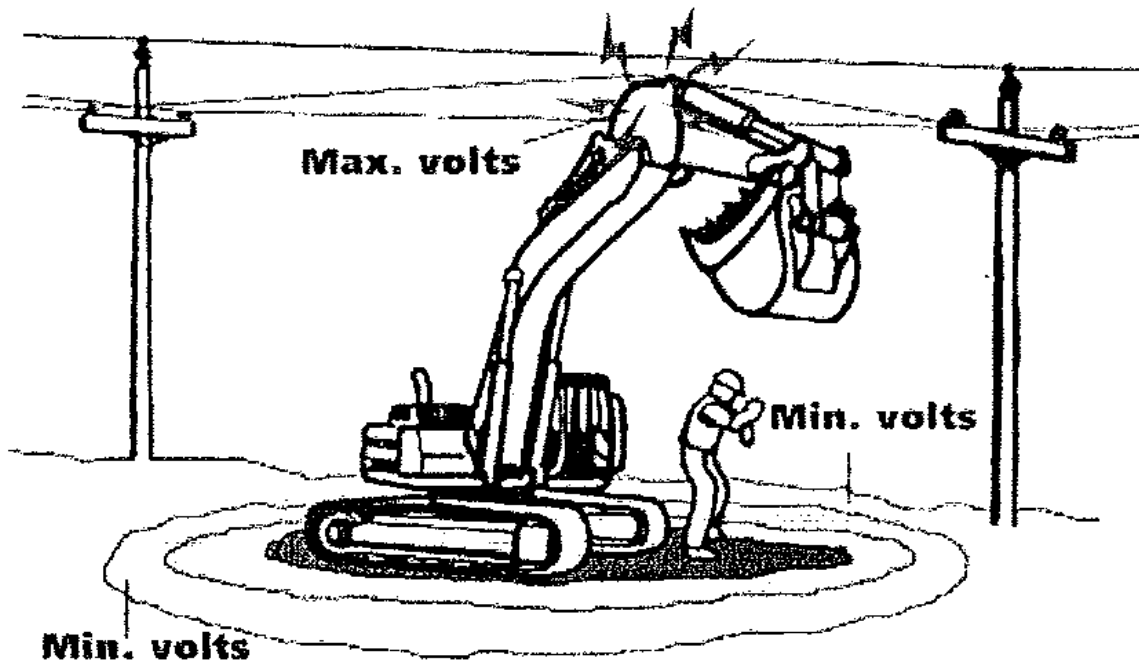
Overall competency is achieved when all competence in all units has been assessed



Diagram 1:



*If anything touches a high-voltage power line or if a power line falls to the ground, electricity will flow to the ground energising the tree or equipment and anything in contact with it. The surrounding ground may be extremely hazardous. The voltage gradually decreases from the point of contact until it reaches zero. The safe distance shown here—10 metres — is for line voltages up to and including 66 kV (66,000 V).*

