

Toolbox Talk # 4.02 – Fire Prevention

Most often, fires do not injure workers on construction sites. Fires usually cause a great deal of property and equipment damage on construction sites. Construction related fires are often ignited by smoldering materials from welding or sawing operations that burst into flames after everyone has left the job for the day. The fire can burn for hours undetected with no one in the vicinity.

Fire requires three elements: FUEL, HEAT and OXYGEN to ignite and continue burning. If you remove any of these prior to ignition, the fire will not start. It is far less destructive, far less dangerous and far less expensive to stop fires before they begin rather than after they start.

Job-Site

- Good housekeeping helps prevent fire. Make daily inspection for fire hazards. Remove debris from hot work areas. Make sure that flammable liquids are stored in containers that meet regulatory standards.
- Make sure that evacuation routes are known by all workers and kept clear of obstructions.
- Make sure flammable materials, especially liquids and gases, are stored away from potential sources of heat. Make sure that gases and liquids are stored away from each other.
- Allow only approved gasoline cans for dispensing flammable liquids including those for fueling small engines or vehicle engines.
- Do not permit fueling of any engine when it is running or is still hot.
- Never allow gasoline to be used as a solvent, degreaser or cleaner.
- Oily, greasy debris should be stored only in metal containers with tightly closed lids.

Fire Extinguishers

- Make sure there is a sufficient quantity of the correct class of fire extinguishers on site at all times.
- Make sure the extinguishers are fully charged and operable.
- Make sure the extinguishers are in conspicuous, designated locations around the job-site.
- Make sure they are replaced and refilled following every discharge.

Toolbox Talk # 4.02 – Fire Prevention

Project: _____

Date: _____

Supervisor: _____

Company: _____

Other safety issues covered or comments from crew members:

Attendees:

Name: (please print)	Signature:	Company:
1.		
2.		
3.		
4.		
5.		
6.		
7.		
8.		
9.		
10.		
11.		
12.		
13.		
14.		
15.		