

RISK ASSESSMENT

Subject of Assessment	PierZip	Date of Assessment	22/03/2022
Task/Activity	Tower	Date of Next Assessment	22/03/2023
Assessor	Chris Stradwick	Location of Assessment	Bournemouth Pier

Risk Rating Matrix (RR)	Likelihood (L)		
Severity (S)	Certain or near certain to occur (High)	Reasonably likely to occur (Medium)	Unlikely to occur (Low)
Fatality; major injury or illness causing long term disability (High)	HIGH (H)	HIGH (H)	MEDIUM (M)
Injury or illness causing short term disability (Medium)	HIGH (H)	MEDIUM (M)	LOW (L)
Other injury or illness (Low)	MEDIUM (M)	LOW (L)	LOW (L)

Overview

Openwide International Ltd has employees and recognises that Section 2(1) of the Health and Safety at Work Act 1974, which contains the duties placed upon employers to ensure the health, safety and welfare of their employees while they are at work, applies to them.

Openwide International Ltd also recognises that Section 3(1) of the Act, which places a duty on every employer to conduct their undertaking in such a way as to ensure that persons not in their employment but who may be affected by it are not exposed to risks to their health or safety, also applies to them in relation to customers and visitors.

This risk assessment should be considered as the key document for describing workplace risks and associated control measures at Openwide International Ltd. The only other separate risk assessment considered necessary is a fire risk assessment and CoSHH assessments for any hazardous substances.

This risk assessment was prepared by Openwide International Ltd staff with the support of Iain McNeill (Senior Safety Health & Environmental Consultant) from NatWest Mentor.

It is important that risk assessments are communicated to relevant employees. With this in mind, Openwide International Ltd will combine fulfilling this requirement with providing regular refresher training for health and safety by issuing an up-to-date copy of this risk assessment to every established employee annually and to every new employee when they commence employment.

Openwide International Ltd is content that the health and safety competence required by employees at Openwide International Ltd is not complex and will consist of them having a good understanding of the risks associated with their work activity and workplace and an understanding of the associated control measures that have been established in relation to them. By ensuring that this risk assessment adequately describes these risks and control measures, Openwide International Ltd considers annual provision of this risk assessment to be suitable and sufficient refresher training for health and safety established employees and suitable and sufficient induction training for new employees.

Employees should be aware that they have a duty under Section 7 of the Act to take reasonable care for the health and safety of themselves and other persons who may be affected by his acts or omissions at work and to co-operate with their employer so far as is necessary to enable the employer to comply with a duty or requirement imposed on them by health and safety law

Ref	Hazards		Who is at risk?	Controls in place	L	S	RR	Adequately controlled?
1.	COVID	Employees and customers may contract Corona virus	S & P	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Instructors to take extra care when attaching customers to the Zip wire. Advise customer to follow the instructor's guidance to ensure the instructor can double check the harness and attachment points on the zip wire. Face masks/shields and gloves are optional for staff and public Customers / employees will be asked to wash hands regularly and thoroughly (hand sanitiser will be provided) Customers will have sanitised hands in base Close contact is unavoidable 	L	M	L	Yes, Continued monitoring
2.	Equipment failure	Customers and employees may suffer injury	S & P	All equipment is checked daily by trained staff to ensure it is functioning correctly and to the manufacturer's specification. All equipment is also spot checked throughout the day by trained staff to ensure it is functioning correctly. Any Equipment found to not be functioning correctly will be quarantined and placed into red box marked "Quarantine" and quarantine paperwork filled out. Zip cable inspected daily and thoroughly inspected every 6 months by Paul Capper and JMA. In-depth PPE checks carried out by senior competent staff and logged on internal PPE system at least every 3 months.	L	H	M	Yes

