Environmental Risk Assessment

Facility: **Equestrian Surfaces Limited**
Location: **Phoenix Works, Phoenix Way, Burnley BB11 5SX**
Risk Assessment Carried Out By: **AC Environmental Consulting Ltd**
Date: **17-Dec-25**

Date & Information				Judgement					
Receptor	**Source**	**Harm**	**Pathway**	**Probability of Exposure**	**Consequence**	**Magnitude of Risk**	**Justification for Magnitude**	**Risk Management**	**Residual Risk**
Local Human Population	Dust & Bioaerosols	Harm to human health - respiratory illness	Air Transport then inhalation	Medium	Medium	Medium	Permitted waste types received are wastes that do have the potential for dust and can degrade if exposed to the external elements for a long period of time. There is also a risk of dust being produced in relation to movements on the concrete yard surface.	Dust supression on site to be carried out by mechanical sweeper and where needed, the mobile mister and hoses. Processing operations only occur within the processing building which is equipped with a Mist-Air mister system. Waste and product storage is enclosed within the processing building, storage building, or one of the covered areas, or in designated bays, or storage areas in the yard. The unloading area is adjacent to the southern concrete block and panel wall which will act as a dust barrier, therefore reducing the risk of the spread of dust from the sorting activities. The tipping area is located in front of the bays to the west, and the concrete block and panel wall to the north will act as a dust barrier from tipping within the tipping area. Dusty wastes are prioritised for storage inside buildings. Procedures are incorporated into the site management plan and the dust and emissions management plan (DEMP) for the management of dust. Daily inspections are undertaken to check for dust deposits beyond the site boundary. A strict cleaning schedule is also followed to prevent build up of dusts.	Low

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Local Human Population	As above	Nuisance - dust on clothing, cars etc	Air Transport then deposition	Low	Low	Low	There are residential properties 98m to the north of the site on Weavers Fold. It is crucial to note, as stated within the DEMP, that the site is located on a purpose built industrial estate surrounded by additional commercial and industrial properties. The M56 and railway line run along the north of the site which have the potential to produce dust. However as detailed above, there are no pollution pathways which exist to create nuisance and noticeable amounts of dust.	As above	Low
Local Human Population, Livestock and Wildlife	Litter	Nuisance - loss of amenity and harm to animal health	Air Transport then deposition	Medium	Low	Low	Local residents comprise of employees in various industrial operations. The storage and processing of the waste accepted on site has the potential to cause litter although this is contained within the industrial buildings. Carpet wastes in the external yard are stored in their largest form and a low risk of leaving the permitted boundary. There is no known livestock within 500m. The nearest sensitive receptor is residential housing that is situated approximately 98m to the north of the site on Weavers Fold.	In windy periods litter on the yard will be contained by the buildings' walls, the concrete walled bays, the concrete panel walls and the 2.1m high steel palisade fencing. The roller shutter doors of the buildings will be closed in periods of strong wind. Site processing operations only occur within the processing building which will contain any produced litter. Procedures in site management plan detailed actions to be taken by site staff to inspect the site daily and to deal with litter as it arises.	Low

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Local Human Population	Waste, litter and mud on roads	Nuisance, loss of amenity and road traffic accidents	Vehicles entering or leaving the site	Low	Medium	Medium	The site is fully surfaced with impermeable concrete. All waste operations occur on the concrete surface. Therefore, it is unlikely that mud is transferred from the site surface to the road. The condition of the road and road safety is aided by the sites traffic management plan. This traffic management plan is subject to annual review or where incidents occur.	As above, plus a road sweeper will be employed to sweep concreted areas of the site and adjacent roads as conditions require.	Low