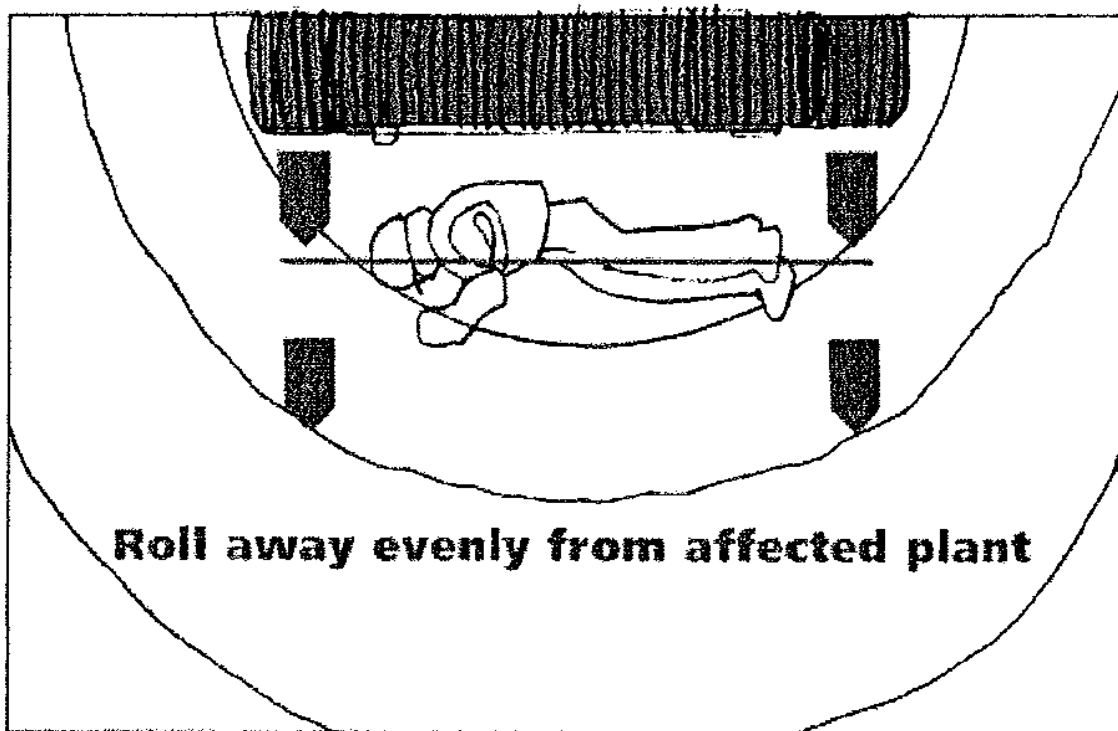
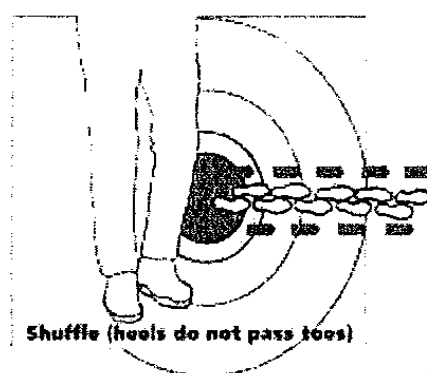
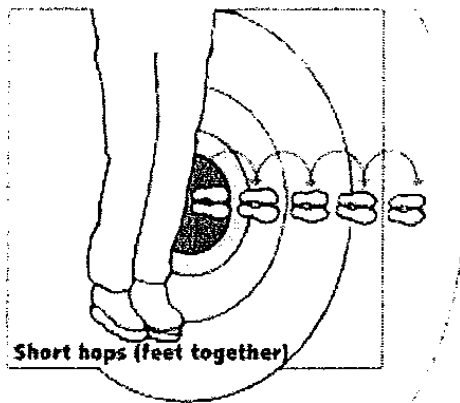


