



# **ENGINEERING ONBOARD**

## **AEC2**

**Safe Systems  
of Work**

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# **ENGINEERING ONBOARD AEC2**

*The reference and guidance  
for Safe Systems of Work /  
contained in*

The Code of Safe Working  
Practices  
**COSWP**

*Issued and updated by*

The Maritime and Coast  
Guard Agency

**MCA**



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## Safe Systems of Work

Any task or activity undertaken on-board a vessel that may cause harm to personnel, equipment or the environment requires the use of a 'System of Work' to remove or reduce the risk to an acceptable level.

**Risks and Hazards** must be first identified and then control measures put into place using a Risk Assessment Form. This may also include a **Permit to Work**



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## Investigating Authorities

Following any accident or incident investigating authorities will ask four questions:

1. Where's the Risk Assessment?
2. Did the task require a Permit-to-Work- was it completed correctly and followed?
3. Was the correct Personal Protection Equipment (PPE) used?
4. Was all the equipment involved in date for test / inspection?



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## Risk Assessment

### Classify Work Activities

- A useful preliminary to Risk Assessment is to identify separate work activities, to group them in manageable way, and to assess (or collate existing information).
- Infrequent maintenance tasks, as well as day to day operations, should be included.
- Assess the likelihood and severity of the task and put measures in place to mitigate the risk.



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## Hazard and Risk

- A **hazard** is something that can cause harm, e.g. electricity, chemicals, working up a ladder, noise, a keyboard, a bully at work, stress, etc.
- A **risk** is the chance, high or low, that any hazard will actually cause somebody harm.



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## Permit to Work

- Based on the findings of the risk assessment appropriate control measures should be put into place to protect those who may be affected. Permits to Work are suggested control measures for particular operations.
- There are many types of operation on board ship where the routine actions of one person may inadvertently endanger another or when a series of action steps need to be taken to ensure the safety of those engaged in a specific operation.



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## Permit to Work

- On-board a vessel, the Captain and the Safety Management Team are to ensure these are eliminated or effectively controlled.



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## Risks involved for entry into enclosed spaces

- Lack of Oxygen - not less than 20.9%
- Combustable Toxic or Explosive gases
- Presence of inert gases
- Drowning, heat and noise
- Trips, slips and falls
- Adjacent compartments



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## Practical Identify ~~skills~~ most working clothes and PPE

The main reference to identify  
suitable working clothes is

COSWOP

This would include:

- Hard Hat
- Goggles
- Ear defenders
- Overalls
- Gloves
- Safety shoes / boots

