

Risk Assessment Guidance

Title Use & Storage of Gas Torch

This risk assessment guidance has been produced for handheld blow torches used on the site; this equipment may be used on stages and within workshops and requires a hot work permit to be issued by the designated person from the company.

When using this equipment good housekeeping should be implemented and a suitable fire extinguisher kept adjacent to where being used.

This equipment must not be used in explosive environments or adjacent to works which may present an explosive risk including fiber-glassing or paint spraying.



Hazard Identification	Person at risk	Controls
Unsafe use of handheld blowtorch.	<p>Person using the handheld torch.</p> <p>Pre-use checks.</p> <p>All employee's working in close vicinity.</p>	<p>Before operating this equipment, to avoid personal injury please carefully read and understand the instructions.</p> <p>Ensure the gas gun is in good working order, that the nozzle is securely fitted and that the control valve moves freely.</p> <p>If there is anything you do not understand, DO NOT proceed and speak to your supervisor for advice.</p>
Burns	Other persons within your working area and the person using the handheld torch.	<p>Always ensure the valve is closed and then open slightly before lighting, always check when re-lighting that the gas valve has been turned back down.</p> <p>Always light the gas torch facing away from you and clear of flammable items. Avoid using gas torches which do not have built in igniters.</p> <p>When you have finished using please ensure the torch is stored safely while cooling down, remain aware the torch will remain very hot for a period after use.</p>
Gas leaks	All employees working on the site.	<p>Ensure you are using the correct gas cylinders for the gas torch; also check they are tightened correctly before use.</p> <p>If there is any damage or rust to the gas cylinder do not use – replace and dispose of the used cylinder in the correct way.</p>
Hazardous substance	All employees working on the site.	Please ensure you have read the safety data sheet for the Propane Gas. (Safety Data Sheet) also be aware of what you are using the gas torch for as heating and burning materials can create fumes which may be hazardous to you and those working around you.
Fire	All employees working on the site.	<p>Always ensure the area you are working is free of flammable materials and that there is good housekeeping. Check the materials the gas torch will be used on or in the vicinity of.</p> <p>There must be a suitable fire extinguisher adjacent to where the gas torch is being used, the fire extinguisher must be tested and in date.</p>

Risk Assessment Guidance

		<p>All works must be carried out in accordance with the companies Hot Works Permit including a 2 hour fire check when works are completed.</p> <p>Fire risk assessment undertaken as required by law – see Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order 2005.</p> <p>After use ensure that the hot end does not come into contact with any combustible materials.</p>
Personal Protective Equipment	Unsuitable or damaged PPE.	<p>Whilst working on site suitable footwear, high-vis must be worn at all times.</p> <p>Depending on how the gas torch is being used and the activities additional PPE& RPE will be required.</p>
First Aid	All employees working on the site.	<p>Make sure you are aware of the first aid provisions in place at the event.</p> <p>All accidents & near misses must be reported to your Supervisor</p>

All persons working with this equipment or within close vicinity must sign and show that they have read and understood the risk assessment guidance and that they will follow the above control measures set out above during their work processes.

Additional Guidance	COSHH Assessment	Method Statement	Other (Specify)
	Material dependent	N/A	Hot Works Permit required
Name			
Signed			Date