Centurion Safety Education

Sign-in-Sheet

SUBJECT: OCTOBER FIRE SAFETY HOT WORK (week 1)

I the undersigned Instructor/Supervisor hereby certify that a meeting was held on _____ /_____ /_____, at the (City & State) _____ location.

Instructor/ Supervisor: _____ Signature _____

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Centurion Safety Education

MONTHLY REFRESHER TRAINING
FIRE TRIANGLE, FUELS AND LEL DETECTION
October Week 1

In the construction industry, we call it hot work – welding, cutting, grinding, brazing, torching. Any job where metal meets flame, friction, or heat. It´s the heartbeat of construction, but it is also the moment the villains come alive.

Every time the torch flares or the grinder screams, we´re introducing the one thing the fire triangle craves: a spark. That spark doesn't care if it lands on steel, cardboard, or a pile of dust – it just wants fuel and oxygen to grow. Give it those, and the scene flips from progress to disaster in seconds.

That's why hot work isn´t just about making the cut – it about containing hazards before, during, and after you do it. Shielding sparks, clearing fuels, and controlling airflow are the only things that keep the villains at bay. Hot work is action-packed by nature. But remember in this episode, one spark is all the villains need to get to control and write their ending.

Every fire — whether it's a dust flash, a tank explosion, or a smolder in a rag pile — is born the same way: heat, fuel, and oxygen. Safety professionals call it the **fire triangle.**

OSHA inspectors and firefighters will tell you the same thing: almost every incident they investigate could have been prevented by removing just one side of that triangle. Welcome, welcome to the ring of fire, where we hope it stays as

"Heat, fuel, air — the villains' game,
Spark, smolder, breath — they're all the same.
Break the triangle, kill the flame,
And Ember Wraith won't stake her claim."

These three are never far away — but they need all three sides of the Fire Triangle to come alive: heat, fuel, oxygen. Break one side, and you starve them out.

You think I'm just a few sparks? Ha! I'm the reason hot work sparks **3,300 industrial fires every year** (NFPA). I rack up **$300 million in damage annually**. I even leave behind **about 19 deaths and 120 injuries every year** (NFPA). My buddy Ember Wraith keeps OSHA busy too — their **Combustible Dust NEP still finds hundreds of hazards every year.** And Backdraft Banshee? She's always waiting for her rush of oxygen. Almost every time, we win the same way: **heat + fuel + oxygen.** Break the triangle and we're gone… but you rarely do.

Heat (Ignition Sources): welders, grinders, torches, static, batteries, even dropped tools.
Fuel: dust, vapor, rags, solvents, insulation, cardboard.
Oxygen: always present; enriched atmospheres and drafts supercharge the villains.

Case Study — DuPont Buffalo Explosion (2010)
On November 9, 2010, contractors were performing hot work on top of a 10,000-gallon process tank. Unknown to them, vinyl fluoride vapors had crept back into the tank through overflow lines. The vapors weren't visible, and no one checked inside.
When the cutting began, the heat and sparks ignited the vapor cloud. In an instant, the tank top blew off like a rocket, killing one worker and severely injuring another.
The triangle was complete:

- Heat — sparks and flame from the torch.
- Fuel — invisible vinyl fluoride vapors.
- Oxygen — rushing in through the open connections.

Lesson: Permits were signed, but hazard recognition failed. No one checked for vapor migration, no connections were isolated, and no LEL monitoring was done inside the tank. The explosion wasn't caused by "bad luck" — it was the Fire Triangle in action. If even one side had been broken, the crew would have gone home safe.

Toxic Reminder: Many fuels (like hexane, ethanol, vinyl fluoride) release toxic vapors before they ignite. Even a "no fire" situation can poison unprotected workers.

☑ **Prevention** — Breaking the Triangle Identify existing and potential hazards. Eliminate or control the hazards.

- Heat: fire blankets/curtains, spark pans.
- Fuel: combustibles cleared 35 ft, solvents capped, oily rags in metal cans.
- Oxygen: control drafts, vent fumes away from people and arcs.
- Physically isolating the workspace from surrounding areas.
- Moving combustible materials away from the welding area.
- Ensuring approved equipment is used (torches, valves, regulators, etc.);
- Making sure that equipment is in good condition
- Testing fire sprinklers to make sure they are working; and
- Controlling possible ignition sources.

Not every villain announces their presence with sparks or smoke. **Ember Wraith loves to hide as vapors — invisible, silent, waiting.** That's where the LEL meter becomes your weapon.
The Lower Explosive Limit (LEL) is the point where vapor becomes flammable in air. You won't see it, smell it, or feel it until it's too late — but Ember Wraith is already in the fight.

- **Hexane:** Ignites at just **1.1%** concentration in air.
- **Ethanol: 3.3%** is enough to burn.
- OSHA and NFPA both say: **hot work is prohibited if vapors hit 10% of the LEL.**

Why? Because Spark Slinger only needs that one spark. Pair it with Ember Wraith's invisible fuel and Backdraft Banshee's oxygen, and the triangle is complete. That's why your LEL meter matters. It's not just a tool — it's the **sixth sense** that lets you spot Ember Wraith before she shows her hand.

"One clean reading at 7:00 AM is a memory, not protection. Vapors drift. Conditions change. If you're not testing, you're guessing — and guessing is how we lose the fight."

SDS Pictogram Spotlight — Flammable

What it means:
This symbol warns of materials that catch fire easily — gases, vapors, liquids, even fine dust. They don't need much heat; one spark or hot surface is enough.
Real-world picture:

- A drum of ethanol tips in a fab bay — the vapors spread low and invisible across the floor. A grinder spark finds it, and the flame runs faster than anyone can move.
- A can of solvent left uncapped in a corner — fumes creep until they hit the pilot flame of a heater. The result? A flash fire that seems to "appear from nowhere."
- A layer of grain dust as thin as a credit card gets lofted by a fan — Spark Slinger drops in, and Ember Wraith turns it into a rolling fireball.

Why it matters to us:

- Flammable vapors are often invisible and sink low — firefighters call them ghost fires.
- Dust looks harmless until it's airborne — then it's explosive fuel.
- Tools we assume are "cold" (drills, grinders) still spark inside, ready to ignite vapors.

Where we leave the door open for the villains:
Ember Wraith hides in rags, wrappers, and dust layers.

- Spark Slinger throws sparks into vapors we don't even see.
- Together, they thrive anywhere this pictogram appears.

The 10-Second Triangle
Fires don't take hours to build — sometimes all three sides of the triangle line up in just 10 seconds. For example, let's put the following into play:

- A grinder spark jumps into fine dust on a mezzanine.
- A fan lifts the dust into the air.
- Another spark hits the dust cloud.

Result: Flames race the rafters before anyone even sees them.

