
Gulfof**Mexico**



GoM Region

**GoM Region Hard Barricade and Soft Barrier
Requirements Safe Work Practice (SWP)**

AMENDMENT RECORD

Amendment Date	Revision Number	Amender Initials	Amendment
06/25/2015	5	KT	No changes made. Approved via AMOC-GOMDW-14-0208
12/16/2014	4	PT	<p>Document was updated based upon the Created Openings GOO Learning Alert (GOO-OL-REP-0001) that was issued November 2014 by Fuzzy Bitar (Head of Operations).</p> <p>Additional Updates Included:</p> <p>Removed reference to "JSEA" and replaced with "risk assessment"</p> <p>Added a requirement to secure the site of an injury/incident investigation scene.</p> <p>Approved via AMOC-GOMDW-14-0208.</p>
06/12/2012	3	PT	Reformatted to meet GoM Document Control requirements
05/07/2012	2	PT	Reviewed no revisions
06/01/2008	1	DJ	Added an additional danger zone called "Danger Zone Requiring Barricade" to clarify when barricades or barriers are required to mark and protect a danger.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

1 Purpose/Scope	4
2 Key Responsibilities	4
3 Overview	4
3.1 Requirements	4
3.1.1 Soft Barrier Requirements	4
3.1.2 Hard Barricades Requirements	4
3.2 Zones	5
3.2.1 Caution Zones	5
3.2.2 Danger Zones	5
3.2.3 Danger Zones Requiring Hard Barricades	5
3.2.4 Specialized Zones Requiring Hard Barricades / Soft Barriers	6
4 Procedures	6
4.1 Caution Zone	6
4.2 Danger Zone	6
4.3 Danger Zone Requiring Hard Barricade	6
5 Definitions	7
6 Key Documents/Tools/References	7
6.1 OSHA 29 CFR 1910 Subpart D	7

1 Purpose / Scope

The purpose of this Safe Work Practice (SWP) is to identify when a [hard](#) barricade or [soft](#) barrier is required. [Hard](#) barricades or [soft](#) barriers shall be erected around hazardous work areas such as a [created opening](#), trenches, overhead activities, open unattended vessels, slick walking surfaces, or hazardous storage to exclude unauthorized, unprotected personnel.

This SWP will provide minimum requirements for the use of [hard](#) barricades and [soft](#) barriers. Access to areas with hazardous activities or unsafe conditions shall be restricted. These situations require the use of [hard](#) barricades / [soft barriers](#) and signage.

[Rig floor operations under normal conditions will follow the drilling contractor's Red Zone Management Policy.](#)

2 Key Responsibilities

BP GoM Region provides general awareness of these requirements through the offshore orientation process.

3 Overview

3.1 Requirements

3.1.1 Soft Barrier Requirements

[Soft](#) barriers may be used to restrict access to caution/danger zones and may be constructed of synthetic rope, plastic chain, yellow caution/red danger tape, or other material that provides adequate communication that a hazard exists.

3.1.2 Hard Barricades Requirements

[Hard](#) barricades are a way of restricting access to Danger Zones. [When practical, completely cover and secure the identified hazardous area with a material strong enough \(i.e. steel plate, deck grating, layers of plywood, etc...\) to withstand the required load and have appropriate signage.](#)

Otherwise to restrict access, a Handrail / Guardrail shall meet the following requirements:

- Consist of a top-rail and a mid-rail, with the top-rail located approximately 42 inches above the deck or floor completely enclosing the area.
- Be constructed of pipe, wire rope (minimum ¼ inch diameter), steel chain, or other materials of similar strength.
- Capable of withstanding the concentrated load of 200 pounds applied at any point and in any direction with a maximum deflection (sag) [of 3 inches prior to, during, and after a 200 pound load test.](#)
- If fence material is used, the material shall be adequately supported with wire rope, steel chain, or pipe (top-rail and mid-rail) to maintain rigidity.

NOTE: Synthetic rope and plastic chain are not acceptable materials for barricades. Permanent guardrails shall meet both BP's and regulatory design specifications.

NOTE: [Where there is uncertainty around meeting the above requirements, seek engineering support.](#)

3.2 Zones

3.2.1 Caution Zones

Caution Zones require warnings with [soft](#) barriers that block off the location from access using yellow caution tape and signs to signify the [hazard](#). This [hazard](#) type may include, but is not limited to, the following:

- Hot work areas,
- Attended confined space work areas,
- Attended excavation/trenching activities,
- Attended work areas with exposed or energized electrical equipment, and
- Slip/trip and same level fall hazards.

