

Hot Work

“Hot Work” is defined as a process or procedure that could result in a fire if not properly controlled. Common examples of Hot Work include welding, burning, cutting, brazing, and soldering. Hot Work equipment may produce high voltages or utilize compressed gases and requires special awareness training to be used safely. Contractors must control the hazards associated with Hot Work by developing, implementing, and enforcing an effective safety program that follows Applicable Law and industry standards and follows and uses the FM Global Hot Work permit system. A sample permit is attached below. Paper copies of the permit form are available from Yale Fire Code Compliance (203-432-9923), 344 Winchester Ave, Suite A155, New Haven.

All planned Hot Work should be fully described during the permitting process, which should be completed before Hot Work begins. In addition, the Contractor must obtain a Hot Work permit as required. The Contractor must keep a copy of that permit on the Project Site at all times.

Hot Work should be restricted to normal working hours and the work area inspected to verify that adequate control has been established. If fire alarm and detection systems need to be shut down during the performance of Hot Work, the Contractor must schedule the shutdown, at least one week in advance, through the Yale Project Manager who will submit a Work Order with the details of the shutdown. The Contractor must follow all necessary precautions as indicated on the permit(s) and provide proper training and resources to safely complete all assigned duties.

Contractors must reduce the risks of fire and related injury and property damage associated with Hot Work by implementing the following precautionary measures:

- Verify that all equipment is in satisfactory operating condition;
- Have an appropriate class portable fire extinguisher in the immediate area and personnel trained in how to use it;
- Check the area for combustibles, i.e., flammable liquids, lint, dust, oily deposits and any other hidden or inconspicuous items;
- Assure that Hot Work is not taking place in a flammable atmosphere, near large quantities of readily ignitable materials, or in unauthorized areas;
- Cover tightly, openings or cracks in walls, floors, or ducts with fire retardant or noncombustible material to prevent the passage of sparks to adjacent areas;
- Shield conveyor systems that might carry sparks to distant combustibles;
- If Hot Work is to be done on a wall, partition, ceiling, or roof, precautions should be taken to prevent ignition of combustibles on the other side by relocating combustibles, or, if not practical, providing a fire watch;
- Provide proper ventilation in all areas where Hot Work is being performed;
- Protect oxygen/acetylene hoses from damage;
- All oxygen and acetylene cylinders must be stored outside (of buildings) and be identified with the Contractor's or Subcontractor of Any Tier's name.
- A designated Fire watch for all hot work.
- Post-work fire inspection 2 hours after completion of last hot task
- If work is being performed in a confined space the air must be monitored for hazards.
- Protective equipment such as signs, tarps, air movers and light shields must be provided when necessary.

FM Global Hot work Permit

