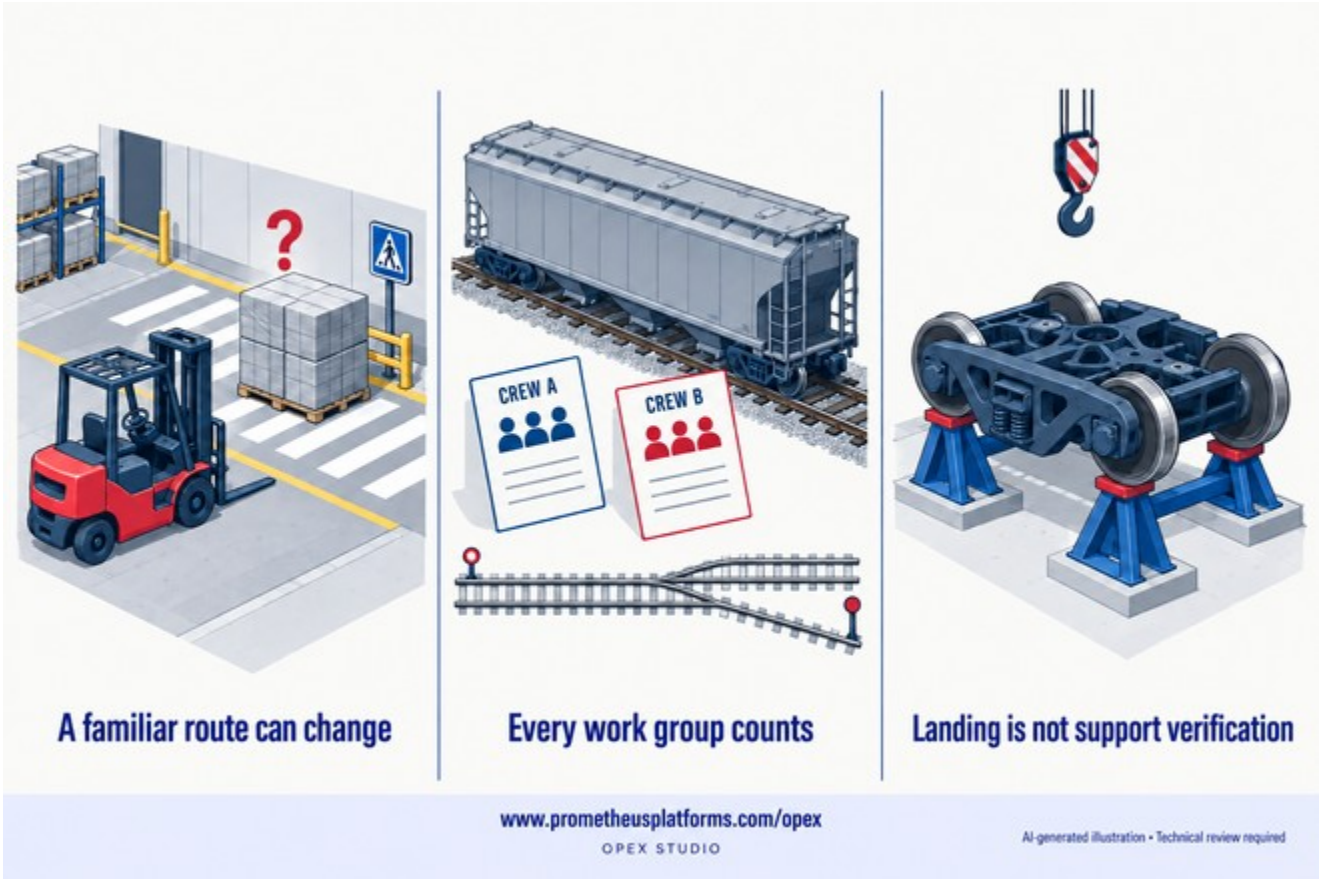
Mobile equipment: protect the whole movement
FSI = Fatality or Serious Incident

CRITICAL 8 WRAP-UP | C8-01-R01 | Fictional discussion examples



Avoid this shortcut. A horn, one crew's clearance or a landed load proves the whole movement is safe.

Do this. Reassess changed routes and adjacent work. Reconcile every rail work group. Verify approved lifting and positive support arrangements before access.

