



## COMPANY HEALTH & SAFETY PROGRAM

Issue: A

**Title: Fire Protection and Prevention**

Section No: 15

Date: 4/20/2009

Authorized: *GDW*

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### **1.0 PURPOSE**

The purpose of this section is to provide fire protection and prevention procedures to help ensure the safety and health of our employees as well as others, and the protection of property.

### **2.0 SCOPE**

This section contains fire protection and prevention procedures required of PPP employees in typical job situations. Special requirements shall be implemented and communicated through site specific safety planning procedures.

### **3.0 INDEX TO SECTION**

- 1.0 Purpose
- 2.0 Scope
- 3.0 Index to Section
- 4.0 Fire Extinguishers
- 5.0 Flammable and Combustible Liquids
- 6.0 Liquefied Petroleum Gas
- 7.0 Oxygen and Acetylene Cylinder Storage and Handling
- 8.0 Overview

### **4.0 FIRE EXTINGUISHERS**

It is the intent of PPP to be in compliance with MIOSHA Construction Safety Standards Rule 1850, 1851 and 1852. The MIOSHA standards should be referred to for issues not addressed in the following general requirements for selection, inspection, testing and maintenance of portable fire extinguishers:

1. All portable fire extinguishers purchased by PPP shall be listed or approved by a recognized testing laboratory.
2. Fire extinguishers issued to jobsites shall be Class ABC unless specified otherwise by the customer/owner, host employer or a Job Safety Analysis.



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3. Prior to being issued to a jobsite, the PPP tool manager shall ensure that fire extinguishers have had the appropriate annual service/maintenance, and are properly tagged and ready for service.
4. The PPP project supervisor shall ensure that PPP jobsite fire extinguishers are inspected monthly for defects that could possibly affect their operation, and inspection tags are initialed and dated.
5. Employees shall inspect fire extinguishers, each time prior to positioning for possible use, to ensure that:
  - a. They are fully charged;
  - b. The activating lever lock-pin is in place;
  - c. There are no visible dents or defects in the tank; and
  - d. The hose, nozzle, gauge or other components are not damaged in any way.
6. Extinguishers that have been discharged, damaged or are in any way defective shall be removed from service and replaced.
7. The PPP project supervisor shall ensure that employees have had appropriate fire extinguisher training prior to assigning them to tasks where they may be responsible to use a fire extinguisher.
8. The PPP safety director shall ensure that "Fire Extinguishers" is the primary topic of a PPP Weekly Site Employee Safety Meeting a minimum of annually. Meeting agenda should include review of this section's 4.0 Fire Extinguishers and proper technique in the use of portable fire extinguishers.

## **5.0 FLAMMABLE AND COMBUSTIBLE LIQUIDS**

Flammable and combustible liquids that some PPP employees typically store, transport or transfer are gasoline and diesel fuel. The following requirements mainly address the storage and handling of gasoline and diesel fuel. MIOSHA Construction Safety Standards Rule 1862 thru Rule 1869 should be referred to for issues not addressed by the following general requirements:



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1. Only appropriately labeled safety cans listed or approved by a recognized testing laboratory shall be used for gasoline and diesel fuel in amounts of 5 gallons or less.
2. Portable fuel containers are to be placed on the ground during filling and the nozzle kept in contact with the container.
3. PPP employees responsible for ordering portable/temporary fuel dispensing tanks for jobsites shall contract to rent, from a reputable supplier, only approved dispensing systems that include a containment tank and grounding components.
4. Fuel dispensing systems shall be grounded.
5. An area where a flammable or combustible liquid is transferred at one time in a quantity of more than 5 gallons from one tank or container to another tank or container shall be separate from other operations or buildings by a distance of 25 feet or by a wall not less than 5 feet high having a fire resistance of not less than 1 hour.
6. Sources of ignition such as smoking, open flame, cutting and welding, frictional heat, sparks and heating equipment shall not be permitted within 25 feet in any direction of where an internal combustion engine is fueled or where a flammable or combustible liquid is dispensed.
7. Appropriate warning signs shall be posted at all storage and dispensing areas to be in compliance with Part 22 of MIOSHA Construction Safety Standards.
8. A 12-foot wide access way shall be maintained to permit the approach of fire control equipment at outside storage/dispensing areas.
9. Outside storage areas for flammable or combustible liquid shall be kept free of weeds, papers, debris and other combustibles.
10. At least 1 portable fire extinguisher that has a rating of not less than 20 BC units shall be located not less than 25 feet, nor more than 75 feet, from an outside fuel storage/dispensing area, and on each tank truck or other vehicle used to transport or dispense flammable or combustible liquids.