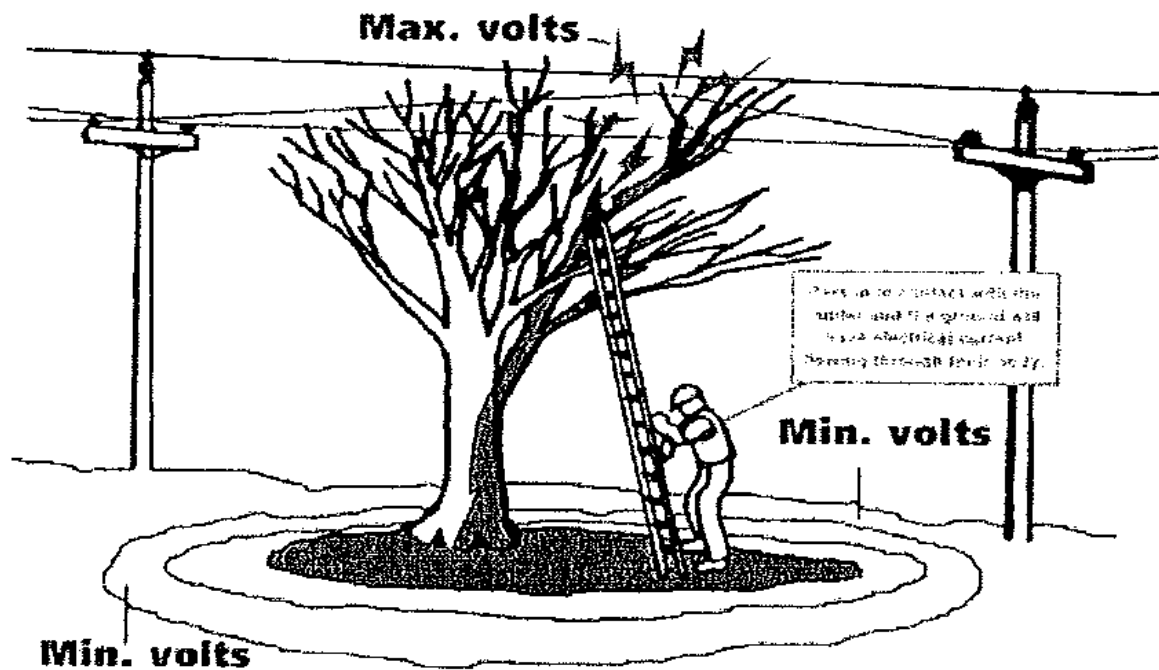
### **Step potential**

Step potential is the voltage difference between two places that are a step apart on energised ground. For example, if you are standing on energised ground, there could be a significant difference in voltage between where one foot and the other are placed, and an electric current could flow up one leg and down the other.

*Step potential. If your feet are spread apart on energised ground, electricity can flow through your body from the area of higher voltage to the area of lower voltage*

If your feet are close together and touching, you are fairly safe. Since there is almost no voltage difference between the places your feet stand, there is little reason for electricity to seek a path through your body.





### ***Touch potential***

Touch potential is another danger that comes from the difference in voltage. It occurs when you touch something that is energised while standing on the lower voltage ground. For example, if some equipment is in contact with a power line, it will be energised to the same voltage as the power line; the surrounding ground will be energised to a lower voltage. If you touch the energised equipment or tree at the same time as you touch the ground with your feet, electricity will flow through your body from the higher voltage equipment to the lower voltage ground.

*Touch potential: Trees and equipment become energised when they contact a power line. Electricity can flow through a worker who touches the energised tree or equipment, often causing serious injury or death.*

Currents greater than 75 mA can cause ventricular fibrillation (rapid, ineffective heartbeat) and will cause death in a few minutes.

## CONDUCT ROUTINE CHECKS

### 1.1 Routine checks on vehicle/equipment

- Tyre condition and inflation, condition of wheels.

#### Checks liquid levels -

- Fuel  
 Hydraulic Oil  
 Engine Oil  
 Coolant  
 Transmission  
 Battery

#### Checks equipment for defects -

- Safety guards and covers  
 Warning signs  
 Damaged, worn or broken parts  
 Loose nuts, bolts  
 Hoses and fittings  
 Grease holes and grease pins  
 Connections for missing pins or keepers

## PLAN WORK AND CHECK EQUIPMENT

### 1.2 Inspects site and plans work.

#### Identify Hazards -

- Soft and sloping edges  
 Rough/uneven/unstable terrain  
 Service drains  
 Inclines and declines  
 Services eg power, gas  
 Plant, personnel  
 Obstructions  
 Wet slippery conditions  
 Restricted operator vision area  
 Dump sites

#### Access and path of movement is indicated -

- To work area  
 For work

#### Appropriate equipment for the task -

- Equipment is appropriate for the task

## OPERATIONAL CHECKS

### 1.3 Conducts pre-operational and post start-up checks in accordance with manufacturer's specifications/operating manual.