Verify. At shift start and after route changes, check separation and equipment condition. For each move, verify the defined boundary, all groups and load/support evidence.

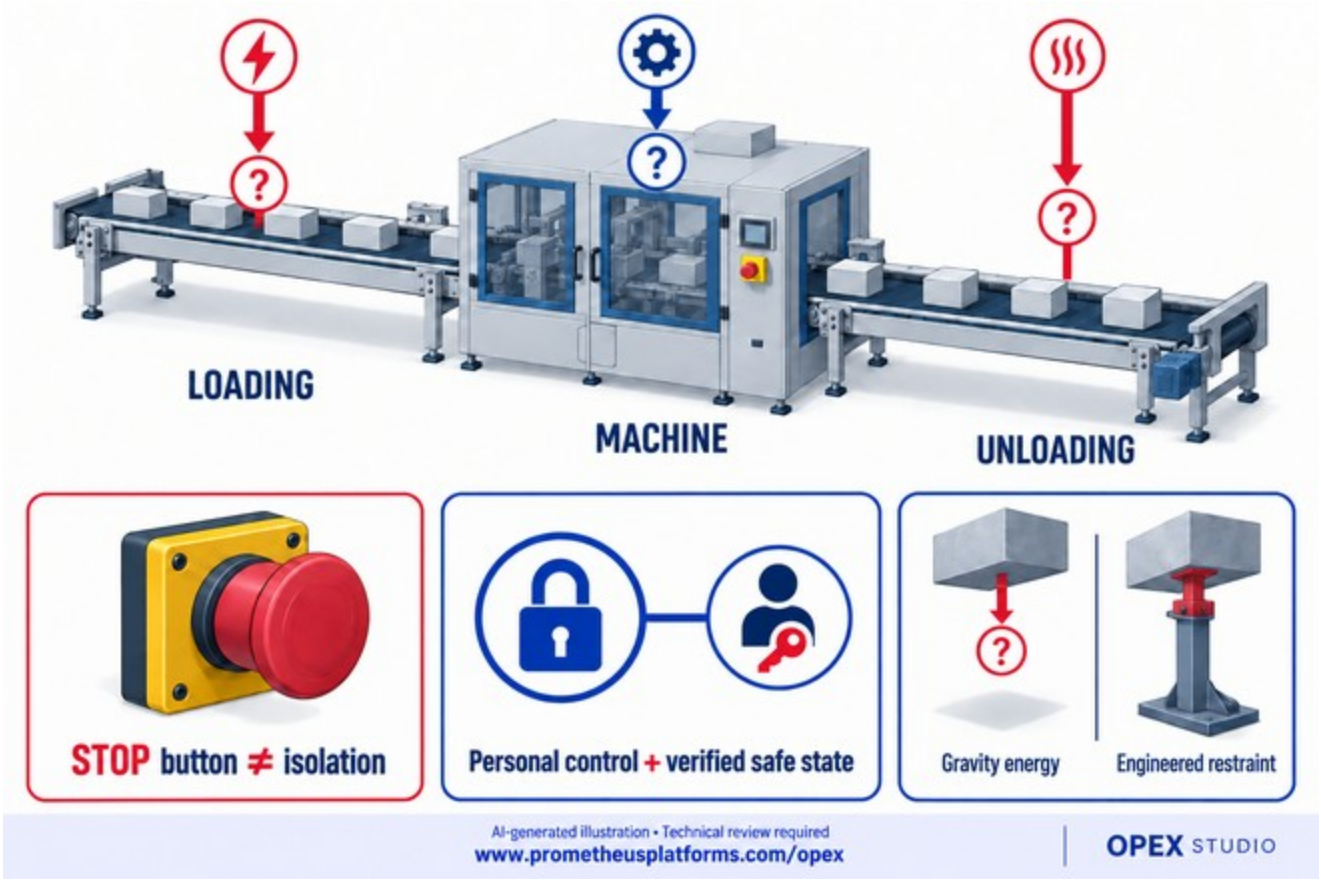
Ask and explain. A second contractor crew arrives after the rail clearance. What evidence is now invalid?

STOP and improve. STOP the affected move or access; restore protection, rebrief and obtain the designated release.

Start with hazard assessment and higher-order controls. Illustrations do not define equipment methods. Use approved asset instructions and competent verification.

