Risk Assessment Steadicam Operation



The people that might be harmed: Studioworks employees, contractors, public, artists

HAZARD	CONTROL
 Personal injury caused by incorrectly assembled or adjusted equipment. Awkward body positions and movements whilst undertaking task. Colliding with people or objects. Danger of camera cable snagging, causing personal injury and/or scenery or equipment to be pulled over. Uneven surfaces or changes in level creating tripping hazards. Poor or uneven lighting making it difficult to see tripping hazards and people or objects in the way. Risk of falling when working at height. Increased risk of personal injury after prolonged periods of working. Increase in risk of injury as weight of camera and equipment increases. Extremes of temperature causing additional tiredness and/or muscle strain. Risk of injury to those who have a pre-existing medical condition or are pregnant. Risk of drowning, being trapped or held down by the weight the equipment in the event of a fall. 	 The equipment must be rigged and adjusted only by trained Steadicam operators. Operators must have pre-placement health assessment and routine health surveillance. They must be adequately trained and given time to become physically attuned to the task. Follow safe manual handling procedures. Plan the route and prepare those at risk to move to avoid the moving camera. Consider using an assistant as a 'lookout'. Take care with cable routing and ensure adequate slack cable. Consider the using an assistant as 'cable basher'. Consider using radio links to avoid using cables. Recce the site. Plan and risk assess the route. Account for possible unrehearsed changes of position or moves by artists or production staff. Consider using an assistant as a 'guide'. Work areas from which there is a risk of falling should have safe access and egress and conform to 'working at height' regulations. Be aware of the increased risk of physical injury, such as muscle strain, due to tiredness. Ensure adequate rest breaks are provided and taken. Keep camera and equipment weight to the minimum. Avoid attaching extra equipment such as microphones, lights or prompters to the camera. Wear suitable clothing for the environmental conditions.

 Do not operate the Steadicam if you believe that you will risk injury by so doing. A Steadicam vest with a quick-release mechanism must be used when there is a risk of the operator being trapped in a hazardous situation by being attached to the arm, sled and camera.

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