SAFETY INFORMATION SHEET

WELDING

TO WHAT AND TO WHOM THIS SHEET PERTAINS

Technicians using welding equipment

RISKS OR CONSEQUENCES

Eye injuries, electrical shock, fire, burns, and respiratory problems

BEST PRACTICES, RULES & PROCEDURES

- At least two people are required: one to operate the welding equipment and the other to serve as a Fire Watch.
- Proper clothing and PPE (mask or hood, long sleeve shirt, long pants and hard shoes or leather protectors over soft shoes) must be worn for your protection.
- Prior to welding, inspect all equipment, protective clothing and hoods for damage.
- The person responsible for welding must prepare work area in the following way:
  1. Thoroughly sweep and vacuum. (This is especially important in the Scene Shop).
  2. Set up approved welding screens and warn others working nearby of potential danger to their vision.
  3. Have the Fire Watcher ready with appropriate fire extinguisher.
  4. Make sure the area is well ventilated. In the Scene Shop, turn on the exhaust fan.
  5. Make sure there is no water near welding operations.
  6. A Fire Watcher must actively look for spark fires during welding operations and must remain in the space, looking for fire, at least 1 hour after welding has ceased.
- Welder and Fire Watch should know where the emergency electrical cut-off switch is and how to use it.
- Welder and Fire Watch must be aware of the first-aid kit, fire extinguisher, and fire alarm pull box locations.
- See also the Safety Information Sheets entitled “PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT AND PROPER CLOTHING” and “Fire Safety”.

FOR FURTHER STUDY

The Essential Welder: Gas Metal Arc Welding Projects (Feb 23, 2000) by Richard Rowe

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