

There are two types of risk assessment used within the Safe System of Work for pressure systems:

- Isolation Risk Assessment
- Task Risk Assessment

1.0 Isolation Risk Assessment

This document is produced by an Authorised Person (PS) on a pre-formatted form (**see appendix #**) prior to the isolation of the pressure system taking place. It is to take into account the hazards facing the person carrying out the isolation (the same AP(PS) or another), in order to mitigate those risks to an acceptable level (usually from high to low).

The Isolation Risk Assessment may be unique for the pressure system in question, or a pre-existing one for a similar system may be used, **provided that it is checked by the AP(PS) and signed to say that it is relevant and applicable.**

The reference number of the Isolation Risk Assessment is to be referenced within the Safety Programme and Statement of Isolation to which it pertains.

A copy of the signed Isolation Risk Assessment should be placed within the Safety Programme.

2.0 Task Risk Assessment

The Task Risk Assessment is, of course, relevant to the work to be carried out on a pressure system once the safe isolations are in place.

This should be completed before work is to take place – however, it should be noted that Point-of-Work risk assessment is an on-going process and therefore it is critical that all members of a working party are familiar with the contents of the Task Risk Assessment, as re-assessment may be necessary should any part of the working environment change.

For contractors to the NHS, the Task Risk Assessment will constitute part of the basic RAMS.

The Task Risk Assessment may be unique for the job in hand, or a generic one may be suitable, provided that it is checked to ensure that it is relevant and applicable to the actual task to be carried out.

Therefore, if a generic Task Risk Assessment is to be used, a copy of it must be signed and dated by the Person-in-Charge (PiC) of the working party as proof that this has been done.

A unique reference number can also be given. This can be based upon the date used; e.g. 18/09/2020 – 01. This number will be used on the Pressure Systems work permit, if used.

Points to note:

- Generic Task Risk Assessments are kept within the Pressure Systems Document Register.
- If a new Task Risk Assessment is likely to become a generic type; i.e., if the task is likely to be repeated at a future time and/or different location on site, then it should be copied before it is signed and dated by the PiC and the original committed to the Pressure Systems Document Register.
- It is good practice for the Task Risk Assessments to be reviewed annually by the AP, however, in effect the Task Risk Assessments are reviewed every time that they put into use.
- The Task Risk Assessment must be submitted to the AP(PS) before the relevant safety documentation is prepared. It must also be shown to the rest of the working party and discussed as part of the pre-job brief.
- A copy of the Task Risk Assessment which has been signed and dated by the PiC should be kept and filed with the safety documentation used for the work (Pressure Systems Permit-to-Work or Standing Instruction).

Instructions for carrying out a Task Risk Assessment are out-with the scope of this document. This is covered as part of the Skilled Persons for Pressure Systems training course. However, handy reference can be found [\[hyperlink to be added\]](#)

A model Task Risk Assessment form can be found [\[hyperlink to be added\]](#)

3.0 Level of Control

In terms of Pressure Systems, intrusive work should be carried out on either:

- a Permit-to-Work (PTW)
- a Standing Instruction (SI)

The level of control for a particular task should be determined by the AP(PS).

Details of each are given below under Safe System of Work.