

SAFETY TIPS FOR TORCH CUTTING

The **supervisor is responsible** for making sure that all **employees are trained and certified** before engaging in any type of torching activity.

The **supervisor is responsible for providing personal protective equipment** to be worn by the employee before starting a torching activity.

The employee engaging in hot work **shall wear approved eye, head, body, and hand protection** that is required for the type of torching being done.

The supervisor must insure that the employee follows the guidelines for wearing face and eye protection to prevent injuries from cutting or welding work.

It is the supervisor's responsibility to insure that eye protection is used on all welding jobs. **Full-face protection** may be required on **certain jobs**.

Employees must wear the appropriate gloves for all torching activities.

Welding sleeves, aprons, i.e., should be used **when additional protection** against sparks and flying objects is needed.

It is the **responsibility of the supervisor and employee** to be sure that a suitable, **approved fire extinguisher shall be ready for instant use** in any location where welding is done.

Employees who perform welding operations must be trained to **recognize the hazards associated with welding operations**.

Employees should not begin working in any area where there are **flammable liquids**.

Before starting to weld or burn, the work area must be inspected by the employee to assure that sparks or molten metal will not fall on flammable or combustible materials.

When gas cylinders are stored, moved or transported, the **valve protection cap shall be in place**.

Never leave a rod in an electrode holder while **unattended**.

Oxygen and acetylene cylinders shall be separated while in storage.

Employees or other persons involving in torching activities **must turn off all cylinder valves** when not in use.

Good ventilation is required for all welding operations.

Do not weld in a small room, tank, or any other enclosed area until air testing has been **completed** and applicable **confined space permits are obtained**.

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