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Local Human Population	Noise and vibration	Nuisance, loss of sleep and amenity	Noise through the air and vibration through ground	Low	Low	Low	Local residents mainly comprise of employees in various industrial operations, and the housing estate located approximately 98m to the north of the site. The prevailing background noise climate is already dominated by industrial and commercial activity. It is crucial to note that all processing operations occur indoors within the processing building which is equipped with roller shutter doors. The Environmental Management System contains procedures to manage noise eminating from site operations. The activities carried out on site are generally low audible volume activities.	Ensure site operations remain fully in accordance with the EMS. Due to the nature of the vehicles used on site, the shredders, conveyors, magnetic separator and balers, topography and distances involved it is not believed that vibration will be an issue. There is a strict "engines off" policy for all waiting vehicles and plant when not in active use. All shredding and SRF production activities occur entirely within the enclosed processing building which provides significant attenuation. There is no external processing plant. Roller shutter doors remain closed during processing where possible. Daily perimeter noise checks are carried out as part of the Site Manager's daily inspection. A complaint management system is in place to investigate any noise complaints immediately.	Low
Local Human Population	Odour	Nuisance and Loss of Amenity	Air tranport then inhalation	Very Low	Low	Low	Permitted Waste Types do not include food wastes, sludges or liquids which are likely to give rise to odours	Not significant if managed in accordance with the management plan. Strict acceptance checks are undertaken and malodorous wastes (e.g., food/organic sludge) are rejected. Waste is stored on impermeable concrete and FIFO stock rotation prevents anaerobic conditions within the wastes. Daily olfactory inspections (sniff testing) shall be carried out at the site boundary, as part of the daily inspections. If odorous waste is identified, it is isolated and prioritised for immediate removal off-site. A complaint management system is in place to investigate any odour complaints immediately. A strict cleaning schedule is also followed to prevent build up of odours on waste storage area and processing area surfaces.	Low

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Local Human Population	Scavenging birds and animals	Harm to human health - waste carried offsite and faeces; nuisance and loss of amenity	Air transport and over land	Medium	Low	Low	Permitted waste types (including loose carpets and baled materials) could possibly attract birds however priority is given to storing carpet waste and processed materials indoors, or under solid cover as much as possible.	Site activities, types of waste and low residence time on site will deter the use of stockpiles as nesting habitat.	Low
Local Human Population	Pests	Harm to human health; nuisance and loss of amenity	Air transport and over land	Low	Low	Low	Insects can multiply rapidly in certain conditions	Site activities, the use of the unit building and low residence time on site will deter the use of stockpiles by pests such as rats and will prevent infestation by insects occurring.	Low

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Local Human Population & local environment	Flooding of the site	If wastes are washed off this may contaminate other buildings or habitats downstream	Flood waters	Low	Medium	Low	The site is located within a Flood Zone 1, however there is a medium risk from surface water flooding; the site topography reduces the risk of flooding. Priority for permitted waste types are within the processing building and storage building which have roller shutter doors to seal the building from floodwater in a flood event. Permitted waste types are also stored in the covered areas in the external yard and the concrete walled bay external storage areas are designed to be largely outside of the surface water flood-prone zones. Hydrosnake barriers are deployed across the site entrance gate to protect the yard from flooding.	The site is situated within a Flood Zone 1 and therefore has a very low risk of flooding. The site is of medium risk of surface water flood, with a chance of surface water flooding which could be more than 3.3% (1 in 30) each year. Consideration has been made regarding the storage locations for the wastes, so they are not stored where surface water flooding is likely to occur. There are no historic records of any flooding.	Low
Local Human Population	All onsite hazards; wastes, machinery and vehicles	Bodily injury	Direct Physical contact	Medium	Medium	Medium	Permitted Waste types consists of non hazardous material. Hazardous waste is rejected from site. Under normal circumstance no direct contact with the hazardous elements of these is possible and so only a medium risk is envisaged.	Handling of hazardous wastes and non conforming wastes are subject to procedures in the site management plan. Site has excellent security and has not experienced any vandalism, thefts or attempted break ins.	Low if managed in accordance with procedure.

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Local Human Population & local environment	Arson and/or vandalism causing the release of polluting materials to air, water or land.	Respiratory irritation/illness and nuisance to local population. Injury to staff, firefighters or arsonists/vandals. Pollution to water or land.	Air transport of smoke. Spillages and contaminant run-off.	Low	Medium	Medium	Permitted waste types are non-hazardous but are combustible. Combustible wastes are subject to procedures in the site management plan and Fire Prevention Plan to ensure the safe and efficient handling of the wastes. Site security is comprehensive due to the valuable nature of the products and consists of a CCTV system and automatic fire suppression system. The system is monitored and police would be alerted within minutes of an alarm activation.	Activities shall be managed and operated in accordance with the Environmental Management System (which includes site security measures to prevent unauthorised access) and the approved Fire Prevention Plan.	Low.