- Mounts correctly  
 Adjusts seat, secures safety belt  
 In neutral, park, start  
 Warning device  
 Personnel clear  
 Starts engine  
 Gauges, warning lights  
 Braking system  
 Steering  
 Park brake

## DRIVES UNIT

### 2.1 Drives to the work area.

- Dump body lowered  
 Selects appropriate route  
 Ensures travel direction clear  
 Travels at safe speed  
 Obeyes road and warning signs

### 2.2 Load, transport, unload material

- Maintains safe distance from edges as directed by supervisor, site instructions, spotter, signing or barricades  
 Positions Mini Dumper in correct position for loading  
 Remains in cabin while being loaded  
 Checks that loading area is clear of other plant before moving off  
 Uses transmission and brakes correctly  
 Travels on route as directed by site instructions  
 Maintains safe following distance with other equipment



- Travels at safe and acceptable speed
- Drives Mini Dumper to suit ground conditions eg mud, boggy areas, inclines, rough ground, slippery ground
- Avoids sudden steering or severe braking actions on sloping ground if driving an articulated Mini Dumper (if applicable)  
*Note: If not applicable the assessor is to verbally ask the applicant why these areas should be avoided.*
- Avoids travelling across sloping ground if possible when driving an articulated Mini Dumper (if applicable)  
*Note: If not applicable the assessor is to verbally ask the applicant why this area should be avoided.*
- Checks unloading area is clear
- Obeys directions given by spotter (if applicable)
- Checks rear-view mirrors before reversing, aware of personnel
- Aware of danger areas eg obstructions, edges, excavations, overheads, other plant and equipment
- Dump body not raised while reversing over uneven ground
- Stockpile unloading, rear wheels same distance from edge (not at an angle), dump body level, obeys directions
- Hopper unloading, abides by safety directions as per company policy eg siren, bell, lights, radio communications
- Unloading over a bank, obeys spotter, uses wheel stops, safety barrier, dump body level
- Travels with dump body fully lowered
- Gives way to loaded trucks and scrapers
- Signals are interpreted and observed

## SHUTS DOWN EQUIPMENT AND SECURES SITE

### 3.1 Shuts down equipment and secures site

#### Parks equipment -

- Parks away from danger areas and in a suitable location
- Dump body lowered, or safety props in place

#### Shuts down equipment -

- Neutralises controls
- Sets parking brake/safety lock
- As per Operation Manual
- Removes keys
- Locks cabin (if applicable)
- Dismounts correctly

#### Post operational check -

- Minor servicing
- Checks and reports any damage



# **National Guidelines for OHS Competency Standards**

## **Mini Dumper Safety**

### **PART 2**

#### **ORAL/WRITTEN ASSESSMENT**

## Assessor Guidelines – Specific (Knowledge Assessment)

1. Knowledge assessment for Mini Dumper is divided into three units.

2. To satisfy the requirements for competency the applicant must correctly answer (either in writing or orally) the specified number of questions in each of the following sections:

If the assessment is conducted orally, the assessor must record the answers provided by the applicant.

### **1.1 Conduct routine checks**

Select 9

### **1.2 Plan Work**

Select 11

### **1.3 Check controls and equipment**

Select 2

### **2.1 Drives Unit**

Select 9

### **3.1 Shut down equipment**

Select 2

### **3.2 Secure site**

Select 1

4. The full knowledge assessment of thirty-four (34) questions can take up to 1 hour.

5. The items in the shaded boxes are of critical importance. Failing to get any of these correct means that competency has not been achieved and the applicant must be failed.

**1.1 Conduct Routine Checks**  
**(select 9 from Q1-14 including all shaded boxes)**

1. What should be the first check of your Mini Dumper at the start of your shift?

- Pre start checks, walk around it looking for visual defects*

2. What precautions must be taken when an inspection or work has to be performed under a raised body or a crush point area?

- Safety props or bars, provision provided to prevent personnel from being injured by striking or crushing.*

3. Name three defects that you would look for when conducting a routine check on the hydraulic system of the Mini Dumper.

- Hydraulic oil leaks, loose connections and hoses for splits, fractures or bulges*

4. Name five pre-operational checks that should be carried out on the Mini Dumper before it is started.

- Radiator, battery, fuel, oil, hydraulic lines, tyres, seat belt, damage, body, structure etc*

5. What warning device must function on the Mini Dumper to warn personnel that the Mini Dumper is to travel or is travelling in reverse?

