

HOT WORK PERMIT GUIDELINES

A Hot Work Permit is required for any operation involving open flames or that produces heat and/or sparks. The permit must be completed by the Environmental Health and Safety (EH&S) Office and posted at the site. Hot Work includes, but is not limited to: brazing, torch cutting, grinding, soldering, and welding.

If the required precautions cannot be met, Hot Work is not permitted. A Hot Work Permit can be pulled and work will stop immediately if unsafe conditions exist.

TRAINING

All persons, including contractors, performing hot work or fire watch must attend UT Arlington's Hot Work and Fire Extinguisher Training provided by EH&S.

FIRE LIFE SAFETY SYSTEMS

If the building is equipped with an automatic fire sprinkler system, the system shall not be shut off while hot work is performed. If hot work is required for repairs/construction and is near smoke sensors or fire sprinkler heads, the smoke sensor(s) should be taken out of service and the sprinkler head removed. Before hot work is permitted it is critical that the affected area be inspected to ensure that it is a fire safe area. Precautions will be made to avoid accidental operation of automatic fire detection systems. ***IFC Section 105.6***

PRECAUTIONS

Protection of combustibles shall be in accordance with ***IFC Sections 2604.1.1 through 2604.1.9***. Hot work shall not be performed on containers or equipment that contains or has contained flammable liquids, gases or solids until the containers and equipment have been thoroughly cleaned, inerted or purged.

- Containers and/or equipment will be thoroughly cleaned, inerted or purged.
- Hot work area will have no combustibles and all openings or cracks in walls, floors, ducts or shafts shall have the appropriate shielding in place to prevent sparks, slag or heat from igniting exposed combustibles.
- Hot work equipment will be in satisfactory operating condition, in good repair, and secure.
- Floors will be clean within the hot work area.
- There will be no exposed combustibles located on the opposite side of partitions, walls, ceilings or floors.
- If lockout/tagout and/or a confined space permit are necessary, UT Arlington policies must be followed as required.

FIRE WATCH

Fire watches shall be established and conducted in accordance with ***IFC Sections 2604.2.1 through 2604.2.6***. EH&S may require an extended fire watch based on the hazards or work being performed. A fire watch shall be provided during hot work activities and shall continue for a minimum of 30 minutes after the conclusion of the work, including any breaks. The fire watch shall include the entire hot work area. Hot work conducted in areas with vertical or horizontal fire exposures that are not observable by a single individual shall have additional personnel assigned to fire watches to ensure that exposed areas are monitored. Individuals designated to fire watch duty shall be trained in the use of required equipment. Individuals assigned to fire watch duty shall be responsible for extinguishing spot fires and communicating an alarm.

FIRE EXTINGUISHERS

A minimum of one portable fire extinguisher will comply with ***IFC Section 906*** and will be readily accessible within 30 feet of the location where hot work is performed. If the hot work/fire watch is performed by a vendor, the vendor shall provide their own 10-lb. ABC fire extinguisher.

INDOOR AIR QUALITY:

Ensure hot work will not create fumes or odors. If there is a chance the hot work will create an air quality issue, please implement the following:

- Hot work to be scheduled/Performed when building is not occupied.
- Set up fans or negative air equipment to purge fumes away from occupied areas.
- Ensure HVAC supply and return air vents are sealed to prevent fumes from migrating to occupied areas of the building.