



Carswells Devil in the Detail - Pitch Wash Risk Assessment

Document Information:

FIELD	VALUE
Risk Assessment ID	RA-CARSWELLS-PITCHWASH004
Assessment Title	PITCH WASH
Company Name	Carswells Devil in the Detail
Assessment Date	11/04/2025
Location	Location: Mobile / Client Locations (Yards, Forecourts, Dealerships)
Last Reviewed	N/A (New Assessment)
Assessed By	Craig Carswell
Next Review (Latest)	11/04/2026

How the Risk Assessment Was Completed

Reviewed HSE guidance and industry best practices
Checked previous assessments and training records
Consulted experienced staff
Conducted a site inspection

Method Statement

Staff clock in and wear full PPE (hi-vis, safety boots, safety glasses). The team leader assigns pitch wash duties. Staff collect equipment (bucket, cloths, tyre slick, brush, spray bottle) and begin cleaning:
Hose used on low pressure; positioned to avoid trip hazards
Cars rinsed and wiped using approved cloths and diluted products
Windows and chrome are cleaned and polished
Tyres are dressed for a professional finish

Key Notes

Only approved, diluted chemicals used
COSHH assessments in place
All bottles are labelled and colour-coded
Equipment is purpose-bought and suitable for valeting

Carswells Devil in the Detail - RA004U Risk Assessment – Pitch Wash

Hazard	Who Might Be Harmed and How?	Existing Controls	Additional Controls Required?	Person Responsible / Target Completion	Date Completed
Hazardous Substances	Employees, contractors, dealership staff, visitors, or members of the public could suffer acute or chronic health issues (e.g., dermatitis, asthma) from chemical exposure.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Only approved products used (e.g., car shampoo, tyre slick). - COSHH assessments completed for all chemicals; data sheets available on-site. - PPE provided: gloves, safety glasses, masks (if needed). - No food or drink in working bays. - Containers kept sealed when not in use. - Only working amounts used. - COSHH cupboards are bunded. - HSE skin care posters by wash stations. - Barrier creams provided. - All staff trained and supervised. - Refresher training every 6 months or after incidents. 	None at this time. Controls are suitable and sufficient.	Craig Carswell	11/04/2025

Carswells Devil in the Detail - Hazardous Substances And Manual Handling

Hazard	Who Might Be Harmed and How?	Existing Controls	Additional Controls Required?	Person Responsible / Target Completion	Date Completed
Hazardous Substances	Employees, contractors, dealership staff, visitors, or members of the public could suffer acute or chronic health issues (e.g., dermatitis, asthma) from chemical exposure.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Autosmart training videos available. - Toolbox talks delivered on chemical use. - Colour-coded bottles & signage used for clear identification, including for those with literacy/language barriers. - Warning posters displayed. - Regular site inspections and team leader supervision in place. 	N/A	Craig Carswell	11/04/2025
Manual Handling	Employees, contractors, dealership staff, visitors, or members of the public may suffer from musculoskeletal disorders due to repetitive movement, awkward postures, or lifting.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Pitch wash involves no interior work. - Commercial standard access steps provided for safe roof access. - Spray bottles are intermittently pumped to maintain pressure. - Manual handling training provided at induction, refreshed every 6 months. - Regular toolbox talks on safe handling. - Multiple hose points reduce overreaching and carrying. - T.I.L.E. assessments used for new/expectant mothers or new processes. 	Ongoing monitoring when new equipment or processes are introduced.	Craig Carswell	11/04/2025

Carswells Devil in the Detail - Lone Working/Hose Pipe Use

Hazard	Who Might Be Harmed and How?	Existing Controls	Additional Controls Required?	Person Responsible / Target Completion	Date Completed
Lone Working	Employees, contractors, dealership staff, or visitors could suffer injury or fall ill with no one available to assist, causing delay in emergency response and worsening harm.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Access to site is authorised only. - Shifts are not scheduled for solo working. - Electronic clock-in system tracks presence via mobile devices. - Pitch washing not carried out in hours of darkness. - If staff are unexpectedly alone (e.g., illness), management checks in regularly. - First aid coordination is agreed with dealerships. - Additional team members can be moved from other sites when needed. 	Continue monitoring lone working situations as they arise	Craig Carswell	11/04/2025
Hose Pipe Use	Employees, contractors, dealership staff, or members of the public could suffer injury from incorrect use, high pressure, or trip hazards caused by hose misplacement.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Use restricted to trained, authorised staff only. - Safety glasses to British standards issued. - Full protective uniform required. - Hose equipment checked and maintained by team leaders and area managers. - Regularly placed hose points reduce excessive stretching or obstruction. - Hose used only for light soaking, not high-pressure washing. 	None – existing procedures are effective and well-supervised.	Craig Carswell	11/04/2025