- A reverse warning device, Beeper or Squawker*

6. What problem could be indicated by bubbles or milky engine oil in the sump?

- Water leaking into the sump*

7. Why shouldn't the hydraulic oil storage tank be filled above the filled mark?

- Space in the tank is needed for displacement in the system*

8. When changing a battery which battery clamp should be removed first?

- The earthed battery clamp*

9. How would you remove the radiator filler cap of a Mini Dumper that has not completely cooled off?

- Allow to cool or Slightly loosen cap to release pressure and then slowly remove cap*

10. What should be provided on the Mini Dumper to prevent the operator from being dislodged from the seat of the Mini Dumper?

- A safety belt*

11. How would you establish that pre-start checks have been carried out?

- By recording relevant information on to the daily operator's check sheet*

12. How would you establish the service and the frequency of the service to be carried out on the Mini Dumper you are required to operate?

- By the service manual provided by the manufacturer*

13. To establish if the required service has been conducted what document would you refer to?

- The log book*

14. What fault in the Mini Dumper would excessive or uneven wear on tyres be an indication of?

- A bent axle or wheel misalignment*

**1.2 Plan Work**  
**(select 4 from Q15-20) including all shaded boxes)**

15. What hazards would you look for when establishing the most appropriate route for loads?

- Sloping, soft or rough terrain, inclines, declines, obstructions such as boggy ground, rocks and underground services*

16. What would you refer to in order to establish the location of underground services?

- Dial Before You Dig plans, Supply authority or council maps*

17. If you accidentally damaged an electrical cable who would you immediately contact to render the power supply safe?

- The electrical supply authority*

18. Why should side hill travel be avoided where possible?

- There is a greater risk of turning the machine over with side hill travel*

19. What effect would a rough surface have on the operating speed of the Mini Dumper?

- It would decrease the safe operating speed of the Mini Dumper and reduce the load you could carry*

20. What is the danger of travelling near the edge of fill, trenches and unloading area? List two.

- The edge may collapse or Mini Dumper could tip or roll over)(Injury to operator*

**(Select 3 from Q21-26 including all shaded boxes)**

21. What should be provided to prevent a person falling into a trench or excavation?

- Barricades or guardrails or fencing*

22. How should the flow of road traffic be controlled where signs and barricades are considered inadequate to control a potential hazard?

- By a traffic controller (Or by Police Officer)*

23. When should ear protection be worn?

- Where the noise could contribute to the loss of hearing, above 85DB*

24. If there is a likelihood of the Mini Dumper being overturned what must be provided on the Mini Dumper to protect the operator?

- A rollover protective structure and seat belts*

25. When should a person wear a safety helmet?

- Where the person could be struck on the head*

26. What is the minimum type of footwear that an operator should wear to operate a Mini Dumper?

- Safety footwear (Steel capped boots)*

**(Select 4 from Q27-32 including all shaded boxes)**

27. Which is the preferred route of travel, diagonally across or directly down a sloping surface?

- Directly down the sloping surface*

28. What gear should be selected to travel down a steep sloping surface?

- A low gear. The gear required to climb the sloping surface*

29. What is required to be obtained before an unregistered rubber tyred Mini Dumper is driven along a public road?

- An unregistered vehicle permit*

30. Why must the operator remain in the cabin of the Mini Dumper being loaded?

- For his own safety and also so the loading equipment operator knows of his location*

31. Is it permissible to carry passengers in a Mini Dumper?

- No. Only if there is approved seating and seatbelts*

32. How would you establish the capabilities and limitations of the equipment?

- Operators manual or documentation from the manufacturer*

### 1.3 Check controls and equipment

(Select 2 from Q33-36 including all shaded boxes)

