FIRE PREVENTION

A Guide To Worksite Fire Safety

Fire can be one of the most devastating of all industrial emergencies. Each year, accidental fires in the workplace cost thousands of people their livelihoods—and, for thousands more—their lives. Perhaps the saddest fact of all is that most of these fires could have been prevented. By recognizing fire hazards and learning how to correct them, you can help prevent fires and save lives.
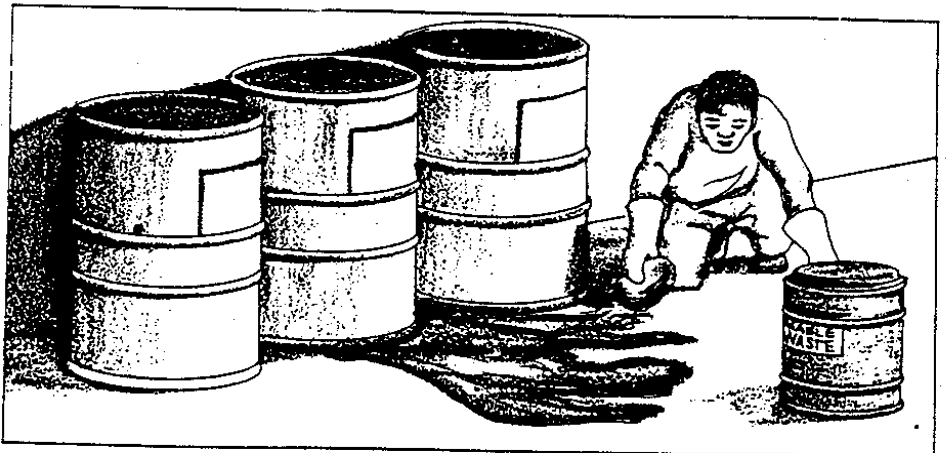
Recognizing Fire Hazards

Industrial fires can be caused by a variety of hazards including unprotected or faulty equipment, unsafe storage of combustible materials, inadequate ventilation, failure to follow established safety guidelines (such as smoking in restricted areas), inattention, human error, and arson. Fortunately, most of these fire hazards can be recognized (and corrected) by knowing your company's safety procedures and keeping alert to potentially dangerous situations.

Preventing Fire Hazards

You can help prevent fires at your worksite, by following these guidelines:

❑ Keep equipment and machinery clean and in good operating condition.

❑ Make sure that all electrical equipment is protected.

❑ Never overload circuits.

❑ Store flammable/combustible materials in appropriate containers away from heat sources.

❑ Keep work and refuse areas clean and free of debris.

❑ Dispose of flammables according to established safety guidelines.

❑ Never leave open flames unattended.

❑ Use caution when operating welding and other spark-producing equipment.

❑ Clean (if appropriate) or report all spills.

❑ Report suspicious persons to security or plant manager.

❑ Keep fire exits/escape routes clear and well-marked.

❑ Know where alarm boxes are located.

Following safety guidelines and recognizing potential hazards can help *you* prevent fires at your worksite.