DESIGNATED HOT WORK AREAS

INTRODUCTION
Hot Work is usually defined as any open flame, spark or heat producing activity and is typically associated with cutting, welding, grinding and brazing operations.

DESIGNATED HOT WORK AREAS
A designated hot work area is a permanent location designed for hot work. These areas do not require a daily permit to perform hot work.

A designated hot work area shall be:
- Non-combustible, fire-resistive construction, essentially free of combustibles and flammables
- The working surface for the use of the soldering and brazing activities should be of a non combustible material (i.e. Laboratory bench top, Duraboard, tile, etc)
- Suitably segregated from adjacent areas
- Equipped with fire extinguisher(s)
- Equipped with a heat detector rather than a smoke detector
- Equipped with mechanical ventilation to control smoke and fumes
- Inspected and approved by Facility Management and/or EHS

PROHIBITED HOT WORK AREAS/ACTIVITIES
Hot work may not be performed under the following circumstances:
- In areas not authorized by Facility Management and/or EH&S
- When the buildings with fire safety systems are impaired;
- In the presence of explosive atmospheres (mixtures of flammable gases, vapors, liquids or dusts in air);
- In the immediate area of combustible materials

INSPECT THE FOLLOWING/OPERATIONS PRIOR TO USE:
- All combustible materials, papers, notebooks and chemicals should be removed from the surrounding (35 foot clearance).
- Inspect the oxy-acetylene hoses for holes, pinched points, cracks, or any other defects and ensure that the hoses fits securely on the gas valve and the burner/torch.
- Hoses having any defects must be replaced before using.
- Loose clothing, long hairs or dangling jewelries should be tied at the time of using the burner.
- All other shop/lab personnel should be notified that the burner/torch will be in use.
- The open burner/torch should not be unattended.
- Always shut off the gas supply when done.
- If the oxy-acetylene is not going to be used for an extended period of time, remove regulators and secure cylinders with protective cylinder caps if equipped.