Lesson: That's how fast Spark Slinger, Ember Wraith, and Backdraft Banshee can team up. If you control any one side — sweep the dust, shield the spark, or shut off the fan — the fire never happens.

1. Walk area like a firefighter: find fuels.
2. Test air with LEL meter.
3. Shield overhead/under work.
4. Vent confined/enclosed spaces.
5. Clean dust/rags.
6. Stage extinguishers.

Centurion Safety Education

Sign-in-Sheet

SUBJECT: OCTOBER FIRE SAFETY HOT WORK (week 2)

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Instructor/ Supervisor: _____ Signature _____

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Centurion Safety Education

MONTHLY REFRESHER TRAINING
FIRE SAFETY – FIRE WATCH
October Week 2

"Guard the sparks, stand your ground,
Ember Wraith lurks all around.
30 minutes, heroes stay,
Keep the villains far away."

Identify Alternatives to Hot Work

Ways to Minimize Hot Work Hazards
Hot work doesn't always have to happen. Sometimes the safest move is to avoid sparks altogether:

- Screwed, flanged, or clamped pipe connections
- Manual hydraulic shears
- Mechanical bolting or pipe cutting
- Compressed air-actuated fasteners

But let's be real — those options don't always get the job done. And when they don't, we move forward with hot work.

That's why we've already taken the time to **Recognize**, **Evaluate**, and **Control the hazards** — clearing combustibles, staging shields, checking ventilation, and setting the stage for safety.

Still, there's a missing piece. Not an eye in the sky… but an eye right here in the area. The one presence who makes sure Spark Slinger's sparks and Ember Wraith's smolders never get the upper hand. *Drum roll…* Enter the Fire Watch — the unsung hero who closes the villains' last open door.

The Unsung Hero
They don't make the headlines. They don't get medals. But every time hot work ends without disaster, there's a good chance a Fire Watch was the reason. Like Spider-Man, they're always there in the shadows — protecting, stopping villains before anyone else even notices.

Think about it: how many fires never happened because a Fire Watch caught a smolder, pulled a pan of sparks, or grabbed an extinguisher before the blaze took off? We'll never know. Their saves don't show up in the news. They aren't tracked in the data. But when they're missing, the headlines are real — and they're tragic.

Fire Watch's power is vigilance. Without it, the villains win.
Fire Watch Powers (Duties in Action)

Case Study – Evergreen Packaging Paper Mill Fire (2020)
On September 21, 2020, at the Evergreen Packaging mill in Canton, North Carolina, contractors were performing shutdown work inside connected process vessels. One task used a heat gun to cure a resin inside the tower.
That resin ignited. The fire spread rapidly in the vessel, killing two workers and severely damaging the system.

- Villains at work: **Ember Wraith** doesn't need much — hidden resin, a little heat, and trapped vapors were enough.
- Root cause: Hazard recognition failed. Ignition sources were brought into contact with flammable material inside a vessel. Oversight and fire-watch duties didn't extend where they should have.
- Lesson: Ember Wraith thrives in places you *think* are safe. Even a small tool like a heat gun can turn deadly when no one is actively watching for smolders and fuel. Fire Watch isn't just about sparks flying across the floor — it's about protecting every space where fuel could be hiding.

So, while Ember Wraith makes the headlines, Fire Watch remains the unsung hero — unseen, steady, waiting, and always on alert for the fire that doesn't get to start.

Before Hot Work — The Setup

- Patrol the area: above, below, behind barriers.
- Confirm combustibles are gone or shielded.
- Inspect fire blankets for holes or gaps.
- Stage extinguishers — charged, tagged, and correct type.
- Verify ventilation indoors/confined.
- Check permit accuracy and signatures.
- Assign opposite-side watch where heat can be transmitted.

You can weld and grind all you want… I'll be waiting in your rags, your dust, your cardboard. You don't see me until it's too late — and then I burn your world from the shadows.

During Hot Work — Holding the Line

- Stay in clear view — no wandering off.
- Keep an extinguisher at arm's reach, exit at your back.
- Watch all sides: behind shields, under blankets, around corners.
- Adjust shielding as sparks shift.
- Carry radio to sound alarm instantly.
- Zero distractions — no phones, no side jobs.

After Hot Work — The Watchful Exit

- Stay 30 minutes minimum after sparks stop. Extend that if needed.
- Patrol for smolders in cracks, insulation, debris.
- IR thermometer to feel heat.
- Never leave until relieved and logged on permit.
- No breaks or shift changes without coverage.

Wrong-Instinct Check

The most common mistakes Fire Watches make aren't from laziness — they're from bad habits crews have seen before:

- *"I'll just sit in the corner and wait…"* → Fire Watch is not a chair job. Villains hide above ceilings, under floors, behind walls. Patrol means moving.
- *"We stopped sparks, so I can leave early…"* → Ember Wraith smolders for hours. Fires usually start after hot work ends. That's why the 30-minute rule exists.
- *"One extinguisher is enough…"* → If it's not the right class, or it's not staged where sparks land, it's as useless as none at all.

The trained instinct: Patrol, stay the full watch, stage the right tools, and assume the villains are waiting for you to relax.

SDS Pictogram Spotlight — Gas Cylinder

This symbol marks gases under pressure — oxygen, acetylene, propane, compressed air, CO_2. They don't burn on their own, but if damaged, heated, or leaking, they can turn into deadly projectiles or fuel a firestorm.

Real-world picture:

- A worker knocks over an uncapped cylinder → the valve shears → the tank rockets through a cinderblock wall at 200 mph.
- A leaking propane hose goes unnoticed → a spark from grinding ignites it → the entire work bay becomes an inferno.
- Cylinders stored in direct sun or near hot work → pressure builds until the relief fails → the result is an explosion that no extinguisher can stop.

Why it matters on our site:

- Cylinders are everywhere — tucked under scaffolds, behind shields, and lined up in storage.
- A single mistake — dragging instead of carting, uncapped valves, unsecured chains — is all Cyclone Cylinder needs to attack.
- Fire Watch must actively patrol these areas, not just glance from a distance making sure they are out of the reach of Spark Slinger.

Villains

- **Cyclone Cylinder isn't patient — he's violent.** The second a valve snaps, he doesn't just fall over — he launches like a missile, smashing through walls at 200 mph.
- He's Spark Slinger's favorite ally: sparks rain across hoses, regulators, and leaking connections, giving Cyclone the fuel to explode.
- Ember Wraith lurks in rags and cardboard near the tanks. If she catches, the heat feeds Cyclone until he detonates like a warhead.
- Together, they don't just cause a fire… they turn the jobsite into a blast zone.

Crew reminder: Fire Watch's eyes must always sweep the cylinder yard and hoses, not just the sparks in front of the torch. Cyclone is fast, brutal, and unforgiving — but he's powerless if the Fire Watch is vigilant.