Hazard	Who Might Be Harmed and How?	Existing Controls	Additional Controls Required?	Person Responsible / Target Completion	Date Completed
Slips, Trips & Falls	Staff, public – trips or falls from water, hose, uneven ground	Maintained walkways, drains in place, boots worn, hose routed safely	Recommend anti-slip S3 SRC boots	Craig Carswell	11/04/2025
Electricity	Staff, visitors – risk of shock or electrocution from faulty equipment	No electric tools used, work away from electrics, site equipment maintained	Clients to supply valid EICR records	Craig Carswell	11/04/2025

Hazard	Who Might Be Harmed and How?	Existing Controls	Additional Controls Required?	Person Responsible / Target Completion	Date Completed
Fire	Staff, public - injury or death from burns, smoke inhalation during a fire	Work is outdoors, fire detection/alarms on site, coordination with dealership fire plans	Client fire risk assessment should be held on file	Craig Carswell	11/04/2025
Weather	Staff - sunburn, dehydration, cold stress, hypothermia	Sun cream and workwear provided, drinks breaks allowed, suitable welfare facilities, boots for grip, pitch work paused in freezing weather	None	Craig Carswell	11/04/2025

Carswells Devil in the Detail - Pedestrians (vehicle movement)

Hazard	Who Might Be Harmed and How?	Existing Controls	Additional Controls Required?	Person Responsible / Target Completion	Date Completed
Pedestrians (vehicle movement)	Staff, public - struck by moving vehicles causing injury or death	Low traffic on pitch, high-vis vests worn, marked walkways, handrails, traffic coordination, pitch washing pauses during busy times	None	Craig Carswell	11/04/2025

Carswells Devil in the Detail - Moving Vehicles/Language Barriers

Hazard	Who Might Be Harmed and How?	Existing Controls	Additional Controls Required?	Person Responsible / Target Completion	Date Completed
Moving Vehicles	Staff, public - struck by moving vehicles	Authorised access only, hazards on, horns sounded, high-vis worn, licence checks	See Driving On Site Risk Assessment for full controls	Craig Carswell	11/04/2025
Language Barriers	Workers with limited English - may not understand safety instructions	Mentoring system, multiple communication methods, team translation, validation by demo, signage	Translate key materials if one language becomes common	Craig Carswell	11/04/2025

Carswells Devil in the Detail - Work At Heights/ Noise Exposure

Hazard	Who Might Be Harmed and How?	Existing Controls	Additional Controls Required?	Person Responsible / Target Completion	Date Completed
Work At Heights/	Staff – falls while cleaning larger vehicles	Most work done at ground level. Steps/ladders used meet EN131 or equivalent. Visual checks before use. Water mopped before use.	None	Craig Carswell	11/04/2025
Noise Exposure	Staff – hearing damage from loud environments	Work is done outdoors, away from noisy areas. Hearing protection not used to allow awareness of vehicle movements.	None	Craig Carswell	11/04/2025

Hazard	Who Might Be Harmed and How?	Existing Controls	Additional Controls Required?	Person Responsible / Target Completion	Date Completed
Violence & Aggression	Staff – risk of assault, confrontation, or theft	Site access is authorised only. No lone working. Pitch wash not done in the dark. CCTV, alarms, and fencing in place. Staff advised not to engage with public. Emergency services to be called if needed.	Walk away from any incident and report it to management.	Craig Carswell	11/04/2025

Carswells Devil in the Detail - On-Site Driving Risk Assessment - Maintenance Operations/Young Persons

Hazard	Who Might Be Harmed and How?	Existing Controls	Additional Controls Required?	Person Responsible / Target Completion	Date Completed
Maintenance Operations	Staff or public – injuries from using poorly maintained equipment or attempting repairs	Staff do not repair tools or vehicles. Red tag system in place. Safety glasses provided. Defects are reported. Only approved contractors carry out repairs.	None	Craig Carswell	11/04/2025
Young Persons	Young or inexperienced staff – increased risk due to lack of knowledge or experience	Induction includes hazard training. Safe Operating Procedures (SOPs) in place and reviewed. Close supervision and mentoring provided.	Young workers are unlikely due to site and insurance restrictions.	Craig Carswell	11/04/2025



Carswells Devil in the Detail - Pitch Wash - Sign-Off & Review


FIELD	DETAILS
Risk Assessment ID	RA-CARSWELLS-PITCHWASH004
Assessed by:	Craig Carswell
Received by:	
On Date:	11/04/2025
Review:	Dealership/Site Specific (e.g., Showroom, Forecourt)

Version	Date	Updated by	Summary of Changes
1.0	11/04/2025	Craig Carswell	Initial assessment for Carswells Devil in the Detail
2.0			
3.0			
4.0			
5.0			

This Risk Assessment is developed in line with HSE guidelines and has been deemed suitable and sufficient. It reflects thorough checks and consultations, with all reasonably practicable control measures in place to ensure that the remaining risk is low.



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NAME	Date	SIGNATURE
Craig Carswell	11/04/2025	

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