

MANUFACTURING SAFETY ALERT

Ask Yourself
“Could it happen here?”

DESCRIPTION OF EVENT

Worker’s Clothing Ignites **Notice of WSBC incident number:** **2016166950006**

A worker had been conducting an inspection of an industrial furnace; lying on their side, on the ground, facing the furnace. When they stood up, their coveralls ignited in the chest and stomach area, engulfing them in flames. The worker sustained serious injuries.



SUGGESTED ACTIONS

From the investigation

Cause:

The worker had flammable materials both on the front of their coveralls and concealed in the pockets of their coveralls, including an isobutane lighter and a welder’s striker, which when exposed to the furnace heat, ignited the flammable materials.

Contributing factors:

Multiple ignition sources were present, when the worker’s clothing ignited, including a spark generated by the isobutane lighter, a spark from the welder’s striker, a spark from the furnace, or thermal heat from the furnace.

MOST IMPORTANT TAKE AWAY

Ensure workers exposed to extreme heat, flames or hot work are protected with flame resistant coveralls. Do not carry flammables, ignition sources or isobutane lighters in your coveralls or pockets.

MAG
Manufacturing Advisory Group



BCFSC welcomes all incident or near-miss submissions. To protect your privacy, we will review and remove all identifying information.

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