Ref	Hazards		Who is at risk?	Controls in place	L	S	RR	Adequately controlled?
3.	Incorrect Equipment	Customers and employees may suffer injury	S & P	All equipment is fitted by trained, competent staff. All equipment is double checked in zip base to make sure it is the correct size/length, functions correctly and is all attached correctly. There is a third check done by the instructor on tower. There are spare lanyard sets available on tower so that these can be changed if the tower instructor feels the need to. If the tower instructor is not happy with any of the other equipment the participant has on, they will direct them back to base to have them changed.	L	H	M	Yes
4.	Instructor Error	Customers and employees may suffer injury	S+P	Monthly spot checks and quarterly assessments are carried out to make sure instructors are kept up to date with operating procedures. Instructors are also rotated through their roles and provide regular breaks. Instructors are trained to support each other, be aware of each other's safety behaviour and provide interventions when needed as well as immediate feedback on any safety related issue. All staff are trained and encouraged to ask for a break if needed and to speak up if feeling tired, losing concentration, focus or feeling unwell.	L	H	M	Yes
5.	Human Error	Customers and employees may suffer injury	S+P	Safety brief is given to participant before activity is carried out. Safety points are highlighted by the instructor. Customers are under supervision whilst engaged in any activity that involves them completing their own connections.	L	H	M	Yes

Ref	Hazards		Who is at risk?	Controls in place	L	S	RR	Adequately controlled?
6.	ZipSTOP braking system failure	Customers and employees may suffer injury	S & P	All elements of the tower and landing are inspected prior to opening and all checks are logged on paper and backed up electronically. The ZipSTOPS are serviced yearly by the manufacturer (Entre-prises). Weekly in depth ZipStop checks are carried out as well as more in depth checks every 6 months. ZipSTOP braking system is visually checked after each jump. There is an emergency brake spring that functions separately to the ZipSTOP system. ZipSTOP units are covered when not in operation to prevent any damage, covers are removed completely when in operation.	L	H	M	Yes
7.	Brake pad trolley cutting through dyneema	Customers and employees may suffer injury	S & P	Instructors operating the landing will only give the all clear to send people down the wires once the braking system has reset properly. Instructors are trained to inspect the dyneema at specific points during operation, any issues with the dyneema will be reported and resolved prior to giving the all clear. If the dyneema does wrap around after a participant has begun their ride there is a risk that it could be worn. There is a secondary brake system in the form of a large spring at the end of the ride that absorbs the impact of any participants should the primary system fail.	L	H	M	Yes

Ref	Hazards		Who is at risk?	Controls in place	L	S	RR	Adequately controlled?
8.	Wind speed	Customers and employees may suffer injury	S & P	If the wind speed exceeds 24mph in any direction then the activity will not run and wind levels will be assessed every 30 mins. Participants must conform to the height and weight restrictions in place to ensure that they will safely travel the full distance of the zipwire. These weight limits are subject to weather conditions and decisions regarding the weight limits are to be made at the discretion of the lead instructor / management. If there is a strong onshore wind then the maximum weight limit will be lowered to prevent participants travelling down the zipwire too quickly. If there is a strong offshore wind the minimum weight limit will be increased to prevent any participants from not reaching the landing. There is a weather station in place to assess this and read out monitor is located in zip base; tower instructor also has access to an anemometer to assess wind levels from tower. Participants are warned of any adverse weather conditions prior to ascending the tower.	M	M	M	Yes
9.	Weather	Customers and employees may suffer injury	S & P	Adverse weather can affect people's safety on the zipwire due to it being an outdoor activity. Wind has already been mentioned separately above. Thunder and lightning are a risk due to the lines, tower, and landing being made of metal so there is a high risk of electrocution - any signs of this kind of weather in the near vicinity to activity will mean stopping and closing of activity for 30 mins to assess situation till safe to run again. High levels of fog can affect safety checks by staff so activity will be halted till visibility levels are safe OR secondary checks will be done by staff along the pier. Strong rains and snow will increase risks of slips and falls. Participants are warned of any adverse weather conditions prior to ascending the tower.	M	H	H	Yes

Ref	Hazards		Who is at risk?	Controls in place	L	S	RR	Adequately controlled?
10.	Pre - existing medical problems	Exacerbation of existing medical ailments	P	Instructor to ask participants or accompanying adults if any medical condition may be triggered by the activity. Instructor to make adjustments to session if required. For example, there are to be no flashing lights if somebody is epileptic and any medication is to be accessible.	L	H	M	Yes
11.	Emotional risk	Distressed customers	P	Positive affirmations are given to comfort the person and build trust between the participants and the instructors. Demonstrations can be used to explain how to sit into the harness and show how the lanyards support the participant. Staff will comfort any participants showing distress upon reaching landing.	L	M	L	Yes
12.	Damage/ Vandalism	Customers and employees may suffer injury	S & P	The staircase to the tower is fenced off and there are anti-climbing measures in place. The gate is locked unless there is an Instructor at the top of the tower. Landing is locked unless being accessed by staff. All elements and surrounding areas of all aspects of the PierZip are inspected prior to opening and the length of the zipwires are checked for fishing line. All checks are logged on paper and backed up electronically.	L	H	M	Yes