Lockout: one machine can be part of a larger system

CRITICAL 8 WRAP-UP | C8-02-R01 | Fictional discussion examples



Avoid this shortcut. Press STOP, lock only the main machine, or skip full isolation because the repair is quick.

Do this. Use the complete approved system-specific lockout every time isolation is required. Each exposed authorized person has personal lock protection, directly or through the approved group system.

Verify. Operator and maintenance explain loading, unloading, remote starts and every energy source. Verify isolation; discharge, disconnect or safely restrain stored energy. Address reaccumulation.

Ask and explain. The press is locked. Can an independently powered feeder still push material into the work zone?

STOP and improve. STOP access until the full exposure boundary and safe state are verified. Maintain personal protection through handover.

Start with hazard assessment and higher-order controls. Illustrations do not define equipment methods. Use approved asset instructions and competent verification.

Working at height: a harness is only one component

CRITICAL 8 WRAP-UP | C8-03-R01 | Fictional discussion examples



Avoid this shortcut. Having a harness, using yesterday's setup or calling emergency services is the complete plan.

Do this. First remove elevated work where feasible. Otherwise validate access, edge/fall protection, dropped-object controls, clearance and a workable rescue arrangement.

Verify. Before use and after change, confirm the actual platform/anchor system, condition, compatibility, work below and rescue coverage by competent people.

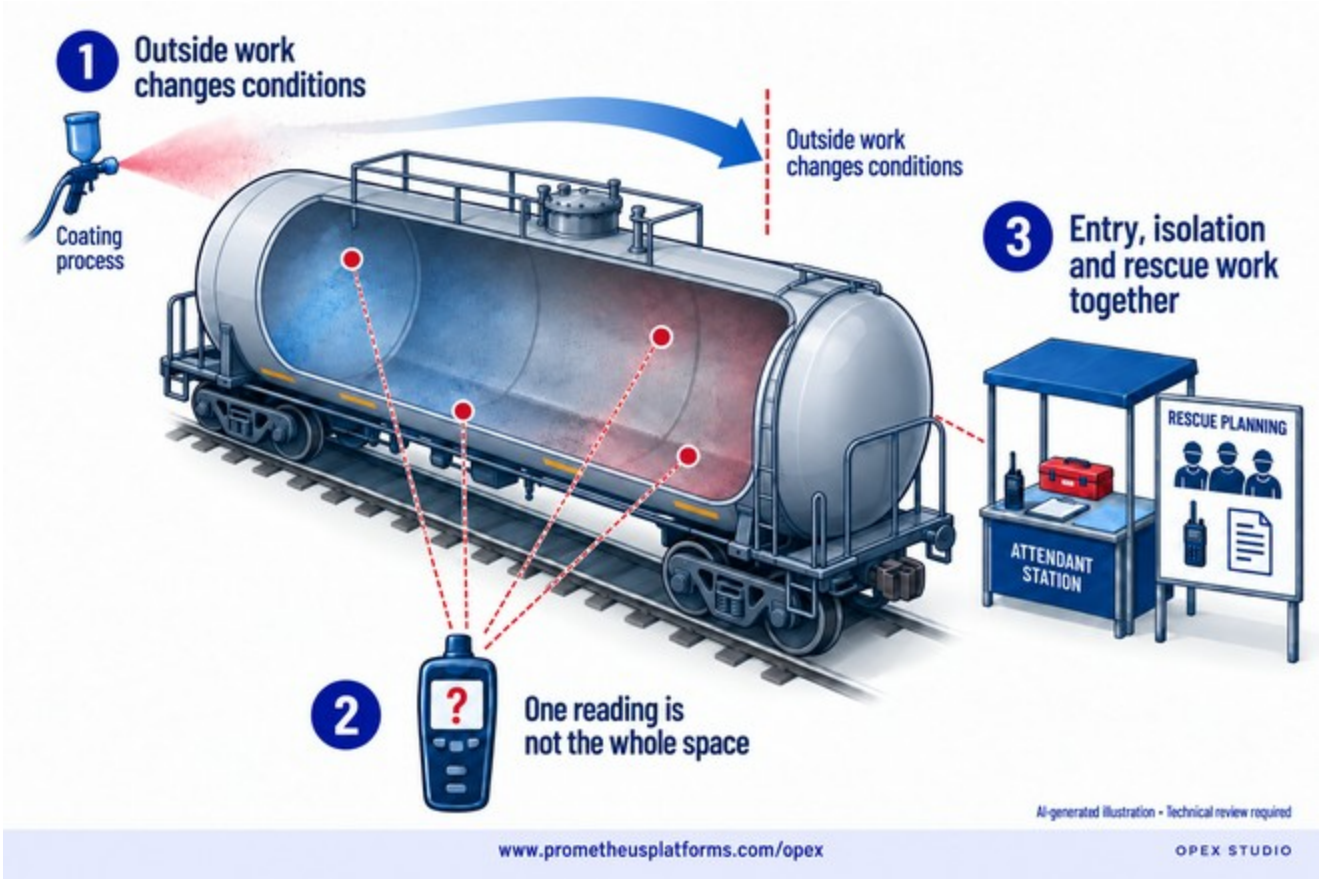
Ask and explain. The worker is protected, but a delivery has entered the dropped-object zone. Can the task continue?

