

“JOBSITE SAFETY” ~ ILLUSTRATED SERIES

AN OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY & HEALTH TRAINING SERIES FOR HIGH HAZARD INDUSTRIES

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FIRE SAFETY

Large loss building fires are not new to the fire service. The US Fire Administration has identified six causes of construction site fires. To understand the types of incidents that are likely to occur, the following causes should be considered:

- Hot Work
- Smoking
- Heating devices
- Electrical malfunctions
- Cooking fires
- Criminal activity and vandalism



Fires during construction can be even more damaging than a fire occurring in a completed building. This is due to several factors, including but not limited to: fire sprinkler systems might not be fully installed; fire alarms might not yet be installed; adequate fire rated enclosures may not have been provided yet; and fire rated building divisions may not be present. All these features are designed into a building to function once they are occupied.



A fire extinguisher, rated not less than 2A, shall be provided for each 3,000 square feet of the floor area, or fraction thereof. Where the floor area is less than 3,000 square feet at least one extinguisher shall be provided. Travel distance from any point of the protected area to the nearest fire extinguisher shall not exceed 75 feet.

At least one fire extinguisher rated not less than 2A, shall be provided on each floor. In multi-story buildings, at least one fire extinguisher shall be located adjacent to the stairway at each floor level.

