

## Safety Alert 23-125 Required signage for Hazardous Areas

### Summary:

Some areas of a water or wastewater treatment plant are designated “Hazardous” as the area has been designated as Zone 0, Zone 1 or Zone 2 under **ATEX** or Dangerous Substances and Explosive Atmospheres (DSEAR) Regulations. This alert is relevant only to installations where there is a **ATEX/** DSEAR zoned environment, as identified by the site EPD (Explosion Protection Document). Appropriate signage must be displayed around the zoned area.

### What could happen:

An explosive atmosphere could be ignited by a spark or hot work resulting in extensive damage, serious injury and possible fatalities.

### Reminder of Mandatory Requirements:

- Follow MWHT Procedure [HSPD19-01 Dangerous Substances and Explosive Atmospheres](#) (DSEAR)
- The signs **must** be displayed on all access points into a zoned area.
- No hot work is permitted within a zoned area without first making the area safe and ensuring suitable monitoring is in place and then, only under a hot work permit to work and suitable safe systems of work.
- Any permits to work must be reviewed and authorised by a competent person.
- Any contractors must be fully inducted and made aware of the hazardous nature of the area.
- MWHT staff and contractors must wear appropriate PPE including anti-static footwear, flame retardant overalls and personal gas monitors before entering a zoned area. Standard PPE is not suitable for zoned areas.
- No mobile devices or other sources of ignition are permitted within a zoned area and must be stored in a suitable locked box before entering the zoned area.
- Ensure contractors are appropriately supervised when working in hazardous areas.
- Anyone working in a hazardous area should have the correct PPE and should request this from the Site Manager/SHEQ
- PFI can supply appropriate signs that must be displayed around an area that has been zoned and shown in the EPD or similar. The ATEX danger sign should also stipulate the zone or ATEX category.
- The following signs (see right) must be displayed.



**ATEX Category 1**  
Flammable material present for long periods.  
(More than 1000 hours per year)

<b>Authorised by:</b>	Simon Cox	<b>Date:</b>	25/10/2023
<b>Distribution list:</b>	Designers, Operations, Capital Delivery, Contractors, and Executive Management Team		

**MWHT Requirements.**

- Actions**
- Always follow your Safe System of Work
  - Always remember the Lifesaving Commitments
  - Follow the advice contained in this Safety Alert
  - Ensure you complete a Safe Start card at the start of your shift
  - If in **DOUBT STOP WORK** and seek advice from your supervisor
  - Report all Incidents or "Improve Its"
  - Never commence work without a signed off RAMS
  - Never commence work without a signed permit to work that is appropriate for the type of work to be conducted within the hazardous area and only undertake the type of work covered by the permit
  - Always ensure the area has been made safe and monitoring is in place and operable before commencing work
  - If monitoring raises an alarm then vacate the area immediately and report this to your Supervisor
  - Always ensure ATEX rated PPE is worn in hazardous areas
  - Only use ATEX rated equipment within hazardous areas (unless covered by a permit to work and the area has been made safe and is monitored)
  - Do not take any ignition sources (non-ATEX rated mobile devices, non-ATEX rated cameras, matches, lighters etc.) into a hazardous area

<b>Manager:</b>		<b>Project No:</b>	
<b>Date:</b>		<b>Project:</b>	

**BRIEFING RECORD: I HAVE UNDERSTOOD THE BRIEFING ON THIS SAFETY INFORMATION AND AGREE TO COMPLY WITH MWH TREATMENT REQUIREMENTS.**

Name	Signature	Company