



**Capital City Fire / Rescue - Fire Marshal's Office**  
820 Glacier Avenue, Juneau Alaska 99801 - Ph.(907) 586-5322 FAX (907) 586-8323

## **Conditions and Requirements for Cutting & Welding Operations (Hot Work)**

**PERMIT.** A Hot Work Permit shall be obtained from the Juneau Permit Center, 230 S. Franklin St, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor (Marine View Center). Permits shall be kept at all times at locations where regulated hot work operations are conducted in the City & Borough of Juneau and shall be made available to Fire Department personnel upon request.

**PRECAUTIONS IN HOT WORK.** Hot work shall not be performed on containers or equipment that contains or has contained flammable liquids, gases or solids until the container and equipment have been thoroughly cleaned, inerted or purged; except that hot tapping shall be allowed on tanks and pipelines when such work is to be conducted by approved personnel. *(IFC 2604.1.7)*

The work area shall be cleared of all accumulations of combustible material at the end of each workday. All refuse must be promptly removed from the job site.

**RESTRICTED AREAS.** Hot work shall only be conducted in areas designed or authorized for that purpose by the personnel responsible for the hot work program. Hot work shall not be conducted in the following areas unless approval has been obtained by the Fire Marshal *(IFC 2601.3)*:

- Areas where the sprinkler system has been impaired.
- Areas where there exists the potential of an explosive atmosphere, such as locations where flammable gases or liquids may be present.
- Areas with readily ignitable materials such as storage of large quantities of bulk sulfur, baled paper, cotton, lint, dust, or loose combustible materials.
- On board ships at dock or ships under construction.
- Other locations specified by the Fire Marshal.

**PRE HOT WORK CHECK.** A Pre Hot Work Check shall be conducted prior to work to ensure that all equipment is safe and hazards are recognized and protected. A report of this check shall be kept at the work site during the work and available on request. The report shall determine the following *(IFC 2604.3.1)* :

- Hot work equipment to be used shall be in satisfactory operating condition and in good repair.
- Hot work site is clear of combustibles or combustibles are protected.
- Openings are protected.
- Floors are kept clean.
- No exposed combustibles are located on the opposite side of partitions, walls, ceilings, floors.
- Fire watches, where required are assigned.
- Fire extinguishers and fire hoses (where provided) are operable and available.

**FIRE EXTINGUISHERS.** At least one portable fire extinguisher with a minimum rating of 2-A:20-B:C is required and shall be located within 30 feet of the location where work is in progress.

- **Current Fire Extinguisher Inspection:** Each extinguisher shall be inspected at least annually and shall display a tag indicating when it was last inspected by a State of Alaska certified technician. *IFC 303.5*

**SIGNAGE.** A visible hazard identification sign shall be provided where the hot work area is accessible to persons other than the operator of the hot work equipment. A conspicuous sign shall be posted to warn others before they enter the hot work area. Such sign shall display the following warning (*IFC 2603.6*):

**CAUTION  
HOT WORK IN PROGRESS  
STAY CLEAR**

**SPRINKLER PROTECTION.** Automatic sprinkler protection shall not be shut off while hot work is performed. Where hot work is performed close to sprinkler heads, noncombustible barriers or damp cloth guards shall shield the individual sprinkler head, and shall be removed when the work is completed. If the work extends over several days, the shields shall be removed at the end of each work day. The fire code official shall approve hot work where the sprinkler protection is impaired. *IFC 2604.1.8*

**FIRE DETECTION.** Approved precautions shall be taken to avoid accidental operation of automatic fire detection systems. *IFC 2604.1.9*

**FIRE WATCH.** A fire watch shall be designated whenever a torch is used on a roof. Individuals using a torch may not serve as their own fire watch. Fire watch personnel sole duty shall be to perform constant patrols and watch for the occurrence of fire. When several workers are performing torch operations on a single roof, the fire watch shall have a clear view of, and immediate access to each worker. *IFC 1404.5*

**Each designated fire watch shall:**

- ✓ Be present continuously whenever the torch is in operation to watch for fire and operate fire-extinguishing equipment to extinguish spot fires.
- ✓ Be maintained for at least 30 minutes after completion or interruption of work, to detect and extinguish smoldering fires.
- ✓ Check attic spaces below the work areas for smoldering fire prior to leaving the site.
- ✓ Be trained in the use of available fire extinguishing equipment.
- ✓ Be capable of transmitting an alarm to the Emergency - 911 Center via telephone.
- ✓ Be able to identify the specific address where the work is being performed.

**All fires shall be immediately reported to Capital City Fire/Rescue by dialing 911.**