



Presented by: **Alliant**

## FIRE SAFETY

Fires are a serious risk for businesses of all types. Construction sites pose an increased risk of fire danger due to large quantities of combustible material, plastics, paneling, paints, gases, and refuse on site. Here's what to do to take the proper precautions to keep employees safe from fire hazards.

### Identify the Risks and Hazards

It is important to observe the following factors and to eliminate them whenever possible.

- Sources of ignition
- Naked flames
- Sparks, arcs and hot metal surfaces from welding and cutting
- Smoking habits
- Malfunctioning electrical equipment
- Friction generated from equipment
- Sources of finely divided fuels such as shavings, sawdust and kindling
- Flammable liquids and gases
- Paper, cardboard, trash and debris
- Packaging materials

### Smoking

Smoking should be prohibited on site. Large safety signs indicating "No Smoking" should be appropriately displayed.

- Dispose of flammable wastes and scraps by placing them in metal containers.

### Flammable/Combustible Storage

Store flammable and combustible liquids in areas that are:

- Well-ventilated to reduce vapor concentrations.
- Free of ignition sources.
- Cool (temperature controlled) and dry.
- Supplied with adequate firefighting and spill clean-up equipment.
- Away from elevators, building and room exits, or main aisles leading to exits.
- Accessible by firefighters.
- Labelled with suitable warning signs such as "No Smoking."

Avoid storing flammable and combustible liquids in basements. Ground floor storage is usually preferred as it provides easier access for emergency situations.

### Inspect Equipment Regularly

Proper maintenance procedures are important to fire safety.

- Inspect storage areas regularly for any deficiencies such as damaged or leaking containers, poor ventilation or non-approved equipment.
- Incorporate adequate fire watch procedures.
- Inspect electrical equipment and tools regularly to make sure that all are working correctly.
- Keep mechanical equipment properly lubricated to avoid excessive friction.
- Keep spark arrestors on exhaust system.
- Watch for frayed electrical cords and overloaded circuits.

### Preparing for a Fire

- Communicate all fire safety rules and procedures to all employees prior to start of work on site.
- Provide proper training in the location and use of fire protection equipment to employees.
- Develop a pre-fire plan with local fire department.
- Participate in periodic fire drills to practice fire response procedures.
- Install adequate fire protection devices.
- Implement site inspections.
- Instruct employees to report all potential fire hazards.

This flyer is for general informational purposes only, and is not intended as medical or legal advice.

To stay up to date on the latest COVID-19 information, frequently check the [OSHA](#) and [CDC](#) COVID-19 websites for updates. Check the Alliant [COVID-19 Resources page](#) for checklists, the latest webinars and COVID-19 briefings and updates.

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