STOP and improve. STOP affected work, protect the changed boundary and reassess. Improve access or bring the task down where practicable.

Start with hazard assessment and higher-order controls. Illustrations do not define equipment methods. Use approved asset instructions and competent verification.

Confined spaces: outside work can change the inside

CRITICAL 8 WRAP-UP | C8-04-R01 | Fictional discussion examples



Avoid this shortcut. The car is new, one reading was acceptable, or the opening looks large enough, so entry is safe.

Do this. Use the actual space evaluation and entry method. Control connected energy/material sources and nearby work; establish monitoring, communication, attendant and rescue capability.

Verify. Verify representative sampling and changing conditions by the approved method. Reassess after interruption, ventilation loss or new adjacent work; an earlier result is not continuing permission.

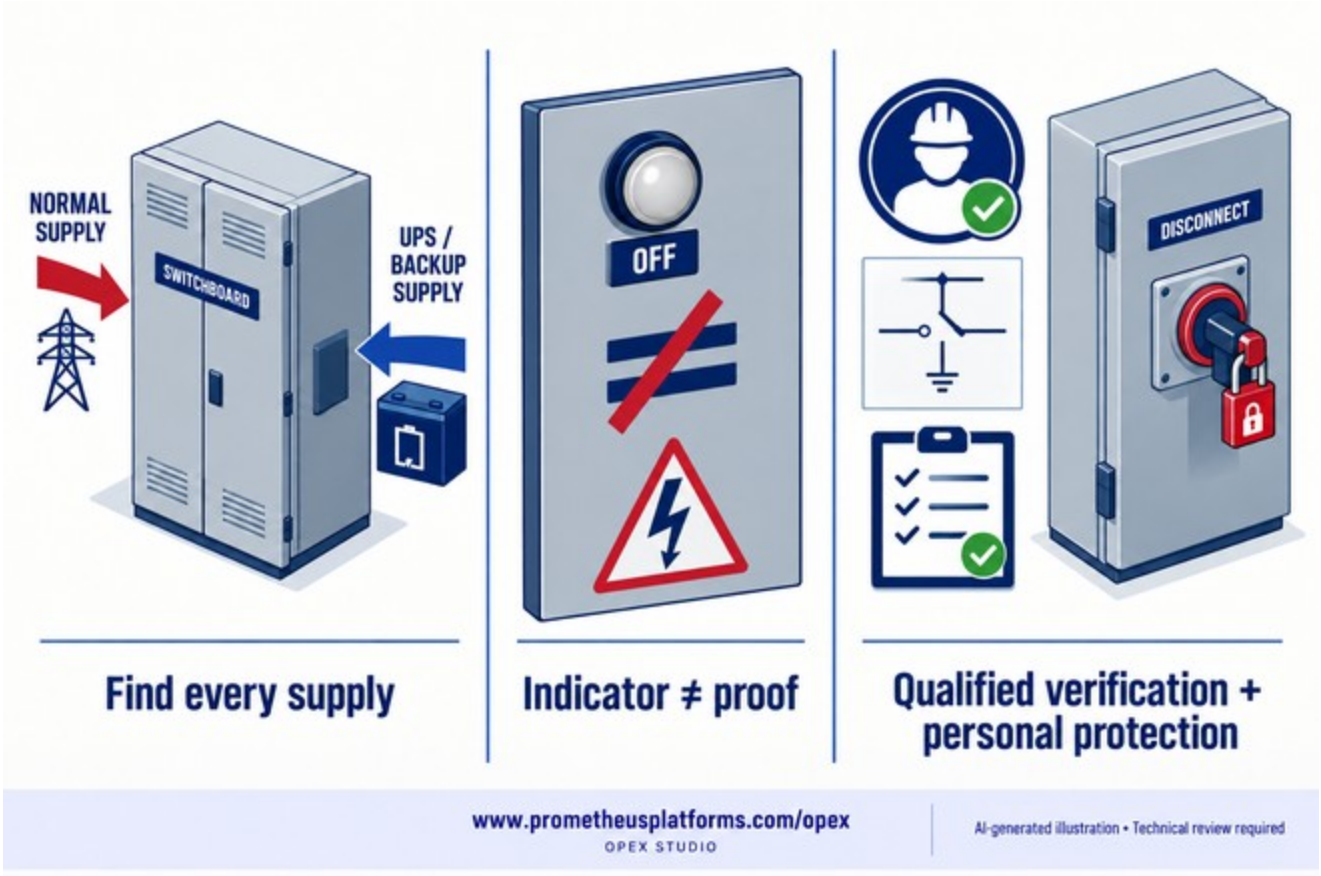
Ask and explain. Coating starts nearby after the entry check. What must happen before exposure continues?