Centurion Safety Education

A-LERT TFC METAL PANEL FABRICATORS AND INSTALLERS A DIVISION OF CENTURION INDUSTRIES

Sign-in-Sheet

SUBJECT: OCTOBER CULTURE AND READINESS (week 3)

I the undersigned Instructor/Supervisor hereby certify that a meeting was held on _____ /_____ /_____, at the (City & State) _____ location.

Instructor/ Supervisor: _____ Signature _____

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MONTHLY REFRESHER TRAINING
FIRE SAFETY - CULTURE & READINESS
October Week 3

The Fortress of Readiness

Before sparks ever fly, the fortress must stand strong. On the jobsite, our fortress isn't stone and mortar — it's built from permits, planning, and culture.

- Every signed permit is a brick in the wall.
- Every supervisor's check is mortar that seals the cracks.
- Every worker who speaks up is a guard on the tower.

When the wall holds, Spark Slinger and Ember Wraith are kept outside. When the wall is weak — permits skipped, signatures forged, culture shrugged off — the villains march right in.

Villains at the Gate

- **Spark Slinger** needs only one opening — a grinder spark near cardboard, a charging battery near dust.
- **Ember Wraith** thrives where rules are ignored. She smolders in oily rags, trash, and insulation until the moment no one's watching.

Culture starves them — **not by posters, but by habits:**

- Clearing wrappers, boxes, and rags from the 35-foot zone.
- Checking that exits and aisles are open, never used as storage.
- Keeping extinguishers visible and unblocked.
- Making sure the permit is real, signed, and current.
- Holding fire watch to the full 30 minutes, not leaving early.
- Speaking up when shortcuts creep in.

When those actions are daily discipline, Spark Slinger can't land, and Ember Wraith has nothing to smolder in.

Permits as the Shield

A hot work permit is required under OSHA 1910.252 whenever welding, cutting, or grinding occurs outside a designated safe area. It must be issued and signed by a responsible supervisor.

That permit isn't just paper. It forces you to literally stop and look around:

- *Can my mind think like Spark Slinger?*
- *If I were him, is there any chance to sneak in within 35 feet?*
- *Is there cardboard, a wrapper, or trash that looks harmless but could be fuel?*
- *Is shielding solid, or does Ember Wraith have a crack to creep through?*

Data Point: OSHA has found that **over 25% of hot work fires occur when permits weren't properly issued or enforced.** One skipped step leaves the gate wide open.

Case Story – OSHA Citation, Hot Work Hazards (2019)

OSHA investigated a facility where employees were performing hot work on piping systems **without first making the area fire safe**.

- Workers climbed a scaffold and began cutting pipe near pumps while **aerosol cans of flammable materials** were stored in plain sight nearby.
- The piping itself had previously contained **hydrocarbons** — highly flammable liquids — but it was not properly cleaned or purged before the work started.
- In that moment, one spark could have ignited the cans, or a torch cut could have flashed back into the line, creating an **explosion hazard for the entire crew.**

Citation issued:

- **Section 5(a)(1), General Duty Clause** – employer failed to provide a workplace free of recognized hazards that were causing or likely to cause death or serious harm.

Lesson: This wasn't bad luck — it was a breakdown in culture. The hazards were **obvious and preventable.**

- A valid permit would have forced the crew to pause and ask: *"Are combustibles cleared? Has the pipe been made safe?"*
- Housekeeping would have removed the aerosol cans from the hot work area.

A permit is the pause that resets your perspective. It makes you step into the villain's shoes before you strike the arc.

Culture as the Fortress Walls

But a shield in one hand won't hold if the walls themselves are crumbling. That's where **culture** comes in. Culture is the mortar that binds the bricks, the strength that makes the fortress more than a pile of paper. It shows up in the small, everyday choices:

- **Supervisors** enforce the system, not just sign it. "No permit, no work" isn't a phrase — it's the law of the land.
- **Crews** back each other up: if a buddy reaches for a torch without a signed permit, culture says, "Stop. We don't do that here."

- **Fire watch** doesn't wander off early — thirty minutes means thirty minutes.
- **Housekeeping** is handled daily, not once a month. Cardboard boxes, burrito wrappers, rags, and dust piles aren't just clutter — they're fuel waiting for Ember Wraith.
  NFPA data shows that **1 in 5 industrial fires are caused by poor housekeeping** — fuel left where it didn't belong.
- **Everyday habits matter.** Overloaded outlets, space heaters tucked under desks, or a stack of microwaves running off the same cord aren't "just convenience" — they're doorways for Spark Slinger.
  U.S. Fire Administration data shows **about 7% of workplace fires are traced back to overloaded circuits or equipment misuse.**

Without culture, the fortress looks strong from a distance but is hollow inside. With culture, housekeeping, and smart habits, the walls are solid — and the villains bounce right off.

Fortress Weak Points – Exits & Extinguishers

Even the strongest fortress can fall if the gates are blocked or the shields are hidden.

Know Your Exits – The Fortress Gates

- A fortress is only safe if you know where the gates are **before the attack starts.**
- Every worker should be able to point out at least **two ways out** of their work area.
- OSHA requires exits to be unlocked, marked, and unobstructed at all times.
- Culture means we *plan our escape routes ahead of time* and make sure they stay usable.

☑ Fortress Checklist

1. No hot work without a complete, current, signed permit.
2. Supervisor issues and enforces the permit — not the welder.
3. Fire watch designated by name, trained, and equipped.
4. Combustibles cleared or shielded within 35 feet.
5. Culture enforced: no shortcuts, no forged permits, no "just this once."
6. Housekeeping practiced daily — wrappers, rags, boxes, and dust are cleared before hot work starts.
7. Everyday hazards like overloaded outlets or space heaters are caught and corrected before Spark Slinger gets his chance.
8. Exits are identified ahead of time and never blocked.
9. Fire extinguishers are visible, accessible, and never buried.
10. Hazardous materials with SDS Explosive pictograms are stored properly, away from hot work.

Blocked Exits – The Sealed Gate

- Fire statistics show that **over half of workplace fire fatalities involve blocked or inaccessible exits.**
- Every box in front of an exit door, every pallet in a hallway is Spark Slinger's way of locking the gate from the inside.
- Culture means we *never* use exit routes as storage space.

Fire Extinguishers – The Fortress Shields

- An extinguisher is a shield only if you can reach it. If it's buried behind boxes or machinery, it's useless.
- NFPA data shows **delays of just 30 seconds in accessing an extinguisher can double fire spread.**
- OSHA requires extinguishers to be visible, accessible, and inspected.
- Culture means staging extinguishers clear, marked, and never blocked — every time.