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Local Human Population & local environment	Accidental fire causing the release of polluting materials to air, water or land.	Respiratory irritation/illness and nuisance to local population. Injury to staff, firefighters or arsonists/vandals. Pollution to water or land.	Air transport of smoke. Spillages and contaminant run-off.	Medium	Medium	Medium	The wastes accepted on site are flammable. These have a higher potential for fire and these are stored subject to procedures in the site management plan and Fire Prevention Plan to ensure the safe and efficient handling of the wastes.	As above. Activities will be managed in accordance with the environmental management system (which includes fire and spillages) and the approved Fire Prevention Plan. Permitted activities do not permit the burning of wastes and site procedures restrict hot works, smoking etc to further reduce risk of accidental fire.	Low if managed in accordance with the site management plan.
All surface waters close to and downstream of site	Spillage of liquids, leachate from waste, contaminated run-off	Acute effects: Oxygen depletion, fish kill and algal blooms	Direct run off from site across ground surface, or via drains.	Low	Medium	Low	Permitted waste types do not include liquids or sludges. The site is entirely covered in an impermeable concrete surface which drains to the surface drains in the external yard to the public sewer. Clay mats will be deployed over the surface drains to contain fire water in the event of a fire or to protect the site against flooding.	A spillage control procedure forms part of the site management plan. Staff are trained in spill response. Spill kits are available on site (located in the workshop building). The fuel tank on site is integrally bunded (110% capacity). Vehicles / Plant are inspected daily for leaks.	Low if managed in accordance with the site management plan.
All surface waters close to and downstream of site	As above	Chronic effects: deterioration of water quality	As above	Low	Medium	Low	As above.	As above.	Low.

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Abstraction from watercourse downstream of facility (for agricultural use or potable use)	As above	Acute effects: Closure of abstraction intakes	Direct run off from site across ground surface, or via drains then abstraction	Low	Low	Low	Water course must have high flow for abstraction to be permitted which would reduce effects through dilution. Boreholes are unlikley to be affected by surface water run off.	The site is not within a source protection zone and no potable water abstraction licences or surface water abstraction licenses are held within 1000m of the site.	Low.
Groundwater	As above	Chronic effects: contamination of groundwater, requiring treatment of water or closure of borehole	Transport through soil/ground then extraction at borehole	Low	Low	Low	There is no potential for contaminated rainwater run-off or leachate from permitted waste types.	As above, plus procedures in the Management System will effectively mitigate this risk.	Low
Local Human Population	Contaminated water used for recreational purposes	Harm to human health - skin damage or gastro-intestinal illnesses	Direct contact or ingestion	Low	Medium	Low	There is no potential for contaminated rainwater run-off or leachate from permitted waste types.	As above, plus procedures in the Management System will effectively mitigate this risk.	Low

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Protected Sites- European sites and SSSIs	Any	Harm to protected site through toxic contamination, nutrient enrichment, smothering or disturbance	Any		Very Low	Medium	Low	There is a 0.58-hectare area of deciduous woodland, identified as a priority habitat situated 33m to the north of the site. There are no SSSI's or other such protected sites within a 1000m distance of the permitted site.	The distance from the permitted site to an SSSI is such that it is highly unlikely that either of these sites will be affected by any proposed activity. The risk to the nearby priority habitat sites comes from potential pollution. The site is not linked hydraulically with any of the protected sites and the surrounding land will not be affected by the enclosed operations proposed. As stated above, site drains will be covered with clay mats, and hydrosnakes will be deployed in the event of a fire or flood to contain any potentially contaminated water within the concrete surface. These containment methods remove the risk of an adverse impact on the characteristics of the protected priority habitats. Airborne pollution via dust is possible, however, as detailed within the Dust & Emissions Management Plan, the mitigation measures will be strictly adhered to throughout all operations. Therefore, there are no practical pollution pathways for dusts to impact on the identified protected sites.	Low