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Hot Work Policy Supervisor Talking Points 2014

As part of the fatality prevention process small teams of subject matter experts from across FCX are being formed to review the global significant risks. The purpose is to evaluate existing guidelines and policies (or create new ones where one does not already exist) to update as needed as well as identify areas of potential concern with existing practices.

These talking points will serve as information regarding the policy. Issues or concerns brought up by SMEs will also be listed so that you can review your procedures and ensure proper practices are being followed.

Hot Work

- This is an updated corporate policy on Hot Work
- The policy has been updated to add a restriction to no longer welding on mobile equipment fuel tanks. And equipment fuel tanks in need of repair will be sent to the manufacturer or replaced
- The policy has also been updated to add a restriction to no longer weld on pressurized vessels without first relieving pressure from the vessel
- There is an exemption process so when any part of the policy can't be followed, an exemption must reviewed by an engineer or other qualified individual and then must be approved by area management

Areas of Potential Concern with Hot Work

During the review potential gaps in the application of hot work were identified. Each employee should ensure the following (don't assume it is being done – verify it):

- Risk assessments will be completed prior to any hot work be performed
- A designated Fire Watch must be established for the hot work activity
- If a department has a designated “fire safe” area where hot work is performed, the site must identify and document those areas and tasks
- Always consult the site H&S personnel prior to beginning hot work operations in high hazard areas
- Hot Work Permits will be retained per the FCX Records and Retention Policy