Explosive SDS Pictogram Connection – The Fortress Arsenal

The fortress doesn't just defend against sparks in the open — it also protects against the hidden hazards stored inside. That's where the **Explosive SDS pictogram** comes in.
This symbol means materials that can violently explode. On a job site, it's a warning that Spark Slinger doesn't need to bring his own weapons — we've already stocked the fortress for him if we're careless.

- **Improper storage** = a crack in the fortress wall.
- **Shortcuts with permits** = leaving the gate wide open.
- **Sloppy housekeeping** = stacking powder kegs right where Ember Wraith can smolder.

Culture is the guard that makes sure these hazards are locked away in proper storage areas, separated from hot work, and never sitting where sparks can reach.
Fire service note: OSHA and NFPA both cite poor chemical storage and housekeeping as major contributors to secondary explosions. These aren't rare "lab accidents" — they're every day jobsite oversights.
Fortress lesson: The SDS pictogram is a warning sign carved into the fortress wall. When you see it, your job is to keep the villains from using it as a weapon against you.

OSHA estimates that **strong permit and culture enforcement could prevent hundreds of hot work fires each year** — saving millions in damages and untold lives.

Centurion Safety Education

Sign-in-Sheet

Subject: October Fire Extinguisher Inspections (week 4)

I the undersigned Instructor/Supervisor hereby certify that a meeting was held on _____ /_____ /_____, at the (City & State) _____ location.

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MONTHLY REFRESHER TRAINING
FIRE SAFETY - FIRE EXTINGUISHERS
October Week 4

Have you trained to step into the ring?

When the alarm sounds and smoke rises, there's no more prep time — the fight has begun. This week's goal is simple: make the right decision in seconds. The villains — Spark Slinger (feeds on panic and wasted cans) and Ember Wraith (waits for smolders to reignite) — are always in the ring. Training, practice, and readiness prepare you to protect the crew.

Sizing Up the Fire — **Fight or Flee**

Before you fight, you size up — it's the **5-second** scan that can save your life:

1. Size: Compare to a trash can. If it's bigger, it's too late.
2. Fuel: Identify — paper/rags (A), liquids (B), wires (C), metals (D). Wrong extinguisher = bigger disaster.
3. Heat & Smoke: Can you get within 6–8 ft without danger? If not, back out. Smoke kills faster than flames.
4. Exit: Always fight with your back to the exit.

Rule: Small + right fuel + manageable heat + clear exit = a trained fighter may enter. Anything else = evacuate.

The trained instinct: If you're trained, fight small fires with the right can. If you're not trained — alarm, evacuate, and guide others out. Walking away safe with your crew is real heroism.

- **Class A** — "Ashes & Trash"
  "Paper, wood, and cloth that burn,
  Class A's the can for your return."
- **Class B** — "Boil & Bubble"
  "Liquids flare and fuels ignite,
  Class B cans will win that fight."
- **Class C** — "Current & Cord"
  "If it sparks from cord or plug,
  Class C's the can to pull the rug."
- **Class D** — "Dangerous Dust"
  "Shavings, metals, burning bright,
  Only Class D can end that fight."
- **Class K** — "Kitchen Grease"
  (cafeterias only)
  "Grease and oils, spitting flame,
  Class K will end the game."

Say the rhyme, match the flame — wrong can, bigger game.

Extinguisher Basics — The Fighter´s Arsenal

PASS — The Four-Hit Combo (clear instruction)

1. **Pull** the pin — unlocks the can so it will discharge.
2. **Aim** low at the **base** of the fire — not at the flames. Think: hit the fuel, not the smoke.
3. **Squeeze** steadily — maintain a controlled stream, don't blast and waste it.
4. **Sweep** side-to-side **across the base area** — keep the nozzle aimed at the base while sweeping to cover the whole burning surface.

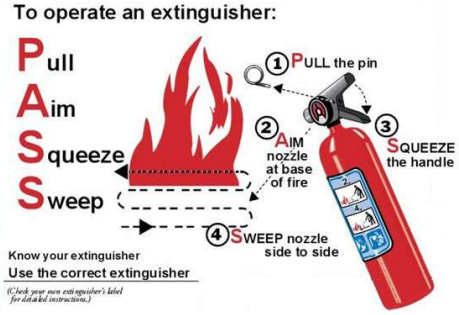
⃠ Wrong-Instinct Check

Split-second mistakes often come from instinct — and instinct is what Spark Slinger counts on:

- "Grab the nearest extinguisher — any will do." → Wrong. Water on fuel or electrical fires spreads flames or electrocutes.
- "Fight until it's gone, no matter what." → Extinguishers last 8–10 seconds. When it's empty, you need to be gone too.
- "No PPE, it's just a little flame." → Hot smoke blinds and burns in seconds. Gloves, glasses, and sleeves protect you as much as the can does.
- "Anybody can pull a pin." → True — but only trained workers know when to fight, when to stop, and when to walk away.

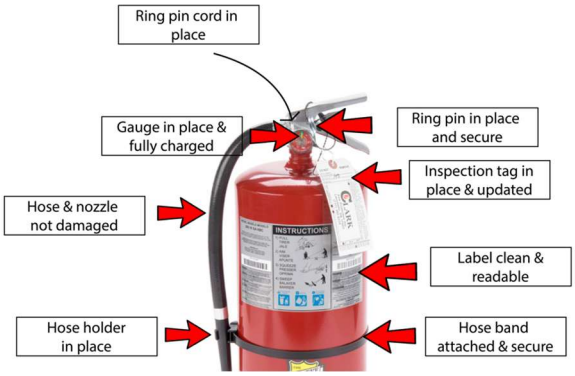
Start about **6–8** ft away and move in as the fire gets smaller. One full discharge **(8–10 s)** is one round — make it count, then watch for flare-ups before you back away.

"Aim at the base, squeeze steady, sweep the base — don't paint the flames."



Centurion Safety Education

MONTHLY REFRESHER TRAINING
FIRE SAFETY - FIRE EXTINGUISHERS
October Week 4



Keeping the Weapon Ready

A fire extinguisher is like a tool on your belt — if it fails when you need it. Inspections aren't paperwork; they're how we make sure our shield is ready every day.

Monthly Crew Check (Step-by-Step):

1. **Location** — Is it where it should be? Mounted, visible, and not blocked by leads, scrap, or toolboxes. If you can't grab it in three seconds, Spark Slinger already has the edge.
2. **Condition** — Look for dents, rust, or missing labels. A can that looks beat up might not hold pressure.
3. **Gauge** — Is the needle in the green? Low pressure = no fight left.
4. **Pin & Seal** — Still in place? A missing pin means it could've been tampered with or discharged.
5. **Hose & Nozzle** — Free of cracks, dry rot, or debris? A clogged hose turns your 8–10 seconds into zero.
6. **Tag** — Signed and current? If it hasn't been checked on schedule, assume it's not ready.
7. **Weight** — Pick it up. If it feels light, it's leaking or discharged — swap it out immediately.

