



GUIDELINES OF THE SWEDISH FIRE PROTECTION ASSOCIATION

## The Safety Rules for hot work

SBF HA-001.04

*This version replaces previous editions*



**Brandskyddsföreningen**

## **Safety Rule 0 – Permits**

A person who intends to perform hot work at a temporary work site or have such work undertaken (for example the owner or user of a property, or a design-and-build/general contractor) must appoint a permit issuer in writing, who has to assess whether the work poses a fire hazard. If there is considered to be a fire hazard, hot work may be performed only on condition that the permit issuer

- issues permits for the work using the Swedish Fire Protection Association's form Permit/Checklist for Heta Arbeten® or equivalent, which must be completed in full,
- makes sure during the work that the safety rules below are being followed.

The permit issuer may delegate responsibility only if authorised in writing by the person who appointed him or her. The permit issuer must not carry out the hot work.

## **Safety Rule 1 – Authorisation**

The person who is to carry out hazardous hot work must have authorisation and experience of fire safety. The same applies to the person who is to act as fire-watcher. The authorisation training must be carried out according to the plan adopted by the insurance companies and the training committee for Heta Arbeten® of the Swedish Fire Protection Association.

The person who is appointed to regularly act as permit issuer must have equivalent expertise.

## **Safety Rule 2 – Fire-watcher**

A fire-watcher must be appointed and must be present at the work site, including during work breaks, during the time when the hot work is being performed and during the post-hot work fire-watch period, for at least one hour, or other time specified by the permit issuer in the permit.

The fire-watcher may not leave the worksite until there is no longer any risk of fire.

A fire-watcher is not required when the permit issuer considers it obvious that the work can be performed safely without a fire-watcher.

## **Safety Rule 3 – Flammable goods**

A permit for working in areas that contain or have contained flammable goods must be obtained from the person appointed as superintendent for the handling of such goods.

## **Safety Rule 4 – Clearing and wetting**

The work site must be

- cleared
- wetted if necessary.

## **Safety Rule 5 – Combustible material**

Combustible material in and near the work site must be either

- removed
- protected by covering, and/or
- screened off.

## **Safety Rule 6 – Concealed combustible structural elements**

Heat-conducting structures and concealed combustible structural elements must be inspected with regard to the fire hazard and, where a fire hazard has been identified,

- must be protected
- and made accessible for immediate fire-fighting.

## **Safety Rule 7 – Leakage points**

Gaps, holes, penetrations and other openings at and close to the work site must be

- sealed
- checked for fire hazards.

## **Safety Rule 8 – Fire-fighting appliances**

Approved, functioning and sufficient fire-fighting appliances must be available for immediate fire-fighting. This means a hose with water or two certified portable fire extinguishers with minimum rating 34A 233B C (at least 2 x 6 kg powder).

### **Required for roofing:**

A hose with water and two certified portable fire extinguishers with minimum rating 34A 233B C (at least 2 x 6 kg powder). Alternatively, three certified portable fire extinguishers with minimum rating 34A 233B C (at least 3 x 6 kg powder).

Roofing always requires rescue tools and searchlight torches to be available at the work site.

## **Safety Rule 9 – Welding equipment**

Welding equipment must be free from defects. Acetylene cylinders must be fitted with a flashback arrestor. Welding torches must be fitted with check valves for the fuel gas and oxygen. Protective gloves and a stop key must be available.

## **Safety Rule 10 – Raising the alarm**

It must be possible to alert the emergency services/fire brigade immediately. A working mobile phone must be available if a landline is not within reach.

The person whose duty it is to alert the emergency services must know the address of the work site.

## **Safety Rule 11 – Drying and heating**

During the drying or heating by burning gas, the flame must be enclosed so that it cannot cause ignition.

## **Safety Rule 12 – Drying of substrate and application of waterproofing**

During the drying of substrate and application of waterproofing, the materials may be heated to max. 300 °C.

## **Safety Rule 13 – Melting of bitumen**

For the melting of bitumen, the equipment must be set up, handled and supervised in accordance with the guidelines in the Swedish Fire Protection Association's safety rules for melting of bitumen for work on roofs and balconies.