

SAFETY INSTRUCTIONS VV10 Fire hazard work	
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1 PURPOSE

This safety regulation describes the requirements that are set when fire-hazardous work is carried out.

2 SCOPE

The requirements of this Safety Regulations apply on Nyrstar Belgium's premises.

3 DEFINITION

'Fire hazard work' is work in which:

- Fire
- high temperatures or
- Sparks can occur such as:
 - welding (oxyfuel and electric),
 - grinding,
 - cutting (incl. plasma cutting),
 - Paint burning or roofing using heat sources.
 - Repairs to plastics such as HDPE (High Density Polyethylene) and vulcanization of rubber (conveyor belts) are also classified as fire hazards.

There are risks of fire or explosions during this work. Measures are used to control this risk.

4 REGULATION

4.1 Requirements – method

The process for controlling fire-hazardous activities takes place in a number of steps.

In the first instance, it is up to the work planner to indicate that the work poses a risk of fire.

It is then necessary to assess, in consultation with the issuer of the work permit, in which zone or category the work will be carried out. Depending on the category (see 4.1.1 to 4.1.3), measures must be adopted.

The person responsible for implementing the measures depends on the nature of the measure. It can be the executor or the licensing authority. The contractor is responsible for ensuring that the measures are maintained during the execution of the work.

4.1.1 Zone 1 - Low risk zone

Zones that are recognized as low-risk hot work zones.

The low risk category applies if:

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1. there are no flammable materials (no wood, waste, oil residues, metal shavings) within the range of the sparks. Of course, if materials are present but it can be ensured that they are removed before the start of the work, there is a low risk;
2. There are no installations within the distribution area of the sparks that are made of plastic or that are internally rubberized.

If these conditions are met, it is sufficient that a fire extinguisher **of at least 2 kg** is continuously within reach during the work.

Block 2A 'Conditions in zone Low risk' must be completed on the work permit, with attention to:

- environment must be free of flammable materials;
- The contractor ensures that the extinguisher is always available.

4.1.2 Zone 2 – Medium-High Risk Zone

This category applies to the following areas:

1. for any work on or in which there are plastic **equipment or internally rubberised drums** within the range of the sparks ; This also includes repairs to HDPE pipes and vulcanization of rubber;
2. the area near and under (basement) the stripping machines, mixing pots zamak in connection with the presence of oil residues, metal shavings;
3. for all other work involving flammable materials (wood, waste, oil residues, metal shavings) within the range of the sparks;

The following measures apply:

- See 4.1.1
- There must be no people within the distribution area of sparks who are engaged in other activities;
- There must be sufficient escape options;
- shielding/capturing sparks by means of suitable material (e.g. fire blankets). Also think of properly shielding electrical cables, cracks, passages, wall openings;
- wetting and keeping combustible materials wet (this does not apply to zinc dust and high, low stress spaces);
- After the work, check that no traces of the starting fire are visible (approx. 1/2 to 1 hour after the end or interruption of the work). The result of this check must be entered on the work permit under block 4;
- The contractor must have a fire blanket within reach at all times.
- For roof work with flammable materials, additional measures apply to bituminous roofing:
 - 2x ABC 9kg powder extinguisher;
 - 2 fire blankets;
 - bitumen boiler with thermostat and boiler is in collection tray with insulation between the tray and the roof;

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- no more than a day's supply of gas bottles on the roof.

The above measures must be implemented, unless there are compelling arguments not to do so.

Block 2B 'Conditions in zone Medium High risk' of the work permit must be completed

4.1.3 Zone 3 - High risk zone

This category applies in the following situations:

1. One of points 1 to 3 referred to in 4.1.2 is met and, in addition, within the range of the sparks there are people who are engaged in other activities and/or the possibilities of escape are limited;
2. it concerns special, incidental activities on equipment used for the storage or transport of flammable substances, such as propane storage, solfer hopper roasting plant and ore square; work in the vicinity of Hamon cooling tower, acid storage or acid pipes;
3. It concerns spark-spreading activities in ex-zones: see VV16;
4. for all activities where **concentrate** is present: ore square, elevator belt to ovens, concentrate dosing;
5. for all work where **zinc dust** is present.

In these situations, advice must be sought from the Fire Chief of the Company Fire Brigade prior to the work or the working method is clearly described in work instructions. Depending on the exact circumstances, measures may include:

- Preparing water casings
- Setting up fire guards (cfm. requirements in next chapter)
- Putting the company fire brigade on standby
- Following work instruction XW-501-WI-4-00004 in case of working on acid tanks or on acid pipes.
- 3 hours after the end of the work, another check will be carried out.

In addition, the measures referred to in 4.1.1 and 4.1.2 apply.

Block 2C Conditions in the 'High risk' zone of the work permit must be completed.

4.1.3.1 Confined spaces

Requirements with regard to fire-hazardous work in confined spaces are laid down in VV08 - Working in Confined Spaces. The TRA that is added as an appendix to the confined space map must record the measures for controlling the fire hazard in the confined space.

In the case of fire-hazardous work in confined spaces that consist entirely or largely of plastic, advice should be sought from the Fire Chief of the internal company fire brigade.

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4.2 Tasks and requirements fire marshal

The fire marshal is responsible for monitoring safety during fire-hazardous work. He fulfils both a monitoring and a preventive role in this. During these activities, the fire marshal may not perform any other tasks, unless they do not interfere with the performance of his fire marshal duties. The Permit Provider shall ensure that the fire marshal is instructed. The fire marshal reports directly to the permit issuer.

4.2.1 Tasks of the fire marshal

- ensures that the work is limited to the object or area for which the permit has been issued
- supervises the working environment and monitors that working conditions remain safe
- checks that stairs and escape routes within the work zone remain free and accessible
- intervenes when changing conditions occur at the workplace or in the immediate vicinity, and if necessary have the work stopped
- takes the required actions in the event of a fire or other alarm situation
- tries to extinguish an incipient fire and/or warns the fire brigade via emergency number 9400 (for Balen or Pelt)
- Reports details to the licensing authority
- reports to the licensing authority
- continues to supervise for up to 30 minutes after the end of the work

4.2.2 Requirements for the fire marshal

The fire marshal must be familiar with:

- the regulations on fire-hazardous work;
- the properties of the dangerous substances in the workplace and its immediate surroundings;
- alarm signals and associated actions;
- method of calling for assistance;
- use of extinguishing equipment, which is indicated on the permit;
- the geographical environment (such as escape routes, fire alarm buttons);
- The fire marshal must be trained in the use of small fire extinguishers and second intervention means;
- Knowledge of risk analysis and control measures of specific task.