SDS Pictogram Spotlight — **Oxidizer**

What it means:

This symbol signals chemicals that don't burn on their own — but they supercharge combustion by feeding fire with oxygen. Think: nitrates, peroxides, chlorates.

Real-world picture:

- A small spill of oxidizer powder falls near oily rags → the rags ignite twice as fast.
- A drum of oxidizer gets hit by sparks → even if you knock the flames down, the oxidizer keeps releasing oxygen and the fire flares back up.
- In storage areas, mixing oxidizers with fuels (like solvents, paper, or wood) creates a powder keg waiting for Spark Slinger.

Why it matters on our site:

- Oxidizers turn a controllable fire into an unstoppable one.
- Water or dry chem alone may not work — the oxidizer keeps feeding oxygen.
- What looks like a small flame may come roaring back the second you turn your back.

Villains: Spark Slinger throws a spark. Ember Wraith smolders in the shadows. Add an oxidizer? You've armed them with a booster pack. The fight becomes unfair fast.

OSHA Incident (2014)

An employee leaned in to check a portable extinguisher. Without warning, it discharged. The sudden pressure turned the extinguisher into a metal projectile that struck him in the head. What should have been a routine inspection turned into a fatal incident in seconds.

Why it mattered:

- The extinguisher hadn't been serviced properly. A hidden defect turned it from a lifesaving tool into a hazard.
- The employee wasn't trained in safe inspection methods and treated it like just another shop item.
- No one expected risk from something designed for safety — and that false sense of security proved deadly.

Fire extinguishers are pressurized systems. They demand the same respect as a compressed cylinder. Even "simple checks" can be dangerous without training. Only qualified personnel should service or inspect them. For everyone else, the rule is simple: look, report, and leave it to the trained.

A-Lert Construction Yearly Review Test

Fire Safety Review Test

Print Name _____ Sign Name _____
Date _____ Location _____
Instructor _____ Circle One PASS or Fail

[Read each question and then circle the letter of the most correct answer.]

---

1. You are doing hot work near another work group. They are leaving combustible materials behind as they work. Is this a problem for you?

a. No. You are keeping your tools/material picked up and are not responsible for them.
b. Yes. Even though you are not in charge of picking them up, the material is a fire hazard. It must be addressed.
c. No. Let someone else take care of the problem.

2. As you are doing work that makes sparks and need a fire extinguisher. What should you do?

a. Look to see if there is one hanging up near you. If so, do nothing you are good to go.
b. Get the ABC portable fire extinguisher, inspect it for problems, mark it on JHA.
c. Any fire extinguisher will work so just get something.

3. You see a fire starting. What do you need to remember before using the portable fire extinguisher?

a. Always spray the top of the fire. Take your time, portable units last for a few minutes.
b. Even if it is a tiny flame do not try to extinguish. Evacuate and report.
c. If the fire is small and just beginning use your portable extinguisher to put out the fire. Portable only last for a short time so aim low and sweep side to side.

4. You know that fire extinguishers need inspections. Are you responsible for any of these inspections?

a. Yes. You must do a daily inspection before putting an extinguisher on the job.
b. No. Someone else will take care of that.
c. No. All receive an in-depth annual inspection. You supervisor will take care of any and all inspections.

5. You are welding and need a fire extinguisher. You have a class A fire extinguisher within reach, ready to go right next to you. Will this be OK?

a. Yes, as long as it is within reach and you know how to use it.
b. Yes, type A is great for this type of fire. If you need it for a fire, use it
c. No. Type A fire extinguishers are not OK for electrical type fires. Find an ABC rated extinguisher for your work.

A-Lert Construction Examen de Repaso Anual

Examen de La Seguridad Contra Incendios

Nombre escrito _____ Firma _____
La Fecha _____ El Lugar_____
Instructor _____ *Circle One PASS or Fail*

Lee cada pregunta y entonces marca con un círculo alrededor de la repuesta correcta

1. **Estás haciendo un trabajo en caliente cerca de otro grupo de trabajo. Ellos dejan materiales combustibles mientras trabajan. ¿Es un problema para ti?**
    a. No. Tú mantienes tus herramientas/materiales recogidos y no eres responsable de ellos.
    b. Sí. Aunque tú no estás a cargo de recoger para ellos, el material presenta riesgo de incendio. Hay que abordarlo.
    c. No. Deja que otra persona se encargue del problema.

2. **Mientras haces un trabajo que produce chispas y necesitas un extintor. ¿Qué deberías hacer?**
    a. Mira para ver si hay uno colgado cerca de ti. Si es así, no hagas nada y ya estás listo.
    b. Consigue el extintor de incendios portátil ABC, inspecciona si hay problemas y márcalo en JHA (Evaluación de los peligros del trabajo).
    c. Cualquier extintor funcionará, así que consigue algo.

3. **Ves que se inicia un incendio. ¿Qué hay que recordar antes de usar el extintor portátil?**
    a. Rocía siempre la parte superior del fuego. Tómate tu tiempo, los extintores portátiles duran unos minutos.
    b. Aunque sea una llama pequeña no intentes apagarla. Evacua y repórtalo.
    c. Si el incendio es pequeño y apenas comienza, usa tu extintor portátil para apagarlo. Los portátiles solo duran poco tiempo, así que apunta hacia abajo y barre de lado a lado.

4. **Sabes que los extintores necesitan inspecciones. ¿Eres tú responsable de alguna de estas inspecciones?**
    a. Sí. Debes hacer una inspección diaria antes de poner un extintor en el trabajo.
    b. No. Alguien más se encargará de eso.
    c. No. Todos reciben una inspección anual en profundidad. Su supervisor se encargará de todas y cada una de las inspecciones.

5. **Estás soldando y necesitas un extintor. Tienes un extintor de incendios de clase A a tu alcance, listo para funcionar junto a ti. ¿Esto estará bien?**
    a. Sí, siempre que esté a tu alcance y sepas usarlo.
    b. Sí, el tipo A es ideal para este tipo de incendio. Si lo necesitas para un incendio, úsalo.
    c. No. Los extintores de incendios tipo A no son adecuados para incendios de tipo eléctrico. Encuentra un extintor con clasificación ABC para tu trabajo.

A-Lert Construction Yearly Review Test

Fire Safety Review Test

Print Name _____ Sign Name _____
Date _____ Location _____
Instructor _____ Circle One PASS or Fail

[Read each question and then circle the letter of the most correct answer.]

---

1. You are doing hot work near another work group. They are leaving combustible materials behind as they work. Is this a problem for you?