Ref	Hazards		Who is at risk?	Controls in place	L	S	RR	Adequately controlled?
13.	Unauthorised people accessing the zipwire	Customers may suffer injury	P	The staircase to the tower is fenced off and there are anti-climbing measures in place. The gate at the bottom is locked unless there is an instructor at the top of the tower. The exit gates at the top of the tower are also locked when not in use. Radio communication allows instructors to know when unauthorised participants are ascending the stairs whilst the PierZip is in operation. There is a sign at the entrance gate to the tower that reads, " No access to Zip tower without a helmet and harness" and " CCTV in operation signs added to tower gate	L	H	M	Yes

Ref	Hazards		Who is at risk?	Controls in place	L	S	RR	Adequately controlled?
14.	Falling from height (Zip tower)	Customers and employees may suffer injury	S & P	Participants are fitted with a helmet, full body harness and trolley lanyard set at the Zip base, which is fully checked by an instructor before they exit the base. Zip Base staff will also brief participants about safely ascending tower. Upon reaching tower platform, participants will be invited through the viewing area to tower jump zone and are clipped onto the zip wires via the trolley lanyard set by an instructor. The instructors will perform secondary checks all participant's PPE before allowing them to exit the platform. Instructors operating the tower must also wear a harness and be attached to the structure by a lanyard. The instructors will only allow 2 participants on the platform tower jump zone at any time; additional participants or spectators may be allowed onto the platform viewing area so long as gate between jump zone and viewing area is closed. The exit platform gates are only opened when the instructor has carried out all relevant checks/signals and is ready for participants to leave the platform, once participants have jumped gates are closed again. The entrance gate at the bottom of the tower is locked when the PierZip is not in operation and there are anticlimbing barriers installed on top of the fences. There is a sign at the entrance gate that reads "No access to Zip tower without a helmet and harness" - this is written in several languages.	L	H	M	Yes
15.	Being hit by objects falling from height	Customers, employees and public may suffer injury	S & P	All participants are asked to remove any loose items from their pockets and this is double checked after the safety briefing. Participants are only able to film their flight if the camera/device is attached securely. Any equipment that staff may require whilst working at height must be securely attached to their harness or PierZip structure.	M	H	H	Yes

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16.	Participant getting stuck along zipwire	Customers, employees and public may suffer injury	S & P	If customers / staff get stuck during ride down zip line due to equipment failure or any other reason senior staff and management are trained to perform appropriate rescue procedures. Tower rescue training takes place quarterly. Rescue kit bag with rescue rope, prussic, fall arrest lanyards, trolley grillion and sling is taken up to tower before opening so easily available if needed. Spare trolley lanyard sets of both types are available at top of tower too. 2 more staff will join tower instructor to help with getting other participants off tower and then to help with Tower rescue. Rescue rope has karabiners attached to it at intervals to prevent rope from dropping onto pier / sea.	L	H	M	Yes
17.	Knocks, bumps and grazes	Customers and employees may suffer injury	S & P	All participants are told to wear sensible clothing (long sleeves, trousers and closed toe, secured shoes are advised) A safety briefing is also implemented to minimize risk - advising people to take time and care on the activity. Helmets are worn by participants and instructors to prevent potential injuries whilst ascending the staircase.	M	L	L	Yes