STOP and improve. Apply the approved evacuation/STOP entry response, preserve isolation and restore accepted conditions before reauthorization.

Start with hazard assessment and higher-order controls. Illustrations do not define equipment methods. Use approved asset instructions and competent verification.

Electrical safety: OFF does not prove absence of voltage

CRITICAL 8 WRAP-UP | C8-05-R01 | Fictional discussion examples



Avoid this shortcut. An OFF indication, a stopped motor or isolation of the normal supply proves the circuit is safe.

Do this. Use the approved electrical method and personal isolation protection. Identify all supplies, backfeed and stored energy. Electrical absence-of-voltage testing requires qualified people and suitable methods.

Verify. Verify the correct circuit and boundaries, tester suitability and the required test sequence, stored-energy controls and adjacent live-part exposure. A try-start cannot prove absence of voltage.

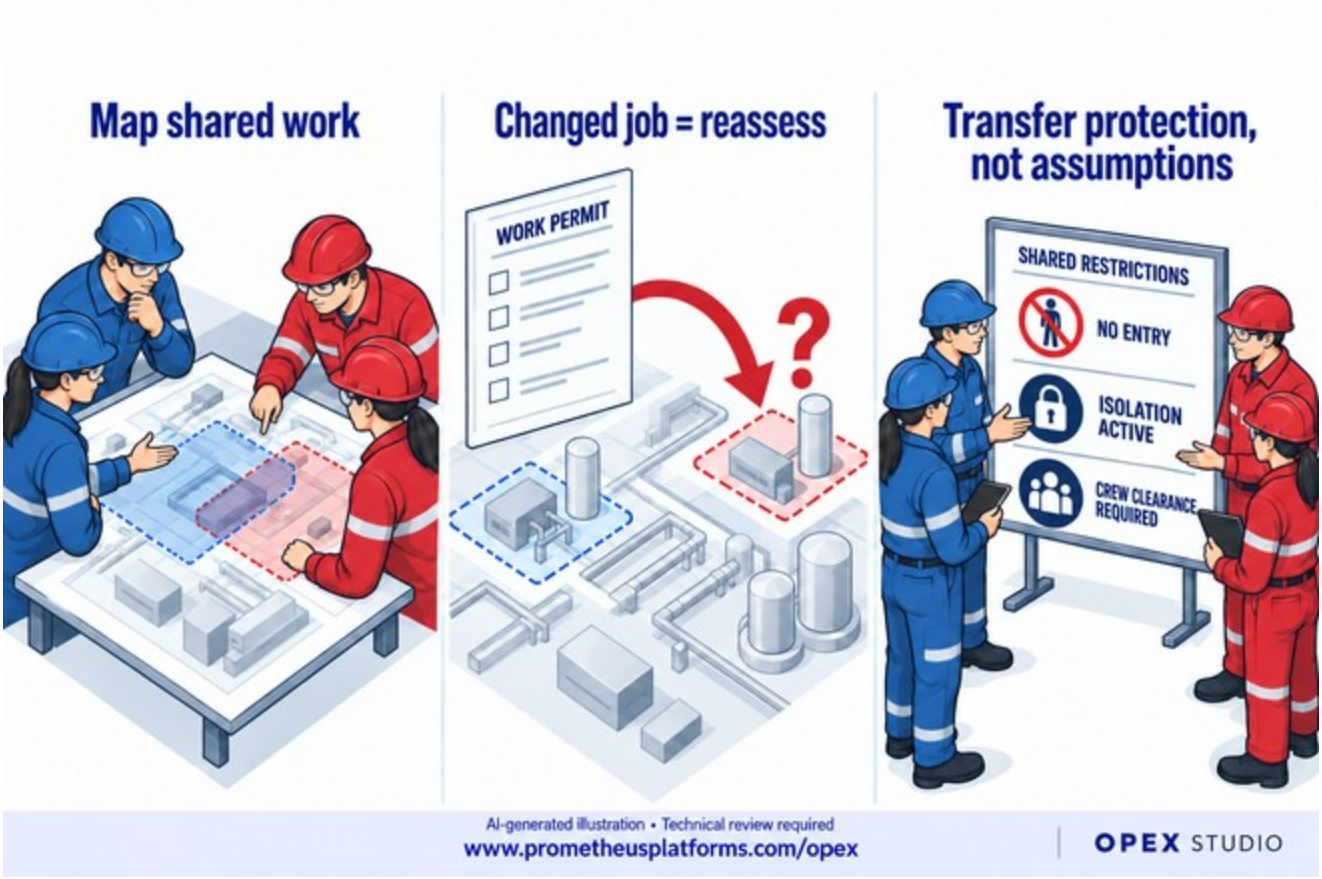
Ask and explain. Normal power is isolated. What about the separate control supply or backup source?

STOP and improve. STOP access until every relevant source and the electrical safe condition are verified; correct the drawing when it omits an interface.

Start with hazard assessment and higher-order controls. Illustrations do not define equipment methods. Use approved asset instructions and competent verification.

Contractor controls: a permit can become out of date

CRITICAL 8 WRAP-UP | C8-06-R01 | Fictional discussion examples



Avoid this shortcut. The contractor is approved, has a signed permit or says the area is clear, so the host can assume readiness.

Do this. The host and contractor reconcile the real task, shared services, adjacent work, competence, understood instructions, permits and emergency roles before exposure.

Verify. Walk the agreed boundary safely. Confirm both teams can explain their controls, STOP triggers and help route. Recheck changes in location, crew, method or shift.

