



## Welding Pre-Use Guidelines

**Hot work encompasses welding, cutting, brazing, grinding, soldering, and any other similar operation.**

1. Have you received hot work training?
2. Where are you doing hot work?
  - Welding vent hood area:
    - Hot work permit: not required
    - Fire monitoring requirements: the person welding should be watching for fire during operations, and fire monitoring should continue for 30 minutes after operations have ceased
  - Outside of the vent hood, still in the shops
    - Hot work permit: required for each day hot work is happening in this area
    - Signage: prominently display "Hot Work in Progress" sign
    - Fire monitoring requirements: the person welding should be watching for fire during operations, and fire monitoring should continue for 1 hour after operations have ceased
  - On stage or anywhere outside of the shops
    - Hot work permit: required for each day hot work is happening in this area
    - Signage: prominently display "Hot Work in Progress" sign
    - Fire Watch requirements: a designated Fire Watch (a second person, trained and equipped with a fire extinguisher, present during the welding process to watch for sparks which may ignite combustible materials)
    - Fire monitoring requirements: area should be monitored for 1 hour after operations have ceased
3. Is the area where you are working clean and set up for hot work?
  - If working under the vent hood:
    - Thoroughly sweep area
    - Close area off with welding screens
    - Turn on exhaust and make sure vents are open
  - If working outside of the vent hood area:
    - Thoroughly sweep area; remove all saw dust, water spills, or
    - Remove all nearby combustible materials that can be moved
    - For nearby combustible materials that cannot be moved, cover with a flameproof welding blanket or similar protection
    - Position welding screens around your work area
    - If possible, extend fume exhaust collectors to reach your project
    - If beyond the range of fume exhaust collectors, be sure that the area you are working in is well-ventilated
4. Are you wearing the proper PPE?
  - Respirators with P100 cartridges are required for welding
  - Eye protection
  - Ear protection
  - Cover exposed skin when use arc welders
  - Wear gloves when handling hot metals and during welding
  - Never wear polyester or nylon fabrics when welding

**Clean and sweep your area after hot work is complete.**