



Sanford Fire Department

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Hot Work Permit Requirements

The following document shall not be considered a permit. It is a simple guideline to be followed while conducting any work that shall be classified as “hot work”. A permit shall be obtained through the Sanford Fire Department before conducting any hot work.

2601.1 Restricted areas. Hot work shall only be conducted in areas designed or authorized for that purpose by the personnel responsible for a Hot Work Program. Hot work shall not be conducted in the following areas unless approval has been obtained from the code official:

1. Areas where the sprinkler system is impaired.
2. Areas where there exist the potential of an explosive atmosphere, such as locations where flammable gases, liquids, or vapors are present.
3. Areas with readily ignitable materials, such as storage of large quantities of bulk sulfur, baled paper, cotton, lint, dust, or loose combustible materials.
4. At other locations as specified by the code official.

Section 2604 Fire Safety Requirements

2604.1 Protection of combustibles. Protection of combustibles shall be in accordance with Sections 2604.1.1 through 2604.1.9.

2604.1.1 Combustibles. Hot work areas shall not contain combustibles or shall be provided with appropriate shielding to prevent sparks, slag or heat from igniting exposed combustibles.

2604.1.2 Openings. Openings or cracks in walls, floors, ducts or shafts within the hot work area shall be tightly covered to prevent the passage of sparks to adjacent combustible area, or shielded by metal fire-resistant guards, or curtains shall be provided to prevent passage of sparks or slag.

2604.1.3 Housekeeping. Floors shall be kept clean within the hot work area.

2604.1.4 Conveyor systems. Conveyor systems that are capable of carrying sparks to distant combustibles shall be shielded or shut down.

2604.1.5 Partitions. Partitions segregating hot work areas from other areas of the building shall be noncombustible. In fixed hot work areas, the partitions shall be securely connected to the floor such that no gap exists between the floor and the partition. Partitions shall prevent the passage of sparks, slag, and heat from the hot work area.

2604.1.6 Floors. Fixed hot work areas shall have floors with noncombustible surfaces.

2604.1.7 Precautions in hot work area. Hot work shall not be performed on containers or equipment that contains or has contained flammable liquids, gases or solids until the containers and equipment have been thoroughly cleaned, inerted or purged; except that “hot tapping” shall be permitted on tanks and pipe lines when such work is to be conducted by approved personnel.

2604.1.8 Sprinkler protection. Automatic sprinkler protection shall not be shut off while hot work is performed. Where hot work is performed close to automatic sprinklers, noncombustible barriers or damp cloth guards shall shield the individual sprinkler heads and shall be removed when the work is completed. If the work extends over several days, the shields shall be removed at

the end of each workday. The code official shall approve hot work where sprinkler protection is impaired.

2604.1.9 Fire detection systems. Approved special precautions shall be taken to avoid accidental operation of automatic fire detection systems.

2604.2 Fire watch. Fire watches shall be established and conducted in accordance with Section 2604.2.1 through 2604.2.6.

2604.4.2.1 When required. A fire watch shall be provided during hot work activities and shall continue for a minimum of 30 minutes after the conclusion of the work. The code official, or the responsible manager under a Hot Work Program, is authorized to extend the fire watch based on the hazards or work being performed.

Exceptions: Where the hot work area has no fire hazards or combustible exposures.

2604.2.2 Location. The fire watch shall include the entire hot work area. Hot work conducted in areas with vertical or horizontal fire exposures that are not observable by a single individual shall have additional personnel assigned to fire watches to ensure that exposed areas are monitored.

2604.2.3 Duties. Individuals designated to fire watch duty shall have fire-extinguisher equipment readily available and shall be trained in the use of such equipment. Individuals assigned to fire watch duty shall be responsible for extinguishing spot fires and communicating an alarm.

2604.2.4 Fire training. The individuals responsible for performing the hot work and individuals responsible for providing the fire watch shall be trained in the use of portable fire extinguishers.

2604.2.5 Fire Hoses. Where hoselines are required, they shall be connected, charged and ready for operation.

2604.2.6 Fire extinguisher. A minimum of one portable fire extinguisher complying with Section 906 and with a minimum 2-A:20-B:C rating shall be readily accessible within 30 feet of the location where hot work is performed.

2604.3 Area reviews. Before hot work is permitted and at least once per day while the permit is in effect, the area shall be inspected by the individual responsible for authorizing hot work operations to ensure that it is a fire safe area. Information shown on the permit shall be verified prior to signing the permit in accordance with Section 105.6.