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CAPACITACIÓN DE ACTUALIZACIÓN MENSUAL
LA SEGURIDAD CONTRA INCENDIOS DE TRABAJO EN CALIENTE
Octubre Semana 1

PROCEDIMIENTO SEGURO DEL TRABAJO EN CALIENTE

El trabajo en caliente puede incluir tareas que producen chispas y altas temperaturas, como esmerilado, soldadura, corte térmico o con oxígeno y calentamiento. La planificación avanzada y los procedimientos de trabajo seguros ayudan a prevenir incendios en el lugar de trabajo causados por actividades de trabajos en caliente. Las amoladoras utilizan accesorios giratorios eléctricos para trabajar metal y otros materiales. Las amoladoras de banco se montan en un banco o mesa, mientras que las amoladoras de pedestal se montan en el piso sobre un pedestal. Con un abrasivo, un cepillo de alambre o un accesorio de rueda pulidora, las amoladoras afilan las herramientas y dan forma, limpian o pulen piezas de metal. Siempre que sea posible, las actividades de trabajo en caliente deben realizarse en áreas designadas y diseñadas para acomodar chispas y altas temperaturas de manera segura. Las áreas de trabajo en caliente deben estar etiquetadas con señales de advertencia. Deberán estar aislados de materiales inflamables y combustibles y protegidos con soldaduras y pantallas de advertencia que limiten el acceso. Necesitan un suelo sólido, resistente al fuego, sin grietas ni aberturas y con una ventilación adecuada.

Preparar

- Identifica los peligros potenciales que existen.
- Elimina o controla esos peligros.

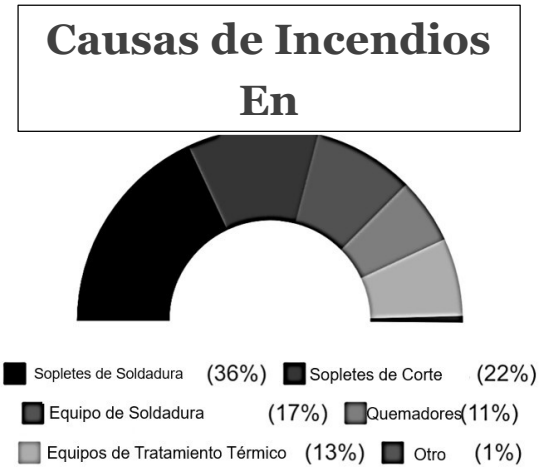
Precauciones de Seguridad

- Aísla físicamente el espacio de trabajo de las áreas circundantes;
- Aleja los materiales combustibles del área de soldadura;
- Asegura que se utilicen equipos aprobados (antorchas, válvulas, reguladores, etc.);
- Asegúrate de que el equipo esté en buenas condiciones;
- Prueba los rociadores contra incendios para asegurarte de que estén funcionando; y
- Controla los fuentes de ignición posibles.

Equipo de protección personal

Se debe seleccionar el equipo de protección personal (PPE) apropiado para proteger a los trabajadores de estos peligros. Los requisitos específicos del PPE dependen de la evaluación de peligros y pueden incluir:

- Protección respiratoria;
- Protección ocular;
- Ropa protectora;
- Protección de los pies; y/o
- Protección de manos

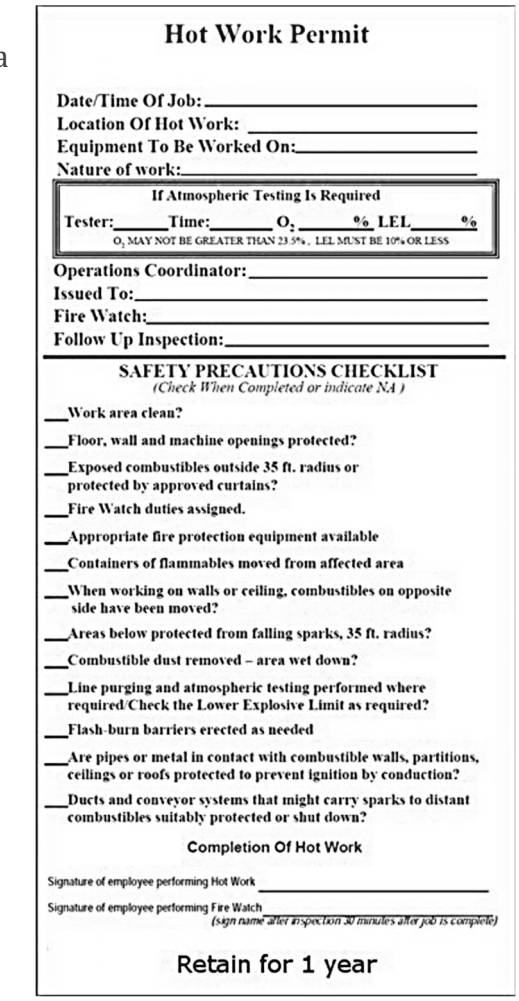


Permisos de trabajo en caliente

En circunstancias en las que el trabajo en caliente no se pueda mover a un lugar seguro designado, es posible que deba completar un permiso de trabajo en caliente. Esto incluye una evaluación de peligros específicos y las medidas que se toman para reducirlos.

Un permiso de trabajo en caliente normalmente incluye:

- Peligros potenciales (por ejemplo, eléctricos, mecánicos, etc.);
- Procedimientos/Precauciones (por ejemplo, ventilación, comunicación, verificación de rociadores, etc.);
- Equipo de seguridad (por ejemplo, protección para los ojos, respiradores, extintor de incendios, etc.);
- Aislamiento de preparación del espacio (es decir, qué se hizo para preparar el espacio antes del trabajo);
- Herramientas especiales (por ejemplo, iluminación, herramientas antichispas, etc.); y
- Trabajo especial (es decir, procedimientos de seguridad adicionales que se observarán).



Hot Work Permit

Date/Time Of Job: _____
Location Of Hot Work: _____
Equipment To Be Worked On: _____
Nature of work: _____

If Atmospheric Testing Is Required

Tester: _____ Time: _____ O_2 _____% LEL _____%

O_2 MAY NOT BE GREATER THAN 23.5% . LEL MUST BE 10% OR LESS

Operations Coordinator: _____
Issued To: _____
Fire Watch: _____
Follow Up Inspection: _____

SAFETY PRECAUTIONS CHECKLIST

(Check When Completed or indicate NA)

___Work area clean?
___Floor, wall and machine openings protected?
___Exposed combustibles outside 35 ft. radius or protected by approved curtains?
___Fire Watch duties assigned.
___Appropriate fire protection equipment available
___Containers of flammables moved from affected area
___When working on walls or ceiling, combustibles on opposite side have been moved?
___Areas below protected from falling sparks, 35 ft. radius?
___Combustible dust removed – area wet down?
___Line purging and atmospheric testing performed where required/Check the Lower Explosive Limit as required?
___Flash-burn barriers erected as needed
___Are pipes or metal in contact with combustible walls, partitions, ceilings or roofs protected to prevent ignition by conduction?
___Ducts and conveyor systems that might carry sparks to distant combustibles suitably protected or shut down?

