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	STANDARD: **OSHA 29 CFR 1910.252 & NFPA 51B**	AUDIT FREQUENCY: **Per Shift / Prior to Hot Work Authorization**

Welding Hot Work Permit Safety Audit Checklist

Operational Scope: This audit checklist governs all welding, cutting, and brazing operations within manufacturing facilities to verify strict adherence to hot work permitting requirements. Its primary objective is mitigating fire and explosion hazards by enforcing mandatory pre-work inspections, continuous atmospheric monitoring, and adequate fire watch procedures.

MANDATORY PPE:	Welding Helmet with Auto-Darkening Filter (ANSI Z87.1), Flame-Retardant Leather Welding Jacket and Sleeves, Goatskin or Split-Cowhide TIG/MIG Welding Gloves, Metatarsal Safety Boots with Heat-Resistant Soles (ASTM F2413), Safety Glasses with Side Shields (ANSI Z87.1), Hearing Protection (Earplugs or Earmuffs NRR 25+)
PREREQUISITES:	Hot Work Permit physically signed and posted at the immediate job site. | Fire watch personnel designated, trained, and equipped with a charged fire extinguisher. | Atmospheric testing completed and documented to verify LEL is below 10%.

PERMIT AUTHORIZATION & AREA PREPARATION

#	COMPONENT / ITEM	VERIFICATION CRITERIA & ACCEPTANCE STANDARD	SEVERITY	STATUS
1	**Hot Work Permit Documentation**	Permit is fully completed, signed by the safety supervisor, valid for the correct shift/timeframe, and visibly posted at the work site.	**Critical (Immediate Out of Service)**	**[ ] PASS [ ] FAIL [ ] N/A**
2	**Combustible Material Removal**	All combustible materials, liquids, and dust within a 35-foot (11m) radius have been relocated or completely covered with certified fire-retardant blankets.	**Critical (Immediate Out of Service)**	**[ ] PASS [ ] FAIL [ ] N/A**
3	**Floor Openings & Wall Cracks**	All floor openings, wall cracks, and pipe penetrations within the hazard zone are tightly sealed with fire-resistant barriers to prevent spark migration.	**Warning**	**[ ] PASS [ ] FAIL [ ] N/A**

EQUIPMENT SAFETY & VENTILATION

#	COMPONENT / ITEM	VERIFICATION CRITERIA & ACCEPTANCE STANDARD	SEVERITY	STATUS
4	**Welding Cables & Electrode Holders**	Cables are free of frayed insulation, exposed wires, or improper splices within 10 feet of the holder; connectors are securely locked.	**Warning**	**[ ] PASS [ ] FAIL [ ] N/A**
5	**Compressed Gas Cylinders**	Cylinders are secured upright with chains, fitted with valve protection caps when not in use, and stored with a minimum 20-foot separation between oxygen and fuel gases.	**Critical (Immediate Out of Service)**	**[ ] PASS [ ] FAIL [ ] N/A**
6	**Local Exhaust Ventilation**	Portable or fixed extraction systems are operational, positioned properly to capture welding fumes, and discharging outside or through HEPA filtration.	**Critical (Immediate Out of Service)**	**[ ] PASS [ ] FAIL [ ] N/A**
7	**Flashback Arrestors & Regulators**	Approved flashback arrestors are installed at both the torch and regulator ends of fuel gas and oxygen supply lines; gauges show no pressure creep.	**Critical (Immediate Out of Service)**	**[ ] PASS [ ] FAIL [ ] N/A**

FIRE PROTECTION & POST-WORK MONITORING

#	COMPONENT / ITEM	VERIFICATION CRITERIA & ACCEPTANCE STANDARD	SEVERITY	STATUS
8	**Fire Extinguisher Readiness**	A minimum 20-BC rated dry chemical fire extinguisher is inspected, fully charged, unblocked, and located within 30 feet of the active hot work zone.	**Critical (Immediate Out of Service)**	**[ ] PASS [ ] FAIL [ ] N/A**
9	**Fire Watch Assignment**	Dedicated fire watch personnel are present, trained in alarm activation and extinguisher operation, and have no other concurrent duties.	**Critical (Immediate Out of Service)**	**[ ] PASS [ ] FAIL [ ] N/A**
10	**Post-Work Fire Watch Duration**	Provisions are established to maintain continuous fire watch monitoring for a minimum of 60 minutes following the cessation of hot work operations.	**Warning**	**[ ] PASS [ ] FAIL [ ] N/A**

Certified Inspector / Lead Operator Signature: _____	**Date / Time:** _____	**Badge / Cert #:** _____
Site Safety Supervisor / Operations Manager Sign-off: _____	**Review Date:** _____	**Audit Status:** [ ] Approved [ ] Rectify

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