

Toolbox Talk Pressure Systems



What?

- Pressure systems include steam pipes, pressure vessels, compressed air systems, refrigeration pipe work, etc. which operate at a pressure greater than atmospheric pressure
- They are used in industry for a variety of purposes including as a power source to drive power tools and machines



Why?

- The higher the pressure the greater the risk and therefore care needs to be taken when working on or near pressure systems to ensure the system does not fail since the consequences could be very severe when pressure suddenly releases
Pressure systems must be examined in accordance with a written scheme by a competent person who may be an:
 - In-house inspection department
 - Individual (e.g. a self-employed person)
 - Organisation providing independent inspection services



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Do



- ✓ Wear correct PPE (eye protection etc.)
- ✓ Ensure the pressure system is inspected, tested, and in good working order before use
- ✓ Check for defects
- ✓ Carry out a suitable risk assessment
- ✓ Check the written scheme of examination before working on pressure systems
- ✓ Isolate and depressurise the system properly
- ✓ Report any leaks or loss of pressure
- ✓ Obtain a permit before working on the system
- ✓ Follow the safe system of work as part of the permit process

Don't



- ✗ Leave the air hose where people can trip over
- ✗ Work on pressure systems if you are not qualified and authorized to do so
- ✗ Work on a system that is not isolated and depressurised
- ✗ Ignore damage, report it
- ✗ Work without a safe system of work or permit



**Permit to
work must
be obtained**