

Work authorisation



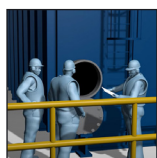
Work authorisation, such as permit to work, is a key means for managing risk. Seeking work authorisation involves assessing the risks of the job, understanding what other jobs are taking place at the same time, creating a plan of work that mitigates those risks, and having that plan approved by the person in charge.

It is also involves the person in charge checking and confirming that it is safe to start, that controls are in place and effective, and the task can be performed as planned.

Common causes of incidents include:

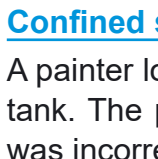
- starting work without authorisation or without the person in charge checking the permit conditions are in place;
- not identifying all hazards during the permit process, and
- deviating from the plan without further authorisation.

Here are some incidents that have happened in relation to work authorisation:



Permit to work

If your task is potentially hazardous for you and your work colleagues or others working nearby, you might need a permit to work. This should include a safety assessment with all dangers and safeguards...



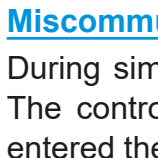
Confined space not identified on permit

A painter lost consciousness while painting the internal portion of a water tank. The permit had not identified the job as confined space, and PPE was incorrect and not worn.



Electric shock when opening 11 kV panel without isolation

A technician received electric shock and burns when opening an 11 kV panel. He was not authorised and the power was not isolated.



Miscommunication results in incorrect turbine activation

During simultaneous operations a turbine was authorised for activation. The control room selected an incorrect turbine for activation. A vessel entered the safety zone when it was observed that the turbine was active.



Work Authorisation

Work with a valid permit when required



- I have confirmed if a permit is required
- I am authorised to perform the work
- I understand the permit
- I have confirmed that hazards are controlled and it is safe to start
- I stop and reassess if conditions change

Source: IOGP, Report 459 IOGP Life-Saving Rules

