



H S E

HEALTH SAFETY ENVIRONMENTAL



Alert #: SA 11-22

Date: May 5th, 2022

Operating Without a Valid Permit

There are some situations and tasks so hazardous that approaching them unsafely just one time can result in a serious or fatal injury. “Life-Saving Rules” are designed for these situations.

These rules are deemed to be safety-critical and there is zero tolerance for violations.

A GIS construction crew was recently involved in a situation where there was a violation of a client’s “Life-Saving Rule”. The following is a general summary of the event that took place:

The construction crew generally held its morning safety meetings at a lunch tent that was designated as a customer approved safety meeting location. Upon arrival, the GIS supervisor discovered that the welding machine ordinarily used to power the lighting for the tent was not present. At this time, the GIS supervisor contacted the GIS construction manager, who was off site, and a discussion took place regarding the lack of power. It was agreed that a replacement welding machine would be required, however, the replacement welding machine was not located near the tent.

The GIS supervisor and an additional crew member completed the appropriate paper work including the JSEA, spotter form and forklift inspection form. At that point, the crew proceeded to utilize a forklift and retrieve the welding machine. Upon arriving to the location of the tent, a client employee noticed that the crew was utilizing heavy equipment before 6:00 AM, which is the time permits typically go live. The client employee stopped the job and upon reviewing the job scope it was determined that while the appropriate paperwork was completed but a formal permit was not submitted nor was it approved.

The client determined that this was a violation of:

Life Saving Rule No. 1: Hazard Management

“I will complete a hazard assessment prior to starting work and reassess if conditions change and new hazards are introduced. This includes ensuring the proper work permits are in place.”

In order to ensure that as a company we do not have another incident like this take place, please remember:

- Never perform any type of work without an approved permit that is in “Live” status under any circumstances.
- Ensure that the work planning and hazard analysis considers all aspects and hazards of the job task from start to finish and includes the appropriate permit for the job that is completed and approved.
- Ensure that all crew members understand all requirements in order to start work and that these requirements are discussed and understood before the commencement of any work.

Life-saving rules ensure you make it home.

Report all incidents immediately to the GIS Hotline 1-855-543-5163.

SAFETY ALERT