

Fire Triangle and Types of Fire

Introduction

The fire triangle describes heat, fuel, and oxygen. A sustained fire also involves a chemical chain reaction. Recognizing ignition sources and available fuels helps prevent a fire before emergency action is needed.

Hazards & Controls

Keep ignition sources away from combustible material and flammable vapors. Use approved handling, storage, and ventilation arrangements; do not improvise ventilation or oxygen control for a hazardous atmosphere.

Identify the actual fuel and any energized equipment before selecting protection. Alert others and follow the emergency plan. A triangle diagram is not permission to approach a fire or attempt an untrained response.

Follow the employer's fire prevention and emergency action procedures and the requirements for the task and industry. These awareness notes do not authorize firefighting or replace required training.

Safety Reminders

Keep escape routes clear and know how to raise the alarm. Evacuate when directed or when conditions are unsafe. Never delay escape or attempt a response beyond your training and authorization.

Engagement Questions

What ignition sources and fuels could combine in our work area?

What site-specific hazards or changes would make us stop work?

Sources and use notice

OSHA: Portable Fire Extinguishers (1910.157)

OSHA: Fire Safety

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Meeting Record & Sign-In

Fire Triangle and Types of Fire

Company: _____ Date: _____

Jobsite: _____ Presenter: _____

Time / duration: _____ Crew / shift: _____

Site-specific hazards and controls discussed

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Follow-up action / responsible person / due date

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Classes of Fire Extinguishers (A, B, C, D, K)

Introduction

Extinguishers must match the fire: A covers ordinary combustibles; B covers flammable liquids and gases; C indicates suitability for energized electrical equipment; D covers specific combustible metals; K covers cooking oils and fats.

Hazards & Controls

Read the extinguisher label and instructions. An ABC unit does not cover every hazard. Class D agents must suit the particular metal; kitchen hazards need the designated Class K protection. After electrical power is safely isolated, the burning fuel still determines the appropriate agent.

Keep units accessible and report damage, missing seals, or suspect condition. Required monthly visual inspections and annual maintenance are different checks. Never apply water to energized electrical equipment or burning cooking oil; use only the agent approved for the actual hazard.

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Safety Reminders

Keep escape routes clear and know how to raise the alarm. Evacuate when directed or when conditions are unsafe. Never delay escape or attempt a response beyond your training and authorization.

Engagement Questions

Which extinguisher ratings cover our hazards, and which hazards need a different unit?

What site-specific hazards or changes would make us stop work?

Sources and use notice

OSHA: Portable Fire Extinguishers (1910.157)

OSHA: Extinguisher Basics

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Meeting Record & Sign-In

Classes of Fire Extinguishers (A, B, C, D, K)

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Fire Extinguisher Use (PASS Method)

Introduction

Follow the employer emergency plan first. Attempt extinguisher use only if trained and authorized, the fire is small and within your capability, the correct unit is available, and a safe escape route remains clear.

Hazards & Controls

Raise the alarm and summon help as the plan requires. PASS means Pull the pin, Aim at the base, Squeeze the handle, and Sweep side to side. Follow the unit instructions and operating distance; keep a clear escape route behind you.

Evacuate immediately if smoke, heat, spreading fire, uncertainty, or loss of the escape route makes the attempt unsafe. Never enter smoke or delay evacuation to retrieve an extinguisher. Report every discharged unit for servicing and replacement coverage.

Follow the employer's fire prevention and emergency action procedures and the requirements for the task and industry. These awareness notes do not authorize firefighting or replace required training.

Safety Reminders

Keep escape routes clear and know how to raise the alarm. Evacuate when directed or when conditions are unsafe. Never delay escape or attempt a response beyond your training and authorization.

Engagement Questions

What conditions would make us evacuate instead of using an extinguisher?

What site-specific hazards or changes would make us stop work?

Sources and use notice

OSHA: Portable Fire Extinguishers (1910.157)

OSHA: Fire Extinguisher Use

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Fire Extinguisher Use (PASS Method)

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Follow-up action / responsible person / due date

Fire Watch Responsibilities

Introduction

A fire watch is assigned when required by the applicable rule and site assessment. The watch detects ignition during and after hot work and must understand the hazards, alarm method, and authorized response.

