

WELDING ARC FLASH SAFETY

IT CAN BE HARD TO KNOW WHEN YOU MIGHT BE AT RISK OF ARC FLASH. YOU DON'T HAVE TO BE THE INDIVIDUAL USING THE WELDER TO EXPERIENCE ARC FLASH, JUST BEING IN THE VICINITY OF SOMEONE WELDING CAN BE ENOUGH. FOLLOWING THESE RELATIVELY SIMPLE STEPS WILL PREVENT YOU FROM SUFFERING THE DISCOMFORT OF A WELDING ARC FLASH.

- AVOID AREAS WHERE ELECTRIC ARC WELDING IS BEING PERFORMED UNLESS YOU ABSOLUTELY HAVE TO BE THERE.
- CORDON OFF AREAS WHERE ARC WELDING IS TAKING PLACE TO KEEP EMPLOYEES OUT OF DANGER.
- IF PRACTICAL, USE WELDING CURTAINS OR OTHER TYPES OF SOLID SCREENS TO PREVENT OTHERS FROM BEING AFFECTED BY THE WELDING ARC FLASH.
- ALWAYS USE A HEAD-MOUNTED WELDING HELMET (PREFERABLY AUTO-DARKENING) WHEN WELDING.



BC Forest Safety

Safety is good business

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- 1) MOST ARC FLASHES HAPPEN TO EMPLOYEES WALKING BY WELDING ACTIVITY AND ARE NOT INVOLVED IN THE WELDING PROCESS. THE BEST WAY TO AVOID EXPOSURE TO AN ARC FLASH IN THE FIRST PLACE IS BY NOT BEING IN AREAS WHERE WELDING IS OCCURRING. COMMON AREAS OF WELDING ACTIVITY INCLUDE MAINTENANCE SHOPS AND EQUIPMENT DURING REPAIRS.**
- 2) CAUTION OR DO NOT ENTER TAPE CAN BE PUT UP DURING ARC WELDING ACTIVITIES TO EFFECTIVELY STOP EMPLOYEES FROM WALKING INTO A DANGER ZONE.**
- 3) WELDING CURTAINS OR SOLID SCREENS ARE THE BEST CONTROL TO PREVENT THE UV RADIATION FROM AFFECTING EMPLOYEES. PUT EXTRA SCREENS AND CURTAINS IN OPERATING AREAS SO THEY ARE CLOSE AT HAND.**
- 4) WHEN WELDING, THE WELDER SHOULD ALWAYS WEAR A WELDING HELMET, EVEN WHEN JUST TACKING MATERIAL, TO PROVIDE THE BEST PROTECTION. WELDING HELMETS PROVIDE THE BEST PROTECTION FROM THE ARC FLASH, PROVIDES FACE AND HEAD PROTECTION AGAINST DAMAGING UV RADIATION AND FLYING PARTICLES GENERATED IN THE WELDING PROCESS.**

QR CODE: CCOHS, WELDING – RADIATION AND THE EFFECTS ON EYES AND SKIN

