



TOOLBOX

SAFETY TRAINING

Company _____ Location _____ Date _____

Vol 31 - No 35 WELDING AND CUTTING

Most people think that eye injury and burns are the only hazards in the welding profession. Gas fumes, radiation and shock are very real hazards that welders face on the job. A welding arc is hot enough to melt steel and the light is bright enough to blind you. It makes toxic fumes that are made up of particles of molten metal. Sparks and slag thrown by the arc can fly up to 35 feet and can cause fires. Welding is a very dangerous job. Are you doomed to get hurt if you are a welder? With proper precautions and if you follow safe work practices you can do any job safely.

Welding hazards vary depending on the work area, equipment used, and the number of workers. These dangers are associated with welding.

1. Damage to eyes and skin from exposure to ultraviolet and infrared rays by electric arcs (proper eye and body protection. required)
2. Closed containers that hold flammables (proper cleaning and purging procedures must be followed before hot-work is started).
3. Toxic gases, fumes and dust may be released during welding and cutting (Check atmosphere periodically, use ventilation and proper P.P.E.).
4. Electric shock (check cords for wear, grounding procedure and exposure to water).
5. No repairs allowed within 10 feet of stinger end or lug connection at machine on either lead

Take time to evaluate the job and implement safety precautions. This step will not only prevent equipment and machine damage, but it will reduce the risk of an accident that could injure you or a co-worker.

INCORRECT-
No P.P.E. used. Possible injury to eyes & skin



CORRECT-
Proper P.P.E. used to prevent injury



A publication of **ESC Safety Consultants, Inc.** - P. O. Box 691447 - San Antonio, Texas 78269 - 1-800-327-1516

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