Ref	Hazards		Who is at risk?	Controls in place	L	S	RR	Adequately controlled?
18.	Slipping or tripping on the Stairway	Customers and employees may suffer injury	S & P	Participants are verbally warned about the angle of the stairs and advised to hold onto the hand rail at all times when using them. Participants are advised to walk in single file and to take their time whilst travelling up the staircase. They are also told that the steps may be slippery when wet and to take care when stepping onto the platform as the step onto the platform is higher than the others. Lanyards are tucked into the harnesses for smaller participants so that they do not trip over them. Yellow grip tape has been put on the edge of each step to make them easier to walk up.	M	M	M	Yes
19.	Head injury from cross beam on the stairs	Customers and employees may suffer injury	S & P	Participants are verbally warned about the cross beam before they are permitted access to the tower. There is hazard tape along the bottom of the cross beam and signage in place. Participants, instructors and spectators must wear helmets throughout their experience - they are not permitted to take them off until they have finished their ride and have been unclipped from the wire by the instructors on the landing platform. There is a sign at the entrance gate to the tower that reads, " No access to Zip tower without a helmet and harness" - this is written in several languages.	M	L	M	Yes
20.	Snagging from clothing, jewellery, long hair etc. and legs or arms getting caught in elements	Customers and employees may suffer injury	S & P	All participants are told to remove any accessories that could pose a snagging risk, long hair must be tied back. Jewellery that cannot be taken off must be taped. Retrieval and rescue drills are trained to staff.	M	H	H	Yes

Ref	Hazards		Who is at risk?	Controls in place	L	S	RR	Adequately controlled?
21.	Participants colliding with harness trolley system when coming into contact with the braking system	Customers and employees may suffer injury	S & P	Participant's harnesses are checked when leaving zip base and before riding down the zip wire at the top of the tower by instructors to ensure that harnesses are fitted securely. Participants are briefed to keep their head to either side of the lanyards when coming into the landing platform.	L	L	L	Yes
22.	Participants colliding with people on the beach	Customers, employees and public may suffer injury	S & P	The landing area is fenced off to prevent anyone entering the area in which they could get hit. The fences run parallel to the zip wires and join together to create an enclosed space - when sand levels are low fences are put along concrete overflow. If sand levels are high more fences may be required. This is monitored by the instructors operating the landing. Radio communication allows the instructor operating the tower to know when the area is clear, the braking system has been reset and when the instructors at the landing are prepared for more participants to come down.	L	H	M	Yes
23.	Participant's feet colliding with the landing deck	Customers and employees may suffer injury	S & P	Participants must wear closed toe shoes to prevent any grazes that could occur on bare skin. Suitable shoes can be supplied by RockReef. Flip flops, sandals, crocs and high heels are not permitted. Larger participants will require shorter lanyards to allow the ZipSTOP braking system to take effect.	M	M	M	Yes

Ref	Hazards		Who is at risk?	Controls in place	L	S	RR	Adequately controlled?
24.	Public colliding with fences	Public may suffer injury	P	The fences used to block off landing brake zone are coloured white and red to make them highly visible to the public and participants. When setting up fences in morning, staff must ensure that red fences are used for the end section so that it is visible for anyone in the sea.	M	L	L	Yes
25.	Outside influences: Drones, Thrown objects	Customers and employees may suffer injury	S & P	Instructors to keep an eye on participants and surrounding activity area to evaluate any risks as and when they arise due to outside influences. Activity will be stopped if needed and council called to sort any issues outside RockReef influence.	L	M	L	Yes
26.	Animals: seagulls, pigeons	Customers and employees may suffer injury	S & P	Instructors to keep an eye on participants and evaluate any risks as and when they arise due to animals.	L	L	L	Yes
27.	Petrol fire	Customers, employees and public may suffer major or fatal injury	S & P	Petrol containers are concealed within a metal box in the bike shed. The generator is inspected before each use and a log is kept of its condition and run times etc. Instructors are trained how to correctly and safely use generator. The generator is kept in zip base overnight - It is to be taken down to the landing platform as part of the opening checks, and is only permitted to be filled with petrol in daylight. When in operation the generator is kept outside landing to prevent fume build up.	L	H	M	Yes
28.	Fire / Emergency evacuation	Smoke Inhalation, trips, slips and falls	S & P	Recorded and practiced evacuation process know to all RockReef Staff. Drills and exercises are carried out every 6 months and results recorded in RockReef Fire Book. Evacuation to be complete in under 3 mins	L	H	M	Yes

Hazard Ref	Additional control	Assigned to	Date Completed	L	S	RR

Who

S - Staff; P - Public

Risk Assessor:	Chris Stradwick	Reviewed By:	Maddie Latham
Date of Assessment	22/03/22	Review date before:	22/03/2023
Print of Responsible Person:	Peter Collett	Signature of Responsible Person:	Pete Collett