

## PRESSURISED SYSTEMS

If pressure equipment fails in use, it can seriously injure or kill people and cause serious damage to property.

In order to minimise the risks when working with systems or equipment which contain air, liquid or gas under pressure everyone has a duty to adhere to safe working practices.



### Hazards associated with pressurised systems are:

- Impact from the blast of an explosion or an uncontrolled release of compressed air, liquid or gas.
- Impact from parts of equipment that fail or from flying debris.
- Contact with released liquid or gas, such as steam.
- Fire resulting from the escape of flammable liquids or gases.

### Causes of pressurised system failure are:

- Lack of awareness of the safe working pressure.
- Operator error, due to insufficient training and competence.
- Hot works being undertaken on or close to pressurised fluid containments.
- Misuse of pressurised equipment.
- Inadequate containment of pressurised fluids.

### Precautions to prevent injury

- You must be competent and authorised to work on pressurised systems.
- Do not place any part of your body near or in the path of an outlet, main valve or other discharge areas. Doing so can result in serious injury or death upon unexpected pressure discharge.
- Always wear the appropriate Personal Protective Equipment.
- Pressure gauges can have a PSI scale and a Bar Scale on the same face, it is important to know that you are reading the correct scale on the gauges as 1 bar = 14.5psi.
- Any pressurised system shall have a means of gauging and regulating internal pressure and releasing over pressure when required.
- Be aware of the safe working pressure of the system.



**NEVER** do the following when working with High Pressure Equipment.

- Direct high pressure flows towards people or equipment.
- Block or cover outlets.
- Allow pressure to increase above safe working pressure.
- Attempt Intrusive work on a pressurised system.

**ALWAYS** Isolate, depressurise and lock off a pressurised system before commencing intrusive work.

**NEVER PUT YOURSELF OR OTHERS AT RISK**