

HOT WORKS PROGRAM

OBJECTIVES

- Staff will learn to recognize what jobs require a “Hot Work Permit”
- Staff will be familiar with the Hot Work Permit Program.

The United States averages 12,630 hot work fires, \$308.9 million in property damages and 31 deaths per year. A Hot Work Permit Program is an effective way to supervise and control the potential ignition hazards associated with hot work.

Hot Work is defined as any work using open flames or sources of heat that could ignite materials in the work area. Examples of Hot Work are:

- Welding
- Burning
- Brazing
- Propane soldering
- Oxyacetylene cutting
- Grinding

The Hot Work standard does not apply to candles, pyrotechnics or special effects, cooking operations, or electric soldering operations.

DESIGNATED HOT WORK AREA

- A designated hot work area is a permanent location designed for hot work. Designated areas do not require a permit.
- A designated hot work area needs to be of non-combustible, fire restrictive construction, equipped with a fire extinguisher, and approved by management.

HOT WORK PERMIT

- A “Hot Work Permit” is a written document issued by the person designated as the “Permit Authorizing Individual” (PAI). A Hot Work Permit shall be required before any hot work begins; this includes contractors performing work in county facilities.
- The area must be made fire safe before the permit is issued.

TRAINED PERSONNEL

- Safety/Loss Prevention
 - Has overall responsibility of program implementation
 - Issues the Hot Work Permit
- Fire Watch
 - Ensures safe conditions are maintained during the hot work operations
 - Has responsibility to stop work if unsafe conditions develop
 - Has fire extinguisher readily available and is trained to use it
 - Is familiar with procedures for sounding alarm in the event of fire
- Hot Work Operator
 - Properly trained in the use of hot work equipment
 - Verifies the equipment is in good condition
 - Obtains a Hot Work Permit from the PAI prior to start of hot work

THE 35 FOOT RULE

- All flammable and combustible material within a 35 foot radius of hot work must be removed, if it cannot be removed it must be covered with fire retardant tarps and a fire watch must be posted.
- Floors and surfaces within a 35 foot radius must be swept free of combustible dust or debris.
- All openings or cracks in walls, floors, or ducts that are potential passages for sparks and flames must be covered.

GENERAL GUIDELINES

- Work should be performed using alternative methods other than hot work whenever possible.
- Hot work should be performed in designated hot work areas whenever practical.
- A Hot Work Permit is valid for one day or one shift, and one area and should be posted in the area of the hot work for the duration.
- A copy of the every permit should be filed by the PAI and kept for a period of at least 6 months.

POLICY

Discuss all organizational policies related to Hot Works

CLOSING

- *Discuss the presentation and current situation requiring hot work permits*