



National  
Operational  
Guidance

## Hazard

**Unstable or collapsed excavations**



**NFCC**  
National Fire  
Chiefs Council

Developed and maintained by the NFCC

---



## Contents

Hazard - Unstable or collapsed excavations .....	3
<i>Control measure - Safe system of work: Unstable or collapsed excavations</i> .....	3
<i>Control measure - Shoring</i> .....	4



## Hazard - Unstable or collapsed excavations

---

### Knowledge and understanding

---

Hazard	Learning outcome
Unstable or collapsed excavations	Understand all associated hazard knowledge



## Control measure - Safe system of work: Unstable or collapsed excavations

---

### TRAINING SPECIFICATION

### Knowledge and understanding

---

Control measure element	Learning outcome
Safe system of work: Unstable or collapsed excavations	Understand: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The activity requirements for an incident involving an unstable or collapsed excavation</li><li>• The safe working practices to be adopted at incidents involving unstable or collapsed excavations</li></ul>

### Practical application



**Control measure element**

**Learning outcome**

Safe system of work: Unstable or collapsed excavations

Demonstrate the ability to:

- Use agreed safe working practices around unstable or collapsed excavations
- Seek and use appropriate advice to assess the stability of an unstable or collapsed excavation
- Put in place appropriate emergency arrangements when working in the hazard area
- Identify and communicate the type of excavation
- Identify and communicate the type, height and angle of the excavation will affect stability



## Control measure - Shoring

### TRAINING SPECIFICATION

#### Knowledge and understanding

**Control measure element**

**Learning outcome**

Shoring

Understand:

- The benefits of shoring and why shoring elements of structure may be necessary
- The need for shoring operations to be carried out by competent personnel
- When improvised shoring methods may be considered
- The considerations and actions prior to using on-site resources for shoring
- The need to monitor and assess shoring throughout the incident

#### Practical application



---

**Control measure element**

**Learning outcome**

Consider requesting specialist advice and resources for shoring

Demonstrate the ability to:

- Assess the structural stability of the working environment to ascertain the need for shoring
- Identify and request the support of additional resources and specialist advisers to aid shoring
- Provide sufficient protection from secondary collapse so operations may proceed