



UTILITY MANAGEMENT GAS SYSTEM CONTROLS

GOOD PRACTICE GUIDANCE

UTILITY MANAGEMENT

GAS SYSTEM CONTROL



INTRODUCTION

This good practice guidance is focused on the key controls to manage the site gas systems and emergency situations appropriately.

KEY CONTROLS

The key controls are:

1. The company should consider an appropriate emergency evacuation process where there is a significant unplanned release of gas. According to the Health and Safety Executive, special procedures are needed for emergencies such as serious injuries, explosion, flood, poisoning, electrocution, fire, release of radioactivity and chemical spills. Quick and effective action may help ease the situation and reduce the consequences. However, in emergencies, people are more likely to respond reliably if they:
 - a. are well-trained and competent
 - b. take part in regular and realistic practice
 - c. have clearly agreed, recorded and rehearsed plans, actions and responsibilities

Reference link 1: <https://www.hse.gov.uk/toolbox/managing/emergency.htm>,

Reference link 2: <https://www.hse.gov.uk/pUbns/priced/l56.pdf>

2. The site should have a shut-off device for the main gas inlet into the site (automatic shutdown valves in case of a fire alarm).
3. Any gas supply line to individual pieces of equipment should be controlled by a dedicated shut-off device near to the point of entry on the equipment.
4. The gas system inside a factory (normally overhead) should have branch lines from the main gas supply feeding different areas of the factory. These lines should have individual shut-off valves. Gas system pipework should be identified, either by being entirely painted in ochre (yellow) colour, or clearly and permanently labelled with "GAS" every 1 metre.
5. Only trained and competent individuals (e.g. Gas Safe registered) should be allowed to work directly on gas equipment/devices.
6. The internal gas network should be subject to routine test and inspection, and shown on the fire plan
7. Where required, the Emergency Evacuation Process should be linked to the fire emergency plan.

Note 1 – This document has been published as a guideline for "Good Practice" only. It is not legal advice or a legal briefing document

Note 2 - The "Good Practices" highlighted in the document may be incorporated into individual company health and safety management systems. Copyright © 2020 Textile Services Association. All rights reserved. For further information on this guideline please contact tsa@tsa-uk.org



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