

Boston University Environmental Health & Safety



Plasma Cutter Awareness Reminder

Potential Hazards

► A plasma cutter can be hazardous when improperly used. Incidents could include electric shock, fire, or personal injury.

Solutions

▶ The following general precautions should be observed by plasma cutter users:

- ELECTRIC SHOCK May be fatal.
 - Install and earth the welding machine according to the applicable regulations.
 - Do not touch live electrical parts or electrodes with bare skin, gloves or wet clothing.
 - Isolate yourselves from both the earth and the workpiece.
 - Make sure your working position is safe.
- ► FUMES AND GASES May be hazardous to your health.
 - Keep your head away from fumes.
 - Work in the presence of adequate ventilation, and use ventilators around the arc to prevent gases from forming in the work area.
- ARC RAYS May injure the eyes and burn the skin.
 - Protect your eyes with welding masks fitted with filtered lenses, and protect your body with appropriate safety garments.
 - Protect others by installing adequate shields or curtains.
- ► RISK OF FIRE AND BURNS
 - Sparks (sprays) may cause fires and burn the skin; you should therefore make sure there are no flammable materials in the area, and wear appropriate protective garments.
- ► NOISE
 - This machine does not directly produce noise exceeding 80dB. The plasma cutting/welding procedure may produce noise levels beyond said limit; users must therefore implement all precautions required by law.
- ▶ PACEMAKERS
 - The magnetic fields created by high currents may affect the operation of pacemakers. Wearers of vital electronic equipment (pacemakers) should consult their physician before beginning any arc welding, cutting, gouging or spot welding operations.
- EXPLOSIONS
 - Do not weld in the vicinity of containers under pressure, or in the presence of explosive dust, gases or fumes.
- All cylinders and pressure regulators used in welding operations should be handled with care.

Proper Training on Safety Awarness for each piece of equipment should be documented in the Training Log

Environmental Health & Safety Charles River Campus: 353-4094 Medical Campus: 638-8830 Web: http://www.bu.edu/EHS

Plasma Cutter Awareness Training Record

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Student Name	BUID	Trainer Signature	<u>Date</u>
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