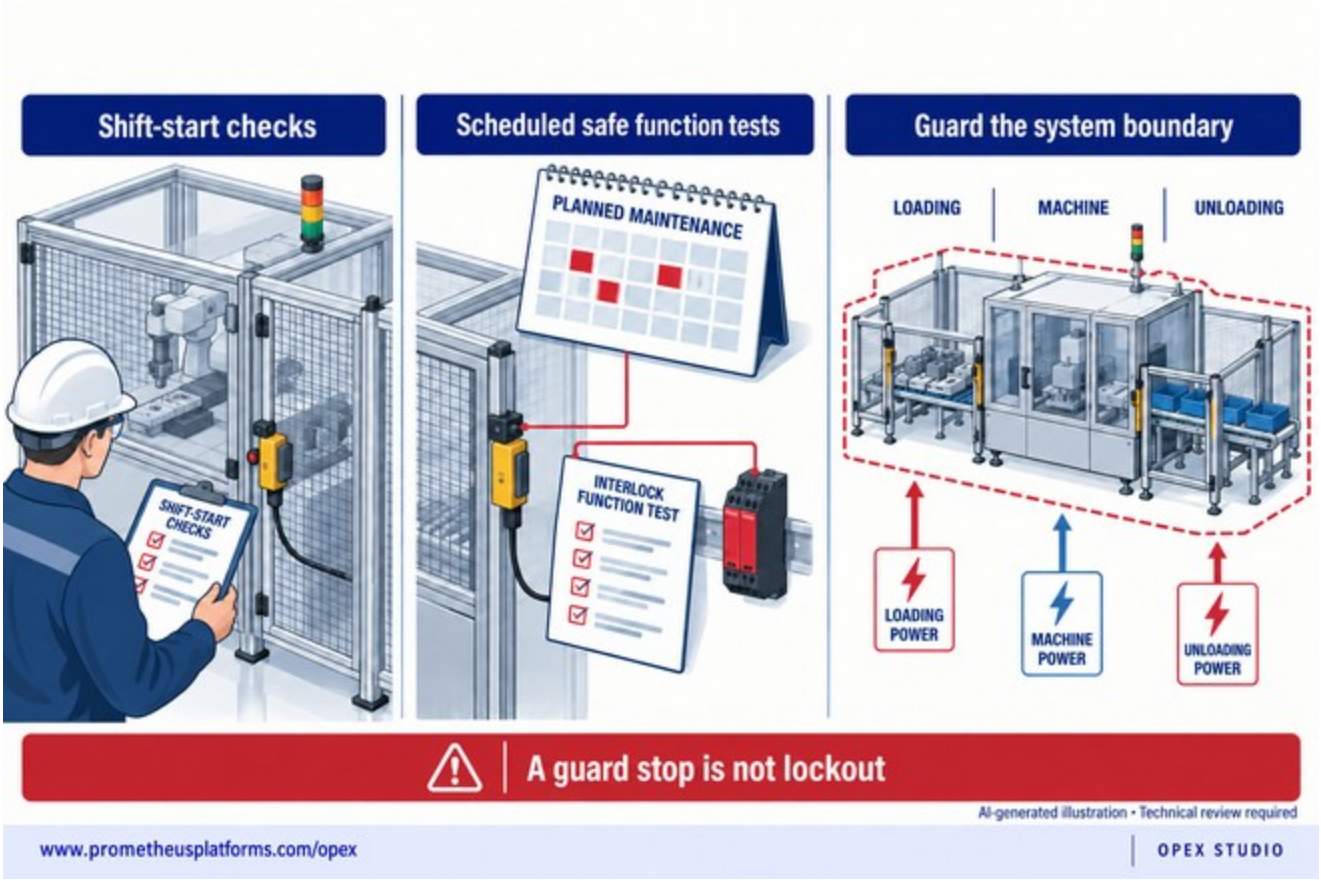
Ask and explain. A subcontractor changes the welding location while painting continues nearby. Does the old permit still fit?

STOP and improve. STOP conflicting work, reassess simultaneous operations and update the plan. Confirm all groups before protection is removed.

Start with hazard assessment and higher-order controls. Illustrations do not define equipment methods. Use approved asset instructions and competent verification.

Machine guarding: verify the function across the line

CRITICAL 8 WRAP-UP | C8-07-R01 | Fictional discussion examples



Avoid this shortcut. The guard is fitted, a sensor light is on, or the centre machine stops, so the entire line is protected.

Do this. At shift start use approved external readiness checks. Scheduled maintenance verifies specified protective functions and tamper resistance safely. Never defeat a safeguard; full lockout applies when required for access or servicing.

Verify. Operator and maintenance demonstrate whole-line understanding: feed, discharge, stored energy, stopping/run-down and restart prevention. Safe tests follow the accepted method; nobody reaches in to prove a sensor works.