3.2.2 Danger Zones

Danger Zones require warnings with barriers that block off the location from access using red danger tape and signs to signify the [hazard](#). This [hazard](#) type may include, but is not limited to, the following:

- Hydro-testing,
- Overhead work areas where there is potential for falling objects,
- Unattended and open permit-required confined spaces, and

3.2.3 Danger Zones Requiring Hard Barricades

Danger zones that require hard barricade to block off the location from access and signs to signify the [hazard](#) may include, but is not limited to, the following:

- [Any created opening, regardless of size,](#)
- Deteriorated or unsafe grating, which poses the threat of a fall to a lower level,
- Deteriorated or missing handrails, which pose the threat of a fall,
- Unattended work areas with exposed or energized electrical equipment, and
- Unattended and exposed excavation/trenches.

3.2.4 Specialized Zones Requiring Hard Barricades / Soft Barriers

The following is a list of other specialized zones that require [hard barricades](#) / soft barriers:

- Work areas that pose a health risk (NORM, X-ray, Asbestos, Lead, Benzene, Biohazard / Infectious Material, Radiation, etc.) areas identified by yellow caution, red danger, specialty soft barrier tape or [hard barricades as determined by the risk assessment](#).
- [Injury/incident scenes which shall be secured by incident investigation tape at a minimum until released by investigation team leader.](#)

4 Procedures

NOTE: A tag / sign shall be installed with the start time, date, description of hazard, and responsible party at all caution, danger, [danger requiring hard barricade](#), and [specialized zones](#).

4.1 Caution Zone

The following are the minimum requirements governing Caution Zones,

- Before entering a Caution Zone, each individual shall understand the specific hazards associated with the area.

4.2 Danger Zone

In addition to the Caution Zone requirements the following are the minimum requirements governing Danger Zones,

- Personnel shall not enter defined Danger Zones without specific permission of the

worksite owner as defined by the name on the label, an approved Permit to Work WCC, and a documented risk assessment.

- Worksite owner shall verify that the Danger Zone markings / signs are maintained and housekeeping is in order.
- Worksite owner shall verify that Danger Zone areas are inspected during normal rounds by facility personnel to comply with these requirements.

4.3 Danger Zone Requiring Hard Barricade

In addition to the Caution and Danger Zone requirements the following are the minimum requirements governing Danger Zones Requiring Hard Barricade,

- An approved Permit to Work WCC and a document risk assessment are required to be in place before the start and for the duration of any created opening work.
- Entry into created opening Danger Zones or climbing on a created opening hard barricade is forbidden unless wearing fall protection in compliance with the GoM Region Working at Heights SWP.
- Worksite owner shall verify that created openings are monitored, eliminated whenever possible, or the length of time created openings are present is minimized so that temporary hard barricades are removed where appropriate and reasonably practicable to do so (including any periods of worksite inactivity) until a permanent solution is restored.
- Install an approved guardrail if hard barricading remains on-site beyond 90 days. If an approved guardrail installation occurs, it is considered a permanent change to the facility and an MOC shall be required. Once the MOC is complete, signage will no longer be required.

5 Definitions

Term	Definition
Hard Barricade	Rigid physical structure isolating a hazardous zone.
Soft Barrier	Non-rigid physical structure designed to warn personnel of a caution (yellow caution tape) and danger (red danger tape) zone.
Caution Zone	An area with a hazard that is not immediately or foreseeably life threatening. Caution zones shall be identified with yellow caution tape and signs or tags.
Created Opening	A “created opening” includes a situation where gratings, handrails, stair treads, kicker plates have been removed from structures creating a potential risk of falls and/or dropped objects.
Danger Zone	An area with hazards that are potentially life threatening and/or can cause serious injury. Danger zones shall be marked with red danger tape, and signs or tags.
Danger Zone Requiring Barricade	An area with hazards that is immediately or foreseeably life threatening and/or can cause serious injury. Danger zones shall be barricaded and marked with red danger tape and signs or tags.
Specialty Zones with Distinctive Barrier Requirements	Other areas existing in which specific barrier requirements are required due to regulatory or health concerns (i.e., radiation and asbestos).
Worksite Owner	The Offshore Installation Manager (OIM) or designee for CoW Activities which is the Area Authority (AA) / Issuing Authority (IA)

6 Key Documents/Tools/References

6.1 OSHA 29 CFR 1910 Subpart D