# Safe Work Procedure

**Process/Equipment:** 15 bar Pressure Plate Test  
**Location:** Soils Lab (4G29)

**Procedure Developed by:** Behzad Fatahi  
**Approved by:** Dr. Hadi Khabbaz  
**Date:** 4/10/2006

**Referenced UOW Guidelines, legislation, codes of practice, Australian Standards etc:** All users must be trained in all aspects of the machine prior to use including a competency test to ensure that the user has demonstrated they can use the machine safely.

**Personal Protective Equipment Required** *(Check the box for required PPE):*

- [x] Ear Protectors
- [ ] Respirators
- [ ] Safety Glasses
- [ ] Safety Boots
- [x] Hard Hat
- [ ] Protective Glasses
- [x] Body Suit
- [ ] Flame Resistant Cloth
- [x] Chemical Resistant Gloves

**Activity** *(Steps in the process/task)*  
**Hazards Identified** *(What could cause an injury)*  
**Risk Score** *(How harmful is it)*  
**Controls** *(What can be done to minimise the risk of injury)*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Hazards Identified</th>
<th>Risk Score</th>
<th>Controls</th>
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</table>
| Preparation  
Connection 15-bar air cylinder to the system |Fitting failure and high pressure hose burst (air born particle) |High |Wearing safety glasses  
This test needs an appropriate training  
Make sure the air cylinder is tied up properly and the connection to the system is sealed  
Make sure the regulator is set to the correct setting |
| Preparation  
Placing the samples on top of the pressure plate |Fitting failure and high pressure hose burst (air born particle) |Medium |Check all valves and make sure all valves are closed before commencing the test |
| Preparation  
Placing the O-ring and closing the lid and making sure all screws are tightly closed |Fitting failure (air born particle) |Medium |Check the O-ring and make sure it has not got any scratches and then close the screws in cross form in clockwise direction. |
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<tr>
<th>Testing Applying the required pressure to the samples</th>
<th>High pressure hose burst (air born particle)</th>
<th>Medium</th>
<th>Increase air pressure gradually after opening the valves</th>
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<tr>
<td>Testing Complete Removing the air pressure from the soil samples</td>
<td>High pressure hose burst (air born particle)</td>
<td>Medium</td>
<td>Reduce the applied air pressure gradually to zero soon after completion of the test and make sure that the zero air pressure is reached in the system</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Testing Complete Removing the samples out of the equipment and measure their weights</td>
<td>High pressure release (air born particle)</td>
<td>High</td>
<td>Open the pressure plate air vent to release the remaining air pressure before opening and removing the lid.</td>
</tr>
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</table>