

WEEKLY SAFETY MEETING

FOR THE CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY

SAFETY MEETING OUTLINES Box 700, Frankfort, IL 60423 815-464-0200 No. 25 Vol. 21 Week of 6/19/2023

Company Name _____ Job Name _____ Date _____

ARC WELDING

Welding is the fusing together of pieces of metal through the application of heat; arc and gas welding are the most common. Today we'll focus on arc welding hazards, although many of them are present during gas welding also. Common hazards include burns and fires from hot metal and sparks, eye and skin damage from infrared and ultra-violet radiation, and exposure to noxious fumes and gases. Most of these hazards can be controlled or avoided by wearing the proper personal protective equipment, staying alert, and inspecting the area before and after welding.

Always wear appropriate personal protective equipment when you are welding or exposed to a welding operation. Start with eye and face protection: use a welding hood with the proper filter lenses installed to protect you from the ultraviolet radiation of the arc. That ultraviolet light can actually give you a "sun" burn if your skin is exposed, so you should wear long sleeves. Protect your hands by wearing a good pair of welder's gloves. Your pants legs should cover the tops of your boots even when you're sitting down. This will help prevent sparks and slag from falling into your boots.

When you're welding you should have your hood down to protect your eyes. Unfortunately, that hood makes it impossible for you to see other operations and dangers around you. You need to be aware of what else is going on in your area, especially if you are welding near moving or dangerous equipment. If necessary, use a spotter. Fire is an ever-present danger when welding. Always have a charged fire extinguisher handy. It may even be necessary to have another person on fire watch.

If a hot work permit is required make sure you get one before you start working. Before you do any welding, check the area for anything that could cause a fire: flammable liquids and gases, explosive materials, or any combustibles like paper, rags, wood, grease, or cardboard. Find a safe way to run your leads so they don't create a tripping hazard. Check for adequate ventilation to avoid noxious fumes and gases. If you are working outside, try to stay upwind of the arc. When you are finished welding, make sure you put away your leads; don't leave them lying around where someone could trip over them. Finally, a stray spark or a piece of smoldering debris could cause a fire later. Don't let that happen on your job. Always inspect the area before leaving.

SAFETY REMINDER

Never leave a rod in an unattended stinger.

Special Topics For Your Project _____

Employee Safety Recommendations _____

Reviewed MSDS # _____ Subject _____

Meeting Attended By _____

Supervisor's Signature _____