33. What actions would you take if you detected any damage or defects on the Mini Dumper?

Don't use it, Tag it out, Report to supervisor

34. What control would you test to ensure that the Mini Dumper can be slowed, stopped and turned?

The brakes and steering

35. On the start up check you notice a bulge form in a hydraulic hose. What action would you take?

Switch off the machine, don't use it, and have the hose replaced

36. When should tests, checks and inspections be made by the operator on the Mini Dumper that is to be operated?

Daily before use

### 2.1 Drive Unit

(Select 3 from Q37-48 including all shaded boxes)

37. Applicant to state the meaning of the hand signal of "stop" demonstrated by the examiner.

Raised palm means "Stop operating"

38. How would you dismount a machine that contacted live power lines?

Jump clear ensuring contact with the ground and machine is not at the same time, feet together shuffle away 10m

39. When travelling what would you do before travelling down a steep grade?

Reduce speed with service brake and select the appropriate gear for the grade

40. Before reversing a Mini Dumper what precautions should be taken?

Ensure the direction of travel is clear, look over both shoulders

(Select 6 from Q41-49 including all shaded boxes)

41. What is the danger of slipping tyres on shale or rock?

The tyres may be cut and blow out

42. Would you coast the Mini Dumper downhill?

No

43. Why is it important to place the Mini Dumper in the correct position for loading?

The loading equipment can load quicker and therefore increase productivity

44. Why must caution be shown when travelling on sloping ground with an articulated Mini Dumper. Explain your answer.

The Mini Dumper may tip over. Articulated Mini Dumpers are not as stable as rigid Mini Dumpers on sloping ground

45. Why must the dump body be lowered before travelling?

With the dump body raised the Mini Dumper would become unstable and therefore may tip over

46. Why is it important to obey the spotter's directions?

The spotter has better vision at the rear of the Mini Dumper than the operator

47. What aids can be used to guide the Mini Dumper operator when unloading over a bank? List two.

Wheel stops, safety barrier, spotter

48. Why should sudden steering or severe braking actions be avoided on sloping ground when operating an articulated Mini Dumper?

The Mini Dumper could tip or roll over

49. As an operator would you leave an unattended Mini Dumper engine running?

No

### 3.1 Shut down equipment

**(Select 2 from Q50-54 including all shaded boxes)**

50. Name the areas where you would not park the Mini Dumper.

- Access ways, rear overhangs, refuelling sites, tidal or flood areas, adjacent to excavations

51. Which direction should the Mini Dumper face if it has to be parked on a sloping surface?

- Across the slope

52. Where possible what type of surface should be selected to park the Mini Dumper on?

- A firm level surface

53. When leaving the Mini Dumper what should be done with the dump body?

- The dump body lowered, or safety bars/props in place if the body is to be left in a raised position

54. What post-operational checks should be carried out by the operator at the end of the shift?

- Check the equipment for defects and wear, fluid levels and refuel

### 3.2 Secure Site

**(Select 1 from Q55 - 56)**

55. What shall be provided when a Mini Dumper has to be parked on or protrudes on to an access way?

- Barricades, lights and signs

56. For what reason should the key be removed from the ignition of the machine?

- To prevent unauthorised movement.

Unit	Form of assessment	Total number of boxes in the assessment	Number of boxes given or NA	Number of boxes required to meet standard	Were all critical boxes given or NA?		Assessment standard requirements achieved *		
					Yes	No	Yes	No	
1	Performance	37		28	Yes	No	Yes	No	
	Knowledge	22		15	Yes	No	Yes	No	
	Assessment completed within time allowed							Yes	No
2	Performance	27		20	Yes	No	Yes	No	
	Knowledge	9		7	Yes	No	Yes	No	
	Assessment completed within time allowed							Yes	No
3	Performance	10		8	Yes	No	Yes	No	
	Knowledge	3		2	Yes	No	Yes	No	
	Assessment completed within time allowed							Yes	No

\*Performance standard = Number of items required to meet standard (including all critical boxes)  
 Knowledge standard = Number of questions required to meet standard (including all critical boxes)

**Summary**

Candidate is:

- COMPETENT**  
 **NOT YET COMPETENT**

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Assessor: \_\_\_\_\_ Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Candidate \_\_\_\_\_ Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Comments/feedback:

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