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9.1.7.1 Requirements.

Legislation requires the STRPS to manage the risks associated with any hot work that takes place throughout the railway to ensure STRPS staff & volunteers as well as contractors do not sustain any injury and that STRPS property is not damaged because of this work.


Hot Work is defined as:

- Cutting and Welding.
- Grinding.
- Use of Abrasive Wheels.

9.1.7.2 Arrangements.

To minimise the risks associated with Hot Work being undertaken the following is required:

- Any STRPS volunteer employee carrying out hot work must be trained in the use of the equipment and their competency formally assessed and recorded.
- STRPS staff, volunteers, & contractors must not carry out hot work anywhere on the STRPS without the knowledge and approval of the DOM / Responsible Person.
- All hot work must be carried out in the Engineering Workshop (Shed 1) where possible. If this is not possible, any work in situ elsewhere on the railway is subject to strict controls.
- Areas where welding and cutting take place must be kept free of debris, and access routes maintained, with portable fire extinguishing equipment readily available at the work site.
- For Welding and Cutting, these are detailed in a site specific risk assessment which includes consideration of the health risks eg welding fume, arc-eye etc.
- All hot work is subject to a Hot Work Permit to Work.
- Routine inspection and maintenance are required for all welding and cutting equipment, together with pre-use checks by the operator.
- All gas cylinders are fitted with blowback preventers.
- A portable LEV unit is available for use as required.

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9.1.7.3 Arrangements for use of Abrasive Wheels.

- Wheels must be mounted by a trained and competent person who has been appointed in writing.
- The peripheral speed of the wheel must NEVER exceed that specified by the wheel manufacturer.
- Maximum working speed of machine spindle must be marked clearly on the machine.
- The guard must always be in position before starting. The work-rest must be adjusted as close as possible to the wheel.
- The wheel must be kept dressed and in good condition.
- Eye protection must always be worn.
- Excessive pressure must never be used on the work piece.
- Grinding on the side of the wheel is not allowed unless the wheel is designed for this purpose.
- Wheels must not be brought to rest by applying pressure to them.

9.1.7.4 Applicable Legislation.

Provision and Use of Work Equipment Regulations 1998 (PUWER 98).

Control of Substances Hazardous to Health Regulations 2002 (as amended).

The Workplace (Health, Safety, & Welfare Regulations 1992.

9.1.7.5 References.

HSG 17 Edition 3 2000 Safety in the use of abrasive wheels Revised in line with the Provision and Use of Work Equipment Regulations 1998 (PUWER 98).

INDG 297 Rev 1 05-2012 Safety in gas welding, cutting and similar processes.

INDG 314 Rev 1 05-2013 Hot work on small tanks and drums.

9.1.7.6 Documentation.

Hot Work Task Risk Assessments.

Equipment Inspection & Maintenance Records.

COSHH Risk Assessments.