Hazards & Controls

Maintain coverage of exposed areas, including the opposite side of walls or floors and concealed spaces where sparks can travel. Have suitable extinguishing equipment readily available. Stop work if required controls or effective watch coverage are lost.

For covered general-industry welding or cutting, maintain the required watch at least 30 minutes afterward. Other rules, permits, and site conditions may require longer monitoring. Do not leave until the required period and authorized closeout are complete; fight only fires within your training and capability.

Follow the employer's fire prevention and emergency action procedures and the requirements for the task and industry. These awareness notes do not authorize firefighting or replace required training.

Safety Reminders

Keep escape routes clear and know how to raise the alarm. Evacuate when directed or when conditions are unsafe. Never delay escape or attempt a response beyond your training and authorization.

Engagement Questions

Which areas need coverage, and what watch duration does this permit require?

What site-specific hazards or changes would make us stop work?

Sources and use notice

OSHA: Portable Fire Extinguishers (1910.157)

OSHA: Welding and Cutting Fire Prevention

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Meeting Record & Sign-In

Fire Watch Responsibilities

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Flammable Liquids and Storage

Introduction

Flammable-liquid vapors can ignite away from the container and flash back to the source. Container compatibility, quantity, location, ventilation, and ignition controls all matter.

Hazards & Controls

Follow the safety data sheet and applicable storage rules. Use approved containers suitable for the liquid and quantity, with lids closed when not in use. A metal can is not automatically approved, and approved options are not limited to metal in every situation.

Use designated storage areas or cabinets and approved dispensing methods. Follow the task-specific bonding and grounding procedure where required; attaching an arbitrary ground wire is not a complete static-control plan. Control spills and ignition sources and dispose of contaminated waste through the approved process.

Follow the employer's fire prevention and emergency action procedures and the requirements for the task and industry. These awareness notes do not authorize firefighting or replace required training.

Safety Reminders

Keep escape routes clear and know how to raise the alarm. Evacuate when directed or when conditions are unsafe. Never delay escape or attempt a response beyond your training and authorization.

Engagement Questions

Which container, storage location, and transfer controls are approved for this liquid?

What site-specific hazards or changes would make us stop work?

Sources and use notice

OSHA: Portable Fire Extinguishers (1910.157)

OSHA: Flammable Liquids

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Flammable Liquids and Storage

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Hot Work Safety (Welding, Cutting, Grinding)

Introduction

Hot work can ignite nearby and hidden combustibles. Complete the site assessment and required authorization or permit before work; permit and fire-watch requirements depend on the task, location, and applicable rules.

Hazards & Controls

Remove or protect combustibles, inspect openings and adjacent spaces, and control sparks. For covered welding and cutting, relocate combustibles at least 35 feet where practicable or use the required protection. A 35-foot radius alone does not control every exposure.

Confirm fire-watch coverage when required, suitable extinguishers, and safe equipment. Assess fumes, ventilation, cylinders, and atmospheric hazards separately. Do not work on containers or in hazardous atmospheres without the specific preparation and controls required. Stop when permit conditions change.

Follow the employer's fire prevention and emergency action procedures and the requirements for the task and industry. These awareness notes do not authorize firefighting or replace required training.

Safety Reminders

Keep escape routes clear and know how to raise the alarm. Evacuate when directed or when conditions are unsafe. Never delay escape or attempt a response beyond your training and authorization.

Engagement Questions

Where could sparks travel, and what must be verified before starting?

What site-specific hazards or changes would make us stop work?

Sources and use notice

OSHA: Portable Fire Extinguishers (1910.157)

OSHA: Construction Fire Prevention for Hot Work

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Meeting Record & Sign-In

Hot Work Safety (Welding, Cutting, Grinding)

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Housekeeping and Fire Hazards

Introduction

Combustible waste adds fuel and clutter can delay escape or emergency response. Housekeeping needs a planned schedule that reflects the materials, processes, and ignition sources present.

Hazards & Controls

Remove waste safely and use suitable designated receptacles for oily rags and other contaminated materials. Follow the safety data sheet and disposal procedure; some oily materials can self-heat. Keep combustibles away from hot surfaces and sparks.

Keep exit routes, extinguishers, alarms, and fire doors clear. Report combustible dust buildup and use approved cleaning methods; do not disperse dust into the air with compressed air or use unsuitable vacuum equipment. Escalate dust hazards for proper assessment.