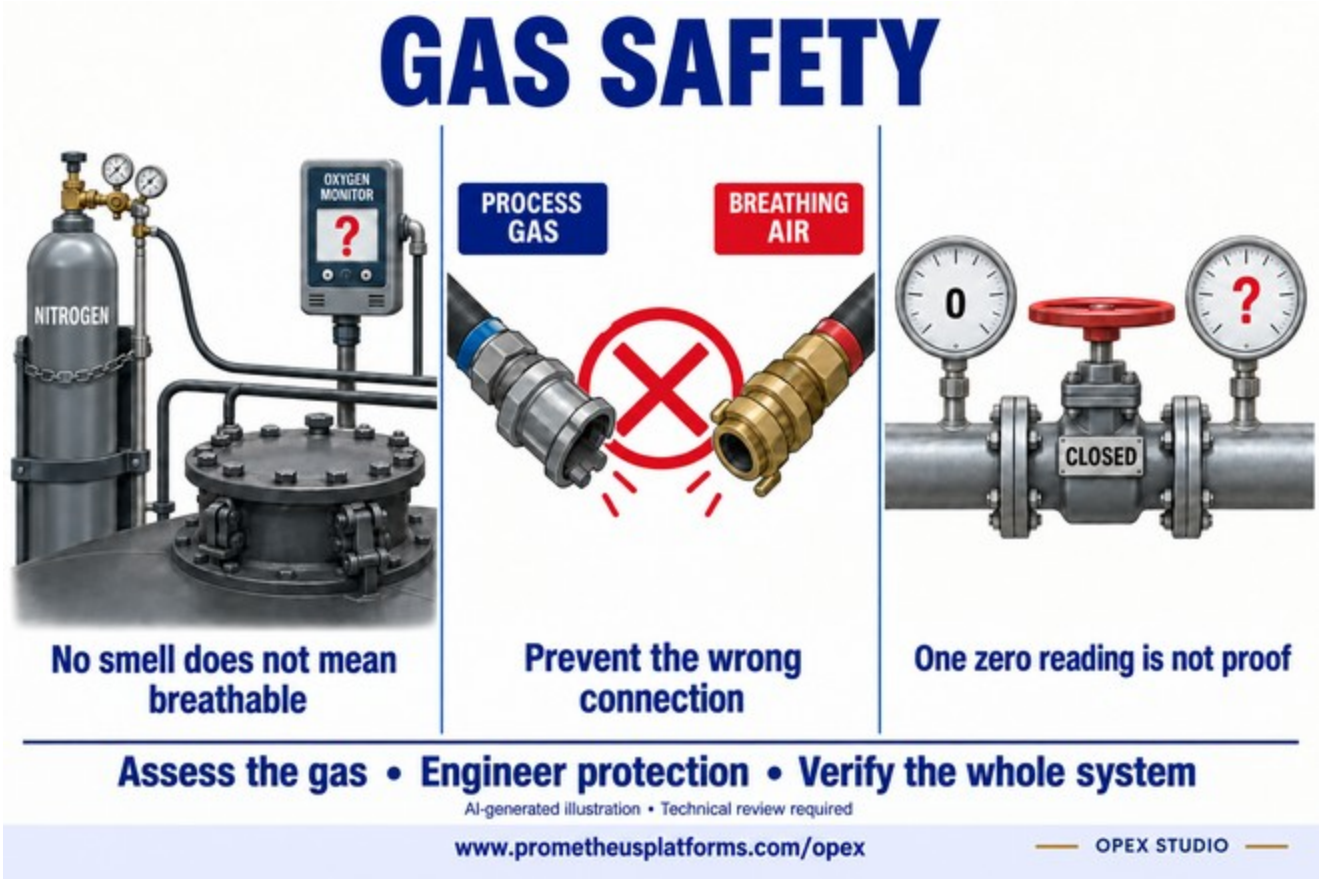
Ask and explain. Opening the guard stops the press. Can the independently powered unloading unit still pull material through it?

STOP and improve. STOP affected use for a defeated, failed or unverified safeguard. Restore and verify protection; update maintenance and design to prevent recurrence.

Start with hazard assessment and higher-order controls. Illustrations do not define equipment methods. Use approved asset instructions and competent verification.

Gas safety: verify the full supply and use system

CRITICAL 8 WRAP-UP | C8-08-R01 | Fictional discussion examples



Avoid this shortcut. No smell, a fitting that connects, or one zero gauge proves the system is safe.

Do this. Verify gas identity, compatible supply/use equipment, atmosphere protection and every relevant pressure volume. Retain dust, fire and hot-work controls where applicable.

Verify. Check the accepted system design, actual connections, detector/ventilation evidence and maintenance/proof-test records. Do not use an adapter or loosen a fitting to find out.

Ask and explain. A closed valve separates the zero-reading gauge from a trapped volume. What does that reading actually prove?

STOP and improve. STOP affected gas work until the boundary and required protection are verified. Improve the design and check equivalent connections.

Start with hazard assessment and higher-order controls. Illustrations do not define equipment methods. Use approved asset instructions and competent verification.