

Chemical splash to face

Safety Alert

What happened?

During a fabric maintenance task on an offshore installation, a worker identified a fine mist coming from an adjacent chemical injection unit.

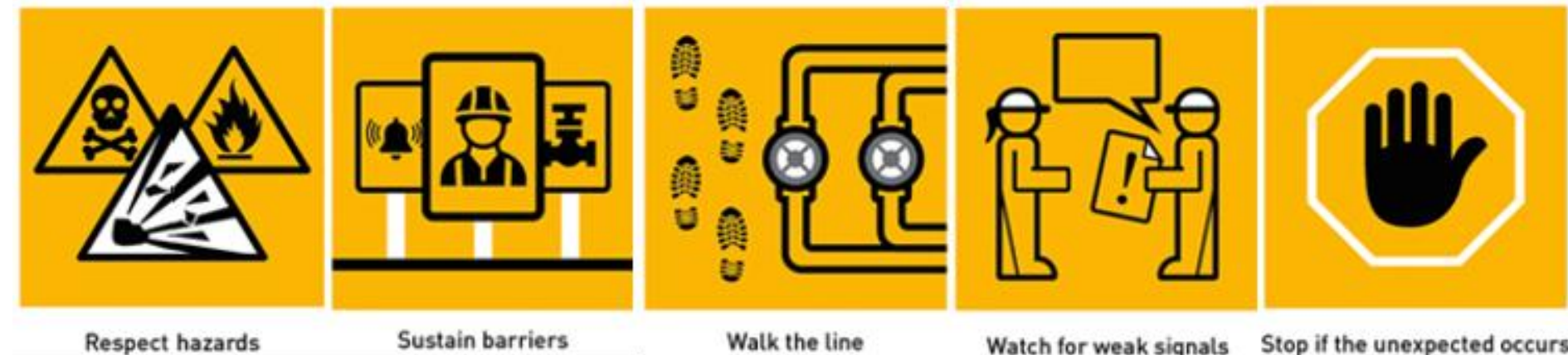
Believing the issue to be a loose fitting, the worker attempted to reposition the connection. The fitting subsequently sheared from its mounting, resulting in a splash of hazardous chemical (7% hypochlorite solution) to the worker's face. The worker received medical attention and returned to full duties after assessment.

Findings:

- > A leaking or misting chemical connection was identified, but the worker attempted to intervene rather than stop work and escalate the issue.
- > The connection failed under pressure, causing exposure to a hazardous substance.
- > Minor-looking leaks can indicate pressurised system failures and present significant risk to personnel.
- > Intervention on live plant and equipment should only be undertaken by authorised and competent personnel under the appropriate permit and risk assessment arrangements.

Good practice guidance:

- > Stop Work immediately if leaks, misting, odours, damaged fittings, or other unexpected conditions are observed.
- > Never attempt to repair or adjust live plant, process equipment, or chemical systems unless specifically authorised, trained, and permitted to do so.
- > Report all defects and concerns to the responsible authority for assessment and corrective action.
- > Consider adjacent hazards during task planning and dynamic risk assessment, particularly when working near live systems and SIMOPS activities.
- > Reinforce the IOGP Process Safety Fundamentals, particularly: Respect Hazards, Sustain Barriers, Walk the Line, Watch for Weak Signals, and Stop if the Unexpected Occurs.



Key Message:

See it? Stop it. Report it.

A minor leak or mist may be the first sign of a significant process safety hazard. Do not intervene – escalate and allow competent personnel to assess the risk



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Verification of learnings shared and feedback

To ensure this learning leads to meaningful improvement, follow the Plan Do Check Act process and provide your feedback to Step Change in Safety.

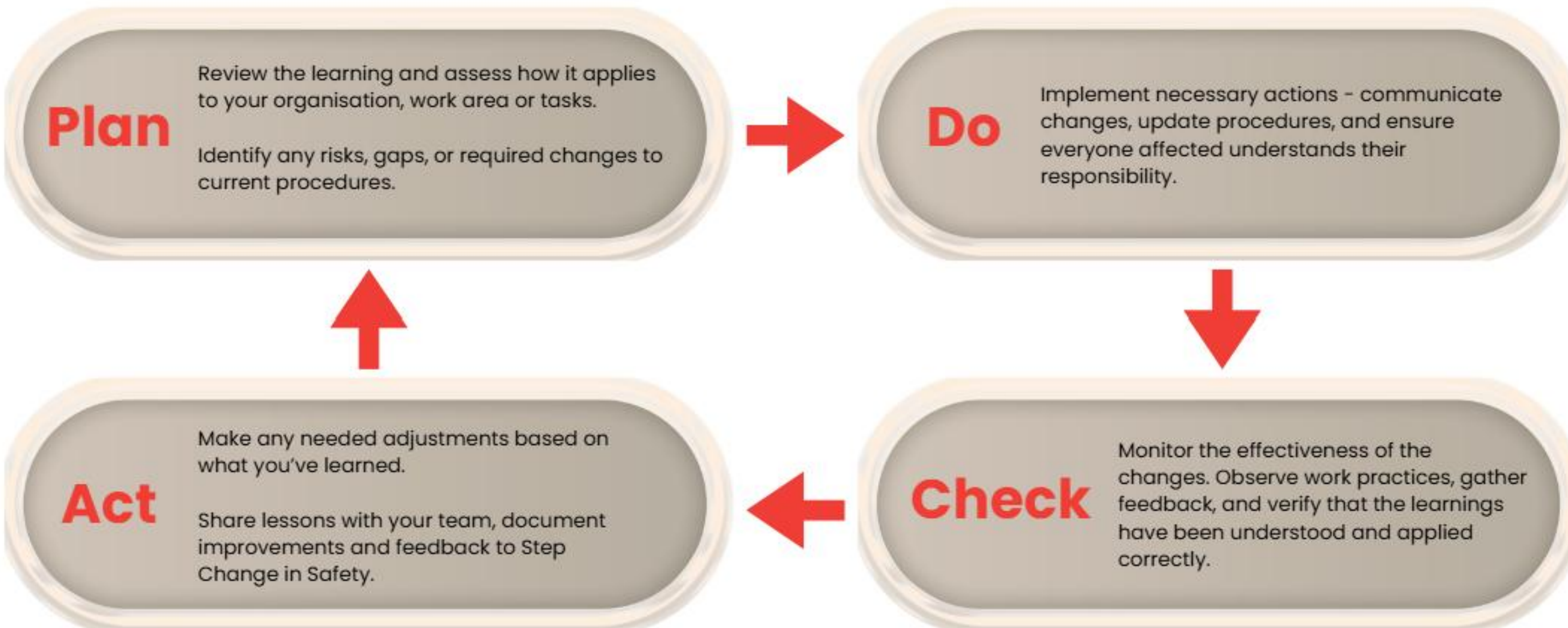


Share your learnings and feedback.
**Your proactive engagement helps
create a safer workplace for
everyone.**



Feedback Form

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