

Toolbox Talk

37. Hot Work



What?

- Hot work is any work that produces heat, (direct, radiant or conducted heat) of a sufficient temperature to cause ignition of combustible or flammable material within the vicinity of the work
- This will include work such as welding, soldering, cutting, brazing of metals, or using burning equipment, bitumen/tar boilers etc
- It is important to control this type of activity in situations where the work can result in fire when sparks or heat from the process can ignite surrounding material

Why?

- Serious fires have occurred in both occupied and unoccupied buildings due to hot work especially when sparks travel some distance from the place of work onto combustible material elsewhere. The result of such mistakes can lead to extensive fire damage to buildings and loss of life and therefore must be controlled using a permit to work procedure

Do



- ✓ Make sure you have a permit before commencing work
- ✓ Make sure you wear the correct PPE to prevent burns
- ✓ Read the permit conditions and follow the safe system of work
- ✓ Make sure there are no combustible or flammable materials in the area
- ✓ Use fireproof material to cover combustible items which can't be moved
- ✓ Keep a suitable fire extinguisher nearby
- ✓ Keep checking for possible fires especially when finished

Don't



- ✗ Carry out work without a permit
- ✗ Allow sparks to travel long distances where they can ignite material
- ✗ Leave the area until you are satisfied there is no fire threat
- ✗ Leave any hot processes unattended



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