



# SAFETY BRIEF

## HOT WORK: WELDING AND CUTTING SAFETY

Welding and cutting are hazardous tasks that require special training and attention to your surroundings. The most common welding and cutting hazards are fires, toxic fumes and burns. Be aware of potential hazards and know how to protect yourself and others from injury.

### FIRES

- Clear all combustible materials within 30 feet
- Cover all flammable materials that can't be removed with fire-resistant covers or metal guards
- Wet down combustible floors
- Place a fireproof curtain or screen over open doorways and windows
- Test welding tanks or drums that previously held flammable liquids or gas for dangerous fumes
- Place containers of water or sand on the floor where pieces of hot metal can fall






### FUMES

- Remove all paints and solvents prior to working
- Always use a respirator
- Use welding rods to minimize fumes
- Always use the safest welding method to complete the job
- Never weld in enclosed areas without proper ventilation
- Use local exhaust ventilation to remove fumes and gases
- Keep your face away from the welding flame at all times

### BURNS

- Make sure flammable liquids or combustibles are not near your workstation
- Wear the necessary personal protective equipment
- Assume all metals in work areas are hot
- Place screens around your area to protect others from flash burns



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