

The Safe Work Method Statement (SWMS) What is it? Who needs it?

A SWMS is simply a statement, prepared by an employer and read by the employees stating clearly how a specific task in any workplace is to be carried out safely. From office and retail to heavy industry and medical, SWMS's are helping to make Workplace Safety a collaborative effort and injury-free jobs a reality.

It's not necessary for it to be a complex document, in fact, the easier it is to read and understand, the more likely it is that it's going to work.

Professional OHS advice should always be considered, especially in a risky environment, but your statement should include things like the known risks, how you expect your staff to approach them, the protective equipment required, reporting requirements, physical or time limitations, applicable laws and Australian Standards and also allow for the employee to contribute to the SWMS ongoing development.

