

## HEALTH & SAFETY ALERT



## Fire/Hot Works Fundamentals

## **Hot Works Classification:**

Hot work is any process that can be a source of ignition when flammable material is present or can be a fire hazard regardless of the presence of flammable material in the workplace. Common hot work processes are welding, soldering, cutting and brazing. When flammable materials are present, industrial processes such as grinding and drilling become hot work processes.



## **Hot Works Control Requirements:**

- All hot works should be planned in advance.
- A hot works permit should always be obtained before commencing work.
- The permit should be specific to the work and should be closed when the work is complete.
- Hot Works permits should be coordinated across contracts and communicated to anyone likely to be affected.
- The immediate hot works area should be kept free of combustible materials as sparks from grinding/cutting can travel up to 10 metres.
- Hot works should not be undertaken in areas designated for the storage of flammable materials.
- Fixed plant such as electrical cables should be protected by a fire blanket.
- Only trained, competent persons are to carry out any hot works and any fire watches after hot works have taken place.
- All hot works areas should be covered by a fire point with the appropriate extinguishing media.

This list forms the bare minimum of what is required and is not an exhaustive list.



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