



Australian Government

MSMPER202 Observe permit work

Release: 1

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Modification History

Release 1. Supersedes and is equivalent to MSAPMPER202A Observe permit work

Application

This unit of competency covers the skills and knowledge required to undertake the safety observer role for permits requiring a safety observer. This role may also be called a hole watcher or a fire watcher.

Safety observers can stop permit work, but do not have the authority to restart it.

This unit of competency applies to a member of the work team or an operator who performs this role.

Where the person is safety observer for confined space permit they should also be competent in confined space entry.

No licensing, legislative or certification requirements apply to this unit at the time of publication.

Pre-requisite Unit

Nil

Competency Field

Work control systems

Unit Sector

Elements and Performance Criteria

Elements describe the essential outcomes

Performance criteria describe the performance needed to demonstrate achievement of the element

1	Prepare for the job	1.1	Check the permit issued is appropriate and sufficient for the work to be done
		1.2	Prepare a rescue/incident response plan in accordance with procedures
		1.3	Check plan is workable within the approved job procedures and issued permit

- 1.4 Request revision of job procedures and/or permit to ensure rescue/incident response plan is practical
- 2 Control the permit site
 - 2.1 Interpret the hazard controls required by the permit
 - 2.2 Check all hazard controls are operational and complied with at all times
 - 2.3 Maintain constant communication with workers as relevant to the job and permit
 - 2.4 Control entry to and exit from the worksite in accordance with the requirements of the permit
 - 2.5 Monitor the environment of the worksite and adjacent areas
 - 2.6 Monitor scope and location of work as defined by the permit
 - 2.7 Withdraw permit and shut down worksite if conditions vary from those required by the permit
- 3 Take appropriate action for potential incident
 - 3.1 Ensure all required first response equipment is in the location specified by the permit and is in working condition
 - 3.2 Ensure all required monitoring is carried out as required by the permit
 - 3.3 Withdraw permit and shut down worksite in the event of an alarm or monitoring failure
 - 3.4 Raise the alarm in the event of an incident
 - 3.5 Implement rescue/incident response plan as required by procedures
- 4 Complete safety observer role
 - 4.1 Hand over to oncoming safety observer before leaving role
 - 4.2 Complete all required documentation and reports

Foundation Skills

This section describes those language, literacy, numeracy and employment skills that are essential to performance.

Foundation skills essential to performance are explicit in the performance criteria of this unit of competency.

Range of Conditions

This field allows for different work environments and conditions that may affect performance. Essential operating conditions that may be present (depending on the work situation, needs of the candidate, accessibility of the item, and local industry and regional contexts) are included.

Regulatory framework

The latest version of all legislation, regulations, industry codes of practice and Australian/international standards, or the version specified by the local regulatory authority, must be used, and include one or more of the following:

- legislative requirements, including work health and safety (WHS)
- industry codes of practice and guidelines
- environmental regulations and guidelines
- Australian and other standards
- licence and certification requirements
- Dangerous Goods regulations
- Hazardous substances regulations
- Hazardous Substances Information System
- Major hazard facility requirements if relevant
- AS 2865-2009 Confined spaces
- AS 1674 Set-2007, Safety in welding and allied processes (covers all hot work)
- AS/NZ 1715:2009 Selection use and maintenance of respiratory protective equipment
- National exposure standards for atmospheric contaminants in the occupational environment [NOHSC:1003 (1995)]

Procedures

All operations must be performed in accordance with relevant procedures.

Procedures are written, verbal, visual, computer-based or in some other form, and include one or more of the following:

- permit control system
- emergency procedures
- work instructions

- standard operating procedures (SOPs)
- safe work method statements (SWMS)
- temporary instructions
- any similar instructions provided for the smooth running of the plant

Work permits

Work permits include one or more of the following:

- cold work
- excavation
- vehicle entry
- minor repairs
- working at heights
- hot work
- confined space
- electrical
- increased hazard
- permits covering a single plant or plant area such as might be an operator's scope of responsibility
- other relevant permits

The work permit system

The work permit system includes:

- types of permits
- legislative/regulatory/standards framework
- roles and responsibilities of parties under the permit system
- specifications for undertaking the work covered by a permit
- alternative ways of conducting a job

Work specifications

Work specifications include:

- any requirements for testing of atmospheric conditions and ventilation
- safety structures and control measures
- communications
- incident response
- equipment which can and cannot be used

Safety structures and control measures

Safety structures and controls measures include one or more of the following:

- isolations
- lockout/tag out

- barriers and signage
- emergency response
- gas testing/atmosphere monitoring
- standby person
- other measures specified in the permit

Hazards

Hazards include one or more of the following:

- process isolations incomplete
- mechanical and electrical isolations not in place
- atmospheric testing incomplete and atmosphere unsafe
- smoke, darkness and heat
- heat, smoke, dust or other atmospheric hazards
- electricity
- gas
- gases and liquids under pressure
- structural hazards
- structural collapse
- equipment failures
- industrial (machinery, equipment and product)
- equipment or product mass
- noise, rotational equipment or vibration
- limited head spaces or overhangs
- working at heights, in restricted or confined spaces, or in environments subjected to heat, noise, dusts or vapours
- fire and explosion
- flammability and explosivity
- hazardous products and materials
- unauthorised personnel
- sharp edges, protrusions or obstructions
- slippery surfaces, spills or leaks
- extreme weather
- other hazards that might arise

Unit Mapping Information

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Links

Companion Volume implementation guides are found in VETNet -

<https://vetnet.gov.au/Pages/TrainingDocs.aspx?q=d1287d36-dff4-4e9f-ad2c-9d6270054027>