Follow the employer's fire prevention and emergency action procedures and the requirements for the task and industry. These awareness notes do not authorize firefighting or replace required training.

Safety Reminders

Keep escape routes clear and know how to raise the alarm. Evacuate when directed or when conditions are unsafe. Never delay escape or attempt a response beyond your training and authorization.

Engagement Questions

What waste, dust, or blocked access needs correction before work continues?

What site-specific hazards or changes would make us stop work?

Sources and use notice

OSHA: Portable Fire Extinguishers (1910.157)

OSHA: Fire Prevention Plans

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Housekeeping and Fire Hazards

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Follow-up action / responsible person / due date

Electrical Fire Prevention

Introduction

Damaged insulation, loose connections, misuse, and excessive loads can create heat or arcing. Unusual odors, hot plugs, repeated breaker trips, or smoke require prompt action.

Hazards & Controls

Inspect cord-connected equipment before use as required. Use approved equipment for the location, respect load ratings, and avoid overloaded power strips or improvised connections. Never bypass a breaker or repeatedly reset a protective device without resolving the cause.

Remove suspect equipment from service and keep people clear. Qualified, authorized personnel must isolate and evaluate electrical faults. Keep required working clearances and combustible storage controls. Never touch burning electrical equipment or use water while it may be energized.

Follow the employer's fire prevention and emergency action procedures and the requirements for the task and industry. These awareness notes do not authorize firefighting or replace required training.

Safety Reminders

Keep escape routes clear and know how to raise the alarm. Evacuate when directed or when conditions are unsafe. Never delay escape or attempt a response beyond your training and authorization.

Engagement Questions

Which electrical warning signs require immediate isolation and reporting?

What site-specific hazards or changes would make us stop work?

Sources and use notice

OSHA: Portable Fire Extinguishers (1910.157)

OSHA: Use of Electrical Equipment

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Electrical Fire Prevention

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Emergency Evacuation Procedures

Introduction

Know the alarm, reporting method, primary and alternate routes, assembly area, and accountability process before an emergency. The site plan must address workers who need evacuation assistance.

Hazards & Controls

On an evacuation signal, leave promptly by the designated safe route. Do not collect belongings or enter smoke. Use stairs rather than ordinary elevators during a fire; follow any specially engineered evacuation arrangements specified in the approved plan.

Report to the assembly area and give accurate information about missing people and their last known location. Do not re-enter or attempt an unauthorized rescue. Only designated, trained personnel perform planned shutdown or rescue duties, and re-entry requires authorization.

Follow the employer's fire prevention and emergency action procedures and the requirements for the task and industry. These awareness notes do not authorize firefighting or replace required training.

Safety Reminders

Keep escape routes clear and know how to raise the alarm. Evacuate when directed or when conditions are unsafe. Never delay escape or attempt a response beyond your training and authorization.

Engagement Questions

Where are our alternate exit, assembly area, and designated accountability contact?

What site-specific hazards or changes would make us stop work?

Sources and use notice

OSHA: Portable Fire Extinguishers (1910.157)

OSHA: Emergency Action Plans

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Emergency Evacuation Procedures

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Reporting and Investigating Fire Incidents

Introduction

Report fires and near misses promptly under the site procedure, even when damage appears minor. Emergency response and life safety come first; investigation begins only after the area is safe and access is authorized.

Hazards & Controls

Provide facts: location, time, observed conditions, work underway, materials involved, alarms, and response. Preserve evidence when safe without disturbing the scene or delaying emergency care. Do not restart equipment until authorized evaluation is complete.

Look beyond individual error to equipment, maintenance, training, procedures, and supervision. Assign corrective actions, responsible people, and due dates; verify completion and share lessons. Responsible management must determine applicable external reporting obligations separately.

Follow the employer's fire prevention and emergency action procedures and the requirements for the task and industry. These awareness notes do not authorize firefighting or replace required training.

Safety Reminders

Keep escape routes clear and know how to raise the alarm. Evacuate when directed or when conditions are unsafe. Never delay escape or attempt a response beyond your training and authorization.

Engagement Questions

What information can we report now, and how will we verify corrective actions?

What site-specific hazards or changes would make us stop work?

Sources and use notice

OSHA: Portable Fire Extinguishers (1910.157)

OSHA: Incident Investigation

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