Completion Of Hot Work

Signature of employee performing Hot Work _____

Signature of employee performing Fire Watch _____

(sign name after inspection 30 minutes after job is complete)

Retain for 1 year

Vigilancia de incendios

Cuando exista un posible riesgo de incendio que no pueda controlarse o eliminarse eficazmente, se designará a una persona para supervisar la seguridad. Esta persona tendrá a mano el tipo apropiado de extintor de incendios en todo momento.

La persona que ha sido asignada como guardia contra incendios:

- No debe tener otras responsabilidades que interfieran con la vigilancia contra incendios;
- Debe tener equipo y el entrenamiento adecuados;
- Debe poder ver todas las áreas donde puede ocurrir un incendio;
- Es responsable de hacer sonar la alarma y llamar al departamento de bomberos;
- Tiene la autoridad para detener el trabajo en caliente si surge una condición insegura; y
- Sólo debe intentar apagar un incendio cuando pueda hacerlo sin sufrir lesiones.
- La soldadura es un trabajo de rutina en muchos lugares de trabajo. Sin embargo, esta tarea común presenta riesgos que pueden provocar lesiones graves y daños a la propiedad. Los transeúntes, así como los trabajadores involucrados directamente con la soldadura, pueden verse afectados. Es importante que todos tengan conocimientos básicos sobre los riesgos de la soldadura.

CAPACITACIÓN DE ACTUALIZACIÓN MENSUAL
TRABAJO EN CALIENTE DE SEGURIDAD CONTRA INCENDIOS
Octubre Semana 2

Peligros

Los incendios en trabajos en caliente provocan muertes y lesiones evitables y cientos de millones de dólares en pérdidas de propiedad cada año. Cuando todos siguen prácticas seguras del trabajo en caliente, estos incendios se pueden prevenir. El riesgo del trabajo en caliente es alto porque introduce un peligro: una fuente de ignición. Es por lo tanto que la recomendación de seguridad número uno es determinar si existe una alternativa al trabajo en caliente y, al evitarlo, se minimiza el riesgo.

¿Qué es el trabajo en caliente?

- Trabajos que involucren quemar, soldar o realizar una operación similar que sea capaz de iniciar incendios o explosiones.
- Actividad que involucre llamas, producción de chispas o calor.
- La soldadura y los procesos afines incluyen soldadura por arco, soldadura con gas oxi-combustible, soldadura con una llama abierta, soldadura fuerte, pulverización térmica, corte con oxígeno y corte con arco.

Peligros del trabajo caliente

El trabajo en caliente tiene el potencial de juntar las tres partes del triángulo del fuego: oxígeno, combustible y una fuente de ignición.

El oxígeno está presente en el aire ambiente. Las prácticas inseguras que involucran oxígeno puro pueden provocar un enriquecimiento de oxígeno (más del 22 por ciento en volumen) en el lugar de trabajo.

El combustible incluye cualquier cosa que pueda encenderse. Ejemplos de combustibles comunes incluyen los siguientes: • Materiales de construcción como madera, plástico, aislamiento, materiales para techos, incluidos aquellos en espacios ocultos • Líquidos o gases inflamables y combustibles como gasolina, pintura, solventes de limpieza • Combustibles simples como trapos, papel, cartón, madera, muebles.

Las fuentes de ignición pueden ser tan simples como el propio trabajo en caliente. La ignición se produce cuando lo hace cualquier fuente de calor suficiente para encender un combustible. Puede ocurrir por la aplicación directa o indirecta de calor. La aplicación directa de calor incluye: soldadura, corte y quemado. La aplicación indirecta incluye calor conducido a través de superficies metálicas hacia fuentes de combustible por otra y chispas que viajan a una fuente de combustible lejano (por ejemplo, a un charco de líquido u otro material combustible).

Formas de Minimizar Los Riesgos del Trabajo en Caliente

Usa el proceso de “Reconocer, evaluar y controlar”.

- Reconocer - Determina si existen riesgos de incendio antes de comenzar el trabajo en caliente.

- Evaluar: Determina si existen peligros, especialmente peligros que podrían provocar un incendio (líquidos o gases inflamables y combustibles y combustibles simples).
- Control: Toma las medidas adecuadas para eliminar o minimizar los peligros. El permiso de trabajo en caliente ayuda a la persona que autoriza el permiso, al operador de trabajo en caliente y al guardia contra incendios a reconocer los peligros potenciales. Las áreas se pueden proteger con el uso de almohadillas, mantas o cortinas para soldar, limpiando los combustibles de un espacio de 35 pies (11 m) de radio alrededor del trabajo en caliente o moviendo el trabajo en caliente a un área libre de combustibles.

Identificar Alternativas al Trabajo En Caliente

Los riesgos del trabajo en caliente se pueden evitar si existe un método alternativo para completar el trabajo. Algunas opciones incluyen las siguientes: • Tubería atornillada, bridada o sujeta con abrazaderas • Cizallas hidráulicas manuales • Empernado mecánico o corte de tuberías • Sujetadores accionados por aire comprimido

CAPACITACIÓN DE ACTUALIZACIÓN MENSUAL
EL USO DE EXTINTOR DE FUEGO
Octubre Semana 3

Extintores portátiles

¿Sabes cómo apagar un incendio? Según las normas de OSHA, nadie en el lugar de trabajo debe utilizar un extintor de incendios a menos que haya sido capacitado para hacerlo. Si una persona no capacitada intenta apagar un incendio, pueden ocurrir errores graves. Cualquiera de estos errores puede hacer que el incendio empeore o lesione o mate a la persona. Los extintores están destinados a usarse en incendios pequeños que se encuentran en sus etapas incipientes o iniciales y para proteger las rutas de evacuación.

En caso de incendio, el uso correcto de un extintor portátil podría ser la diferencia entre sufrir una perdida menor o una mayor. Los extintores portátiles, si se usan correctamente, pueden marcar la diferencia. Pero hay varias cosas a considerar al usar extintores. Por ejemplo, debes conocer la clase de incendio involucrado y el tipo correcto de extintor que debes utilizar.

