



HOT WORK

TOOLBOX TALK SERIES – HOT WORK

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Hot work in the workplace is attributed to 4,440 fires every year. Additionally, it results in \$287 million dollars in damages, 12 civilian fatalities and 5 firefighter fatalities.



What is Hot Work?

Hot work is any workplace activity that results in the generation of heat, sparks and flame.

Examples include, but are not limited to:

Grinding, Welding, Cutting and Heating.

Prior to Commencing Hot Work

Prior to starting hot work, it is important to take certain steps to prevent the possibility of injury or damage. All combustible material in the area shall be removed or protected with welding blankets. A fire watch shall be present 30 minutes after the completion of any work. Proper ventilation and personal protective equipment shall be used. Proper PPE consists of face shields, safety goggles, flame retardant jackets and clothing, safety shoes, hearing protection, and filter lenses

Fire Watch

A responsible person shall be provided as a fire watch any time hot work is to take place. This individual is tasked with keeping an eye on the area for the purpose of fire protection. They should also keep an eye on employees working in the area for injury or unsafe practices. Fire watches should have a means for calling for assistance (cell phone, fire alarm, etc) as well as have a fire extinguisher suitable for the hazard presented.

