

PROCESS SAFETY FUNDAMENTALS



We respect hazards

- We improve our understanding of process safety hazards at our location and our roles in controlling them.
- We are vigilant about the potential impacts of uncontrolled process safety hazards.
- We discuss process safety hazards before starting a task.
- We bring forward process safety hazards to be included in activity risk assessments.



We apply procedures

- We use operating and maintenance procedures, even if we are familiar with the task.
- We discuss the key steps within a critical procedure before starting it.
- We pause before key steps and check readiness to progress.
- We stop, inform supervision and avoid workarounds if procedures are missing, unclear, unsafe, or cannot be followed.
- We take time to become familiar with, and practice, emergency procedures.



We sustain barriers

- We discuss the purpose of hardware and human barriers at our location.
- We evaluate how our tasks could impact process safety barriers.
- We speak up when barriers don't feel adequate.
- We perform our roles in maintaining barrier health and alert supervision to our concerns.
- We use an approval process for operations with degraded barriers.



We stay within operating limits

- We discuss and use the approved operating limits for our location.
- We escalate where we cannot work within operating limits.
- We alert supervision if an alarm response action is unclear or the time to respond is inadequate.
- We obtain formal approval before changing operating limits.
- We confirm that potential for overpressure from temporary pressure sources has been addressed.



We maintain safe isolation

- We use isolation plans for the specific task, based on up-to-date information.
- We raise isolation concerns before the task starts and challenge when isolation plans cannot be executed.
- We check for residual pressure or process material before breaking containment.
- We monitor the integrity of isolations regularly and stop to reassess when change could affect an isolation integrity.
- We confirm leak-tightness before, during, and after reinstating equipment.



We walk the line

- We use up-to-date documentation (e.g., Piping and Instrumentation Diagrams) that accurately reflect installed systems and equipment.
- We physically confirm the system is ready for the intended activity (e.g., valve positions, line up of relief devices, etc.).
- We alert supervision to identified documentation and readiness issues before operation.



We control ignition sources

- We identify, eliminate, or control the full range of potential ignition sources during task risk assessments and during job preparation and execution.
- We minimise and challenge ignition sources even in "non-hazardous" areas.
- We eliminate ignition sources during breaking containment and start-up and shutdown operations.



We recognise change

- We look for and speak up about change.
- We discuss changes and involve others to identify the need for management of change (MOC).
- We review the MOC process for guidance on what triggers an MOC.
- We discuss and seek advice on change that occurs gradually over time.



We stop if the unexpected occurs

- We discuss the work plan and what signals would tell us it is proceeding as expected.
- We pause and ask questions when signals and conditions are not as expected.
- We stop and alert supervision if the activity is not proceeding as expected.



We watch for weak signals

- We proactively look for indicators or signals that suggest future problems.
- We speak up about potential issues even if we are not sure they are important.
- We persistently explore the causes of changing indicators or unusual situations.

For more information on
Process Safety Fundamentals,
please visit www.iogp.org/PSF