सुरक्षा अलर्ट / SAFETY ALERT

OISD/SA/2026-27/MOPOL/07 **Date: 08.06.2026**

INTRODUCTION

Title: Fatal incident during painting of internal roof of storage Tank.

Location: Tank farm area

Activity: Construction Work – Material Handling at Height.

Loss/ Outcome: One Fatality.

INCIDENT

- The incident occurred at approx. 14:30 hrs on 28th April 2026 at the Tank Farm area of the Terminal.
- During tank painting activities, the Safety Officer, while carrying out a routine inspection at approximately 14:15 hrs. observed two contractor workmen engaged in roof painting work inside the tank.
- Of the two workmen, one was seen coming out through the roof manhole, while the other was on the working platform and appeared to be unwell.
- The Safety Officer instructed the supervisor to ensure that the unwell workman should not move from his current position and immediately contacted the Control Room via VHF to arrange additional manpower for rescue him from height.
- Subsequently, the unwell workman fell from the working platform inside the tank.
- Upon inquiry, the supervisor stated that despite being instructed not to move, the workman attempted to move and suddenly fell.
- The injured workman was rescued from the tank through the bottom manhole and immediately shifted to a hospital, where he was declared "brought dead"..

OBSERVATIONS

- As per the OMC investigation report, confined space entry and exit records were not maintained in accordance with the requirements of OISD-GDN-192.
- Several CCTV blind spots observed, including inadequate coverage of the tank farm, no approved CCTV layout was available and previous audit observations related to CCTV were not complied.
- Standby personnel with communication facilities were not deployed at the tank manhole despite compliance being indicated in the permit.
- The Job Safety Analysis (JSA) was generic and not recorded site-specific hazards such as extreme heat, prolonged exposure, and work at height inside a confined space.

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- The Work Permit checklist was completed without actual verification of site conditions. Irrelevant checklist points were marked as compliant, and critical safety controls, including the deployment of standby personnel, were incorrectly recorded as available, leading to inaccurate assessment and documentation of permit requirements.
- Permit taken for the entire location instead of specific functional areas and multiple permits issued to a single officer without site verification. Furthermore, job-specific toolbox talks were not conducted.
- The mobile scaffold used for the work was structurally deficient, with missing bracing, unlocked wheels, and inadequate fall protection measures.
- Statutory safety requirements, including inspection of safety belts, confined space entry records, rescue arrangements, first-aid facilities, and PPE compliance, were not adequately implemented.
- Certification records for the scaffold and air compressor were incomplete and lacked supporting inspection and documentation.

ROOT CAUSE

- The incident was attributed to non-compliance with approved SOPs and deficiencies in the implementation and monitoring of the Safety Management System, including permit issuance without site verification, absence of toolbox talks, inadequate supervision, and the use of a generic JSA.
- Non-standard scaffolding and the absence of confined-space controls and standby personnel.
- Unsafe work practices were identified as a contributing factor, as one workman used unsafe access route through the top manhole for internal roof painting.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- Ensure mandatory physical site verification before the request, issuance, daily extension, and closure of all work permits. All permit details shall accurately reflect actual site conditions and be verified by the concerned officer.
- Strengthen confined space entry controls by deploying trained standby personnel with reliable communication systems, maintaining vessel entering records with in and out time, and ensuring the availability of a site-specific rescue plan for confined space and work-at-height activities.
- Ensure the use of standard-compliant scaffolding equipped with guardrails, toe boards, proper bracing, safe access arrangements (ladder/stairway), and suitable anchorage points for the safe use of full-body harnesses.
- Conduct job-specific toolbox talks at the actual worksite before the commencement of each shift and provide mandatory Work Permit training to all permit issuers and receivers, supported by periodic refresher training programs.
- Improve the monitoring, maintenance, and verification of all records, including gate entry logs and confined space entry records, through periodic review by officers.
- Locations shall ensure comprehensive CCTV coverage of all critical operating areas of the terminal to facilitate continuous monitoring, effective supervision, and detection of unsafe acts and conditions.

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