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11. Equipment/vehicle engines shall not be running while refueling.
12. A flammable or combustible liquid shall not occupy any area used as a means of egress.

## **6.0 LIQUEFIED PETROLEUM GAS**

It is the intent of PPP to be in compliance with MIOSHA Construction Safety Standards Rule 1871 thru Rule 1877. The PPP Plymouth, MI shop/warehouse facilities shall be in compliance with MIOSHA General Industry Standards Part 56.

PPP requires the following:

1. Storage of L.P. gas within buildings is prohibited.
2. Portable containers, whether full, partially full or empty, shall be stored within a suitable ventilated enclosure, protected against tampering and located in accordance with the following table:

Quantity of L.P. Gas Stored	Distance (feet) from a building
500 lbs or less	0
501 to 6,000 lbs.	10
6,001 to 10,000 lbs.	20
Over 10,000 lbs.	25

3. When an empty portable L.P.G. tank is replaced on a piece of equipment it should be taken to the storage rack immediately, not left in the work area until later.
4. Portable heaters, including salamanders, shall be equipped with an approved automatic device to shut off the flow of gas to the main burner, and pilot if used, in the event of flame failure. This provision does not apply to hand torches, melting pots or to portable heaters with less than 7,500 BTU's if used with 2 ½ pound containers.
5. A temporary heating device using L.P.G., other than an integral heater – container unit, shall be located not less than 6 feet from any L.P.G. container.



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**7.0 OXYGEN AND ACETYLENE CYLINDER STORAGE AND HANDLING**

It is the intent of PPP to be in compliance with MIOSHA Construction Safety Standards Rule 721, Rule 722 and Rule 723. When storing or handling oxygen and acetylene cylinders PPP requires the following:

1. An oxygen cylinder shall be stored not less than 20 feet away from fuel gas cylinders or any highly combustible material, such as, but not limited to, oil, grease, excelsior, flammable gas or a source of ignition, or shall be separated from the material by a noncombustible wall not less than 5 feet high which has a fire resistance rating of 1 hour.
2. A cylinder shall be stored away from any source of heat in excess of 125 degrees Fahrenheit.
3. A cylinder, whether full, partially full or empty when not in use shall have the valve closed and the cap connected in place if a cap is provided in the design.
4. Storage shall be set up to insure first in first out usage.
5. A cylinder storage area shall be posted with the names of the individual gases stocked.
6. An unlabeled cylinder shall not be used.
7. An empty cylinder shall be marked at the time of depletion.
8. The storage area for cylinders shall be well ventilated.
9. A cylinder shall not be stored in basements or pits.
10. A chain, bracket or other restraining device shall be used at all times to prevent cylinders from falling.
11. A cylinder shall stand valve end up at all times.
12. A cylinder shall not be dropped, dragged, rolled on its side or struck violently.



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13. When using a crane or hoisting device, a cylinder shall be lifted only by cradles or enclosed platforms. An electromagnet, hook, rope or sling shall not be used.
14. A cylinder shall not be placed where it will become a part of an electrical circuit by accidental grounding or where it may be burned by an electric welding arc.

## **8.0 OVERVIEW**

This section does not cover every aspect of fire prevention, but provides general requirements. More fire prevention measures are described in the procedures provided in this program's section entitled "Welding and Cutting".

The PPP safety director shall periodically designate parts of this section as a topic to be discussed at Weekly Site Employee Safety Meetings. Project supervisors shall have applicable parts of this section reviewed as a special topic of weekly safety meetings when the topic may be pertinent to their project.

## **REVISION HISTORY**

<b>Revision number</b>	<b>Description of change</b>	<b>Written by</b>	<b>Checked by</b>	<b>Effective date</b>
	Program reviewed and Revision History added		GMN	4/4/2014