

Toolbox Talk

51. Permit to Work



What?

- A permit to work is a formal document used when carrying out hazardous work to check and verify that the precautions used to eliminate or control the risk are adequate
- The permit is normally issued on the job site by an authorised person and accepted by the person in charge of or carrying out the work

Why?

- People are seriously injured when carrying out high risk work because of bad planning or failing to implement all of the required precautions. High risk work includes:
 - Hot Work
 - Confined Space Entry
 - Excavation
 - Work on High Voltage or high energy electrical systems
 - Working at Height
 - Working on Pressure Systems
- Permits should cover all the risks and identify appropriate control measures including the correct sequence where appropriate



Do



- ✓ Check there is a suitable risk assessment for the work
- ✓ Read through the safe system of work in order to understand all of the precautions
- ✓ Check that all of the precautions have been properly implemented
- ✓ Make sure you understand the time constraints stipulated in the permit
- ✓ Ask questions if there is anything you don't understand

Don't



- ✗ Undertake high risk work without a permit and corresponding safe system of work
- ✗ Operate outside the permit conditions
- ✗ Ignore any failure to follow the correct procedures



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