



<b>NC Sturgeon</b> Safety Management System			Doc No:	FFD
			Initial Issue Date:	02/2016
<b>FIT FOR DUTY</b>			Revision Date:	Initial Version
			Revision No.:	0
			Next Revision Date:	TBD
Preparation: Safety Mgr	Authority: President	Issuing Dept: Safety	Page:	Page 1 of 3

## Purpose

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**NC Sturgeon** full and part-time staff are expected to report for work fit for duty, which means able to perform their job duties in a safe, appropriate and an effective manner free from the adverse effects of physical, mental, emotional and personal problems.

## Scope

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This program applies to all **NC Sturgeon** projects and operations.

## Requirements

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It is the goal of **NC Sturgeon** to provide a safe workplace for all employees. To accomplish this goal we have adopted the following fitness for duty policy requirements.

### Pre-Employment Testing

Employees are physically capable of performing their job function. Pre-employment physicals should be included in the hiring process, and also when changing into certain job functions and different environments.

### Training and Safe Work Requirements

Employees are properly trained for their assigned tasks. Employees must receive training specific to their assigned task. Examples might be welding, instrumentation, scaffold building, equipment operator qualifications, etc. based on a training matrix that reflects the job description and/or tasks being performed. All training is to be documented.

Safe work practices and procedures must be followed. Safe work procedures must be in place prior to work beginning. Employees shall follow our and our client's safety requirements. Examples may include, hot work permitting, confined space, lockout tagout, process safety management, electrical safety, operator safety and other standard work practices, safety rules or procedures.

### Personal Medical Reporting Requirements

Employees must report all medications they are taking that could impair their ability to work safely. Over-the-counter medications such as allergy or cold and flu medications could also impair one's ability to perform safely and must also be reported to their supervisor. The reporting must occur before the employee arrives for work or arranges for transportation to a remote site.

### Client Drug and Alcohol Testing Requirements

Drug and alcohol testing for pre-employment, post-accident or random as prescribed by the host facility shall be implemented. Procedures must include and be implemented for drug and alcohol testing as prescribed by DOT or the host client facilities.



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**Employee Activity and Behavior**

We will monitor employee activities and behaviors to determine if employees should be removed from the work site. Employee’s activities and behaviors will be monitored to determine if employee should be removed from the work site if their ability to perform their duties safely is questioned.

**Fit for Duty Examination**

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**Confidentiality**

Medical Records and other related records are protected by state and federal confidentiality laws and **NC Sturgeon** policy. The medical record of fitness for duty examination will be maintained in the Human Resources office. Employee medical records will not be released to unauthorized personnel without the employee’s written consent or subpoena in accordance with state and federal laws.

**Self-Referrals**

Employees are responsible for notifying their supervisor if they are fatigued to the point of not being able to perform their duties safely. Employees must be responsible for ensuring they are physically and mentally fit to perform their job functions safely. Employees must take responsibility for their own safety as well as not reporting to work in a condition as to endanger the safety of their fellow workers.

Disciplinary action may occur for an employee not reporting to work in a condition which could endanger their safety or the safety of any other person(s). See below for Management Referral in case there is a question of the employee’s ability to work safely.

**Management Referral**

Management Personnel Responsibility

Management personnel are responsible for monitoring the attendance, performance and behavior of their employees. When an employee’s performance and/or behavior (including the odor of alcohol or possible use of any illegal substance) appears to be unsafe, ineffective and/or inappropriate, it is every manager’s responsibility to challenge the employee’s behavior and the ability to function, remove the employee from the job, refer the employee for a Fitness for Duty exam immediately and conduct appropriate follow up.

Due to the safety issues involved, supervisors have a special responsibility to implement this policy in a consistent and fair manner.

**Procedure**

- When any manager or their designee observes an employee who is not performing his/her job safely, appropriately, and effectively, or an odor of alcohol is present, or whose behavior is inappropriate, that manager is to remove the employee from her/his duty immediately and call Human Resources to continue the Fitness for Duty procedure. The employee will be referred to a medical provider for a fitness for duty exam.
- The Fitness for duty evaluation may include testing for chemical (e.g. alcohol and drug) levels, referral for psychiatric evaluation or any other evaluation or follow-up deemed necessary.
- The manager or designee must document the reasons for the fitness for duty request by recording the employee’s behavior and noting the names of any witnesses who observed that behavior. Documentation must be submitted to Human Resources by the next business day.



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- The employee is required to cooperate fully with the manager and medical personnel. The employee must sign consent forms for both the fitness examination and communication of its results in confidence to Human Resources. Refusal to cooperate will be considered insubordination and will be grounds for disciplinary action. The employee should be suspended pending investigation, which could result in termination.
- Medical personnel will advise Human Resources if the employee is fit or not fit for duty. The medical results of the fitness for duty exam will be communicated to Human Resources.
- If medical personnel determine that the employee is FIT FOR DUTY, the employee must contact Human Resources on the next general business day and the manager in consultation with Human Resources will determine discipline in situations where misconduct may have occurred.
- If medical personnel determine that the employee is NOT FIT FOR DUTY:
  - The manager makes every effort to arrange for safe transportation home for the employee.
  - The employee must contact Human Resources, on the next general business day.
  - The manager, in consultation with Human Resources, will determine discipline in situations where misconduct has occurred.

**Subsequent Fitness for Duty Exams**

Dependent upon the reason for the fitness exam, employees who violate this policy a second time may be subject to progressive discipline, up to and including termination of employment.