

SAFE WORK PRACTICE

TITLE	Welding
GENERAL	Protecting workers from injuries associated with welding
APPLICATION	As per job requirement
PROTECTIVE MECHANISMS	Safe work procedure Manufacturers Recommendations
SELECTION AND USE	Safe work procedure Manufacturer’s recommendations
SUPERVISOR RESPONSIBILITY	To facilitate and/or provide proper instruction to their workers on protection requirements and training
WORKER RESPONSIBILITY	<p>Work involving welding, cutting and burning can create fires and breathing hazards for workers on any job. The following should be considered prior to the start of work.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Always ensure that adequate ventilation is supplied since hazardous fumes can be created during welding, cutting or burning. 2. Where other workers may also be exposed to the hazards created by welding, cutting and burning, they must be alerted to these hazards and protected by the use of “screens”. 3. Never start work without proper authorization. 4. Always have fire fighting equipment on hand before starting. 5. Check the work area for combustible material and possible flammable vapors. 6. A welder should never work alone. A fire or sparks watch should be maintained. 7. Protect cables and hoses from slag or sparks. 8. Never weld or cut lines, drums, tanks, etc. that have been in service without making sure that all have been purged or other necessary precautions are in place. 9. Never enter, weld or cut in a confined space without proper air quality testing and a qualified safety lookout in place. 10. When working overhead, use fire resistant materials (blankets, tarps) to control or contain slag and sparks. 11. Cutting and welding must not be performed where sparks and cutting slag will fall on cylinders. Move all cylinders away to one side. 12. Open all cylinder valves slowly. The wrench used for opening the cylinder valves should remain on the valve spindle.

* The information presented in this publication is intended for general use and may not apply to every circumstance. It is not a definitive guide to government regulations and does not relieve persons using this publication from their responsibilities under applicable legislation.