

Hot Work



Always be aware of what you are doing when conducting hot work.

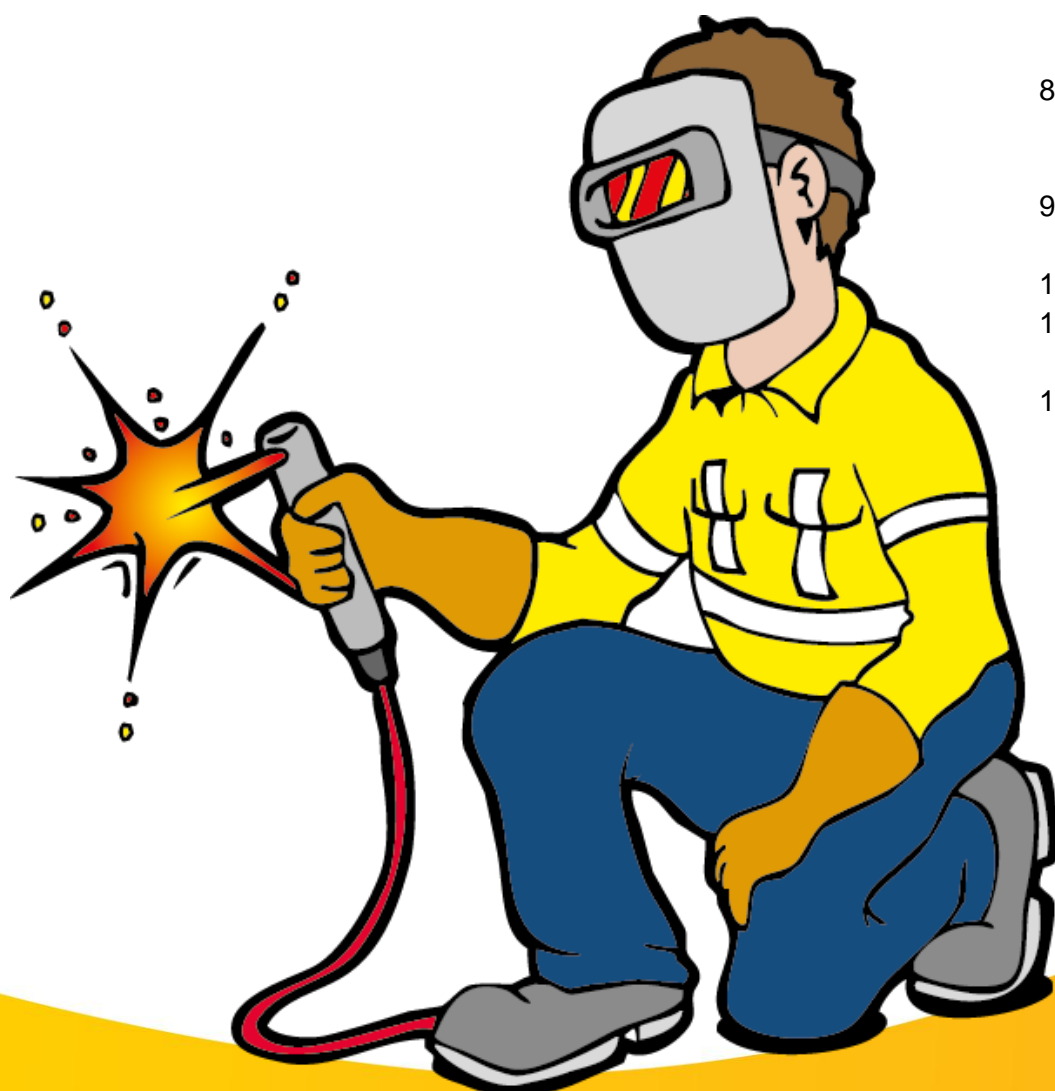
What is hot Work?

Hot Work is work that can generate flames, heat or sparks and includes, but is not limited to, the following:

- Oxy - acetylene cutting or gas burning;
- Welding, brazing or electric arc welding;
- Soldering;
- Heat gun operation;
- Heating and driving rivets;
- Use of open flames;
- Abrasive blasting; and
- Grinding;

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A hot work permit system is a system designed to eliminate or minimise risks from these activities by controlling when and how hot work is undertaken in these areas.



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Prior to the commencement of hot work, the following precautions shall be taken to prevent any fire, explosion, injury or other danger developing during the performance of the hot work:

1. The Supervisor will check the 'Register of Responsible Person allows to complete a Hot Work Permit' before starting any hot work;
2. Identify and control any hazard (including the presence of flammable or combustible liquids, gases, vapours, dusts, fibres or substances) within or near the hot-work area (usually 30m should separate the work from material);
3. Consider the possibility of changing circumstances during the progress of the hot work and whether they may render the area unsafe for the work to continue;
4. Ensure if possible, the ventilation of the hot work area;
5. Test for the presence of any flammable gas or flammable vapour, in the atmosphere within any pipe, drum, tank, vessel and piece of equipment adjacent to or involved in the hot-work;
6. Fire detection systems may have to be isolated;
7. If the hot work is in a confined space a 'Entry permit' must be completed and all steps followed, particularly testing and monitoring of the atmosphere;
8. The responsible person is to complete a 'Hot Work Permit' before any hot work is commenced and will explain it to you;
9. The responsible person is to check if fire training has been completed for staff conducting hot work;
10. Ensure that the correct PPE is worn;
11. Ensure that suitable fire fighting equipment is on hand; and
12. Report any concerns to the responsible person.