

SAFETY TALK

Hot Work Fire Hazards

Hot works like cutting, welding, soldering and grinding can present a special fire hazard. This is because of the severe risk of fire they can present at your workplace and the unusual safety controls needed to prevent fires. The high fire risk is due to the flames that slag or sparks kick up during hot work. Because of the high fire risk, hot work should only be done in areas that have been approved by your supervisor. There are two types:

- Permanent hot work areas, like shops. They should be kept clear of combustible materials and posted as approved hot work areas.
- Locations that have been inspected and received a written “hot work permit”. This type of location can be indoors or out.



Whether the work is being done in a dedicated shop or not, you need to be aware of the risk of fire and take action to protect yourself.

- Any combustible materials within 35 feet of hot work must be removed from the area. If removing them is not possible, they must be covered with fire resistant covers or be guarded to protect them.
- You should give special attention to any floor openings in the hot work area. Slag and sparks can fall into them and cause a fire hazard on another level.
- Be certain that fire extinguishing equipment is **immediately** available. This can include pails of water, buckets of sand, a hose or portable extinguishers.
- Whenever hot work is being performed, someone needs to act as a fire watch. They are to guard against fire while the work is being done. Those on fire watch
 - Will have fire extinguishing equipment ready to use and be trained in how to use it.
 - Know how to sound the alarm in case of fire.
 - Will keep an eye out for fire in exposed areas.
 - Will stay on watch for at least 30 minutes after hot work is done to look for and extinguish fires.

Although these precautions are important in a permanent hot work shop, they may be more relevant if you're working outdoors or in a remote area. Complete clearing of vegetation may not be possible so the use of guards and the fire watch become crucial. Whenever and where ever you work around any type of hot work, remember there is a very real danger of fire.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

How long after work is completed is it necessary for the fire watch to stay in place?

What should be done with combustible materials that cannot be moved from a hot work



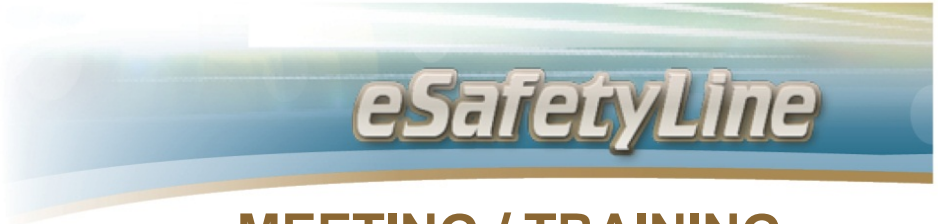
The logo features the text "eSafetyLine" in a stylized, italicized font with a 3D effect. The background is a blue and yellow gradient with a curved, metallic-looking border.

eSafetyLine

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area?



MEETING / TRAINING

Attendance Roster

COMPANY: _____

_____ SAFETY MEETING

JOB/DEPT: _____

_____ SAFETY TRAINING

DATE: ___/___/___

TIME: _____

TOPICS ADDRESSED: _____

EMPLOYEE'S SIGNATURES:

_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
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EMPLOYEE SUGGESTIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS: _____

ACTION TAKEN: _____

Supervisor's Signature

___/___/___
Date

Safety Coordinator's Signature

___/___/___
Date