Clases de incendios y extintores:

1. Clase “A”: Esta clase involucra combustibles comunes como papel, madera, tela, caucho o plásticos. El medio de extinción común es agua o químico seco.
2. Clase “B”: Los líquidos, grasas o gases inflamables están cubiertos en esta categoría. Los medios de extinción comunes son espuma, dióxido de carbono o químico seco.
3. Clase “C”: Los incendios eléctricos activos son incendios de clase C. Se deben utilizar extintores de CO2 o de productos químicos secos. Sin embargo, los productos quemados reales pueden ser artículos de clase “A”.
4. Clase “D”: Los materiales en combustión incluyen metales combustibles como magnesio y sodio. Cuando se trabaja con estos metales se necesitan agentes extintores especiales, aprobados por laboratorios de pruebas reconocidos.

Usa tu juicio:

Cuando veas humo o fuego, debes utilizar tu buen juicio antes de decidir extinguir el fuego. Pregúntate:

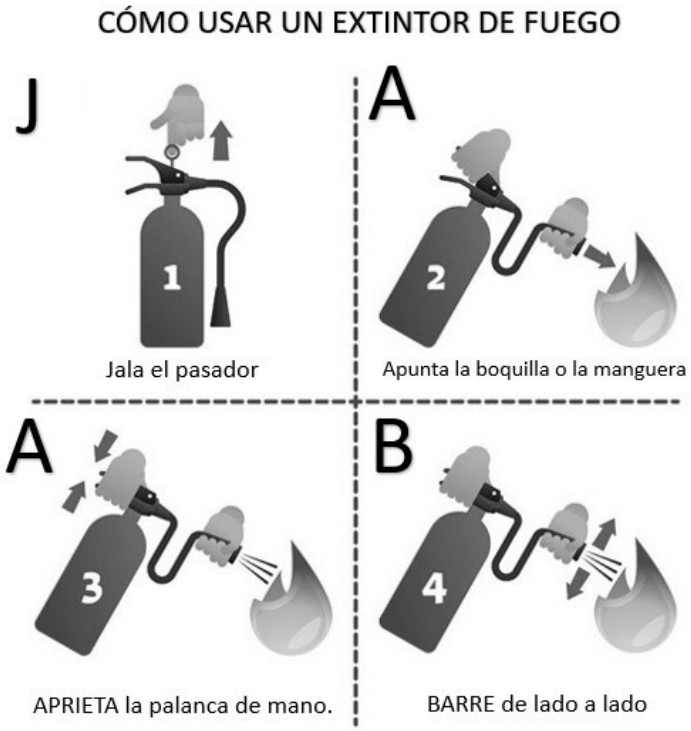
- ¿Está el incendio limitado en tamaño y propagación?
- ¿Tendrás una ruta de escape si algo sale mal?
- ¿Conoces la ubicación del extintor de incendios más cercano?
- Si estás seguro de que el incendio es controlable y su seguridad está garantizada, intenta apagarlo. Si la respuesta a cualquiera de estas preguntas es no, evacua el área inmediatamente.

Respondiendo a los incendios:

Haz sonar la alarma de incendio y llama al departamento de bomberos local inmediatamente si se produce un incendio. Una vez que hayas decidido extinguir el incendio, intenta combatirlo sólo si:

- Sabes el tipo de material combustible que se quema;
- Has sido entrenado como usar el extintor de incendios correctamente; y
- El incendio aún se encuentra en la etapa incipiente (comienzo).

Si el incendio crece demasiado o se sale de control, evacua inmediatamente.



Recuerda P-A-S-S (Siglas en español J-A-A-B)

- J – Jala. Jala el pasador de bloqueo antes de usar el extintor.
- A – Apunta. Apunta el extintor a la base del fuego, no a las llamas ni al humo.
- A – Aprieta. Aprieta la palanca del extintor para operar y descargar.
- B – Barre. Barre el extintor de un lado al otro lado en la base del fuego para extinguirlo.

La mayoría de los extintores sólo permitirán unos 10 segundos de uso del medio de extinción. La prevención es la clave cuando se trata de extinción de incendios. Una buena limpieza, procedimientos de almacenamiento adecuados y prácticas laborales seguras contribuirán mucho a reducir la probabilidad de incendio.

Se

- Cuándo llamar al 911
- Cómo avisar de un incendio
- Dónde están ubicados los extintores
- Cómo usar el método PASS
- Cuándo es apropiado el uso de extintores y cuándo no lo es
- Tus planes de evacuación

Saber cómo y cuándo usar un extintor de incendios puede ayudar a salvar tu lugar de trabajo y, lo que es más importante, puede salvar vidas. Asegúrate de saber cómo usar un extintor de incendios y cómo elegir el extintor adecuado en caso de que se encienda un incendio en tu lugar de trabajo.

CAPACITACIÓN DE ACTUALIZACIÓN MENSUAL
LA INSPECCION DE LOS EXTINTORES
Octubre Semana 4

Cómo Inspeccionar Tu Extintor de Incendios

Un extintor de incendios es algo en lo que la mayoría de la gente no piensa hasta que lo necesita. El extintor de incendios será de poco valor si no se mantiene en condiciones de funcionamiento. Abajo encontrarás algunos consejos útiles que te ayudarán a asegurarte de que tu extintor de incendios funcione correctamente.

INSPECCIÓN MENSUAL/DIARIA DEL EXTINTOR DE FUEGO

Los extintores de incendios deben ser revisados periódicamente para asegurarse de que estén listos para su uso. La NFPA recomienda leer las instrucciones que vienen con cada extintor para familiarizarse con sus piezas y cómo funcionan.

Los pasos de tu inspección:

1. **Garantiza acceso fácil**.
   Asegúrate de que el extintor esté visible y sea fácil de agarrar.
2. **Verifica la presión** Muchos extintores tienen un manómetro que indica si el dispositivo se encuentra en el rango de funcionamiento adecuado. Si el tuyo tiene uno, verifica que la aguja del manómetro indique la presión adecuada. Si el extintor tiene un indicador de prueba, presiónelo para asegurarte de que medida de presión esté dentro del rango correcto.
3. **Busca daños físicos**
   Verifica que el cilindro, las mangueras y las boquillas parezcan funcionar correctamente. Los signos visibles de daño, como abolladuras u óxido, pueden significar que es hora de reemplazar el extintor. Dale la vuelta y revisa el fondo.

4. **Limpia el extintor.**
   Revisa el exterior de cada extintor en busca de polvo, aceite o grasa y límpialo según sea necesario.

Es posible que sea necesario agitar muchos extintores mensualmente. Cuando le des la vuelta al extintor durante la inspección, esto mantendrá el contenido mezclado. Hay inspecciones requeridas que deben ser realizadas por personas capacitadas anualmente y en otros incrementos que van más allá de lo que hacemos diariamente y mensualmente. Además, ten en cuenta que la mayoría de los extintores de incendios duran entre 5 y 15 años, por lo que si no estás seguro de tus extintores, entrégalos para que los inspeccione un profesional.