



Borough of Highlands Division of Fire Prevention

171 Bay Avenue
Highlands, NJ 07732
(732) 872-1224 Ext. 252
Fax: (732) 872-0670



Welding and Cutting F-2204.0 Fire Safety Requirements

Fire prevention:

Welding or cutting operations shall be prohibited in areas not designed or approved for the purpose.

Protection of combustibles:

Where welding or cutting operations are performed above or within 35 feet of combustible construction or material exposed to the operation, or within 35 feet of the exposed floor, ceiling or wall openings, the following requirements shall apply:

1. Such combustible construction or material shall be protected from sparks, hot metal or oxide by noncombustible shields or covers.
2. Such floors, ceiling or wall openings shall be protected by noncombustible shields or covers.
3. A fire watcher shall be in attendance to watch for fires, operate portable Fire extinguishers or fire hose when necessary. The fire watcher shall remain at least 60 minutes after welding or cutting operations have been completed. A signed report attesting to the fact shall be file and available for inspection by the fire official.

Fire extinguisher:

At least one fire extinguisher with a minimum 2-A:20-B:C rating shall be kept at the location where the welding or cutting is performed, and one fire extinguisher with a minimum 2-A:10-B:C rating shall be attached to all portable welding carts.

Prohibited location:

Welding or cutting shall not be performed in or near rooms or locations where Flammable Gases, Liquids or vapors, lint, dust or loose combustible stocks are present where sparks or hot metal from the welding or cutting operation are capable of causing ignition or explosion of such materials.

Precautions in welding:

Welding and cutting shall not be performed on containers and equipment containing or have contained Flammable Liquids, Gases or Solids until the containers have been cleaned, inerted or purged; except that "Hot Tapping" shall be permitted on tanks and pipe lines.

Sprinkler protection:

Automatic sprinkler protection shall not be shut off while welding or cutting work is performed. Where welding or cutting is performed close to sprinklers, noncombustible barriers or damp cloth guards shall shield the individual sprinklers, but shall be removed when the work is completed.