

TEMPLATE

Elevator speech template and suggested script for the IOGP Start-Work Checks

# Instructions

* Capture your thoughts in the table below
* The text included is just a starting point, collecting the thoughts of the IOGP Task Force that developed the Start-Work Checks (SWC), and giving you information to create your own script.
* Please adjust the text to your needs and audience, making it sharp and to the point, and relevant to you and your organisation
* End goal is an elevator speech that is 2-5 minutes long

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| Question you might receive | How you might answer it |
| What is the change? | *Background:*  IOGP used fatality data reported by its Member Companies to revise the Life-Saving Rules. These provide workers with a simple set of actions to protect themselves and others from fatalities. The Rules have been deployed globally by companies of varying profiles. Start Work Checks have now been created by building upon effective Life-Saving Rules implementation best practices shared by IOGP Member Companies.  *What’s new:*  The Life-Saving Rules Task Force determined a way to operationalize the Life-Saving Rules would be to create a set of checks to be performed prior to work commencing, hence the name: Start-Work Checks. They support the frontline worker who is about to perform a task and is exposed to the hazard. The checks empower the worker to confirm immediately before starting work that lifesaving controls/safeguards are in place and functioning. The worker does not start the task if they cannot positively confirm all item in the check.  *What are they:*  Each SWC is a standardized and simplified checklist of safeguards/controls that is to be completed by workers at the job location immediately before work commences. The tool is designed to incorporate a peer review or “verifier” that also confirms the safeguards/controls as a second set of eyes. The checklist covers critical actions addressing hazards and safeguards, by discussing both controls and recovery measures to save lives. If a worker or verifier can’t confirm or verify a control/safeguard, they should stop and seek help.  *What you won’t see:*  The Start Work Checks are designed to be answered with a positive response and are activity based. Therefore, you won’t see a one-to-one relationship between the Rules and the SWCs (e.g. there is no Check for the Rule ‘Line of Fire’ but all its aspects are reflected practically across the suite of SWCs checks). |
| Why are we doing this now? | We operate in high-hazard environments and our industry’s current safety approach has delivered systemic improvements, preventing many fatalities and injuries, but fatal incidents have not yet been eliminated. We believe this tool will help us take the next step in our safety journey.  We need to accept that we all make mistakes, so we need to create systems that inherently account for that. Our mission is to save lives by creating a tool that makes it easier to get lifesaving actions right and harder to get them wrong. The SWC are a human performance tool that enables:   * Workers to confirm lifesaving controls/safeguards are in place and functioning at the point of risk and supports a ‘fail safely’ mindset. * Workers to conduct self-checks and focus their attention on the aspects of the task which data has shown to be key factors in preventing serious injuries or fatalities * Workers to take a Go/No-Go approach before immediately before starting a task, at the point of risk. This approach empowers workers to not to start work, rather than relying on if them noticing a lifesaving control/safeguard is not in place or functioning, and then intervening during a task. |
| What does this mean for our industry? | Adoption of the IOGP Life-Saving Rules SWCs industry wide will provide clarity and alignment, leading toconsistent use of the Rules by contractors and operators doing similar work across the industry. For an industry with an ~80% contacted workforce, alignment on lifesaving actions is critical.  The goal is to make the Rules more visible and relevant to workers who are exposed to potentially life-threatening hazards, preventing fatalities and serious injuries by improving our ability to ensure the presence and status of lifesaving controls/safeguards and enabling our industry to consistently execute work safely. |
| What’s in it for our organization? | Clarity and alignment with our Industry. A common safety language   * Complements our existing system, nothing new * Training becomes more efficient as contractors come to your operations with a better understanding of safety critical controls/safeguard * Workforce consistently recognizes hazards that could harm them therefore work with a sustained sense of vulnerability. * Could lead to the reduction Life-Saving Rules related incidents and fatalities |
| What can our organization do to make this change happen? | Your organization should first decide if these tools are right for you. If they are the right tool for you, educate your workforce and leaders on what they are for and how they are to be used. It’s about putting the right tools in the hands of the people doing to work to keep them from fatal injuries. These tools will take leadership engagement and reinforcement to assure the expectation for workers is set and reinforced. |
| What will I do to support the team and make the change happen? | As a leader you need to fully support the use of the checks. You need to set the expectation for your workforce to use them. You need to commend crews who are using them correctly and share the success story of when missing safeguards/controls are found. They can feel duplicative to some workers who might have been through a Permit To Work and/or Job Safety Analysis. You need to reinforce to your workers that this one final check is worth their time to assure they go home that day to their families. |