

follow the instructions for use on the container label. If you have concerns, contact your supervisor and review the material safety data sheets to be certain no hazard exists to yourself, fellow employees or the public.

## **14.6 Welding**

- (a) Welding produces fumes from the metals being joined and the welding rods being used. In addition, radiation from the arc can damage the eyes, so appropriate goggles or a welding mask or hood shall always be used.
- (b) In the elevator industry, iron oxide fumes are the primary exposure encountered. The recommended exposure level is 5 mg/m<sup>3</sup> (even in industrial environments where welding operations are continuous this level is seldom exceeded). Overexposure can cause welding fume fever which causes flu-like symptoms. Welder's exposure is further reduced by the welding mask or hood.
- (c) In cases where welding is to be performed on painted surfaces, the paint shall first be removed, using your company's approved method, in case the paint contains lead, which can rapidly vaporize during the welding process. Adequate ventilation must always be provided. (See Section 13.)
- (d) A MSDS is required for welding rods.

## **14.7 Asbestos**

- (a) The term "asbestos" refers to a number of naturally occurring silicate materials. Asbestos in the forms of sprayed-on fireproofing, pipe insulation and acoustical plaster was used in commercial and residential buildings until the mid-to-late 1970s, when its use was banned.
- (b) The presence of asbestos-containing materials does not, in itself, present a health risk. Only when asbestos becomes airborne does it pose a potential hazard. Asbestos, con-