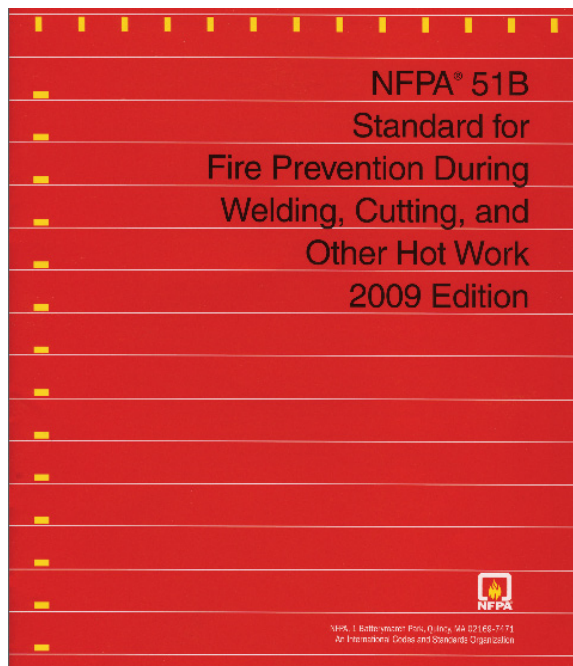


The Importance of Using Rated and Approved Fire Protection Fabrics

The NFPA 51B 2009 Edition includes a new requirement for listed and/or approved welding blankets, pads, and curtains. Included here are two important changes pertaining to the proper use of hot work fabrics: 1) Hot Work Permitting and 2) 35-Foot (11m) Rule.



NFPA 51B 2009 is Recognized Hot Work Standard

NFPA 51B 2009 is now the hot work protocol referenced by both government and private industry groups:

Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA)
Department of Energy (DOE)
American Petroleum Institute (API)
American Welding Society (AWS)

CA Adopts NFPA 51B 2009 Standard

The State of California updated its fire prevention and suppression procedures and methods requirements to incorporate the 2009 edition of NFPA 51B. The use of listed and/or FM approved (third-party certified) welding blankets, pads and curtains is now a requirement throughout the State of California.

From NFPA 51B 2009 Edition - Hot Work Permit

HOT WORK PERMIT	
Seek an alternative/safer method if possible!	
Before initiating hot work, ensure precautions are in place as required by NFPA 51B and ANSI Z49.1. Make sure an appropriate fire extinguisher is readily available.	
This Hot Work Permit is required for any operation involving open flame or producing heat and/or sparks. This work includes, but is not limited to, welding, brazing, cutting, grinding, soldering, thawing pipe, torch-applied roofing, or chemical welding.	
Date _____	Hot work by <input type="checkbox"/> employee <input type="checkbox"/> contractor *
Location/Building and floor _____	Name (print) and signature of person doing hot work _____
Work to be done _____	I verify that the above location has been examined, the precautions marked on the checklist below have been taken, and permission is granted for this work.
Time started _____ Time completed _____	Name (print) and signature of permit-authorizing individual (PAI) _____
THIS PERMIT IS GOOD FOR ONE DAY ONLY	
<input type="checkbox"/> Available sprinklers, hose streams, and extinguishers are in service and operable. <input type="checkbox"/> Hot work equipment is in good working condition in accordance with manufacturer's specifications. <input type="checkbox"/> Special permission obtained to conduct hot work on metal vessels or piping lined with rubber or plastic.	
Requirements within 35 ft (11 m) of hot work ** :	
<input type="checkbox"/> Flammable liquid, dust, lint, and oily deposits removed. <input type="checkbox"/> Explosive atmosphere in area eliminated. <input type="checkbox"/> Floors swept clean and trash removed. <input type="checkbox"/> Combustible floors wet down or covered with damp sand or fire-resistive/noncombustible materials or equivalent. <input type="checkbox"/> Personnel protected from electrical shock when floors are wet. <input type="checkbox"/> Other combustible storage material removed or covered with listed or approved materials (welding pads, blankets, or curtains; fire-resistive tarpaulins), metal shields, or noncombustible materials. <input type="checkbox"/> All wall and floor openings covered. <input type="checkbox"/> Ducts and conveyors that might carry sparks to distant combustible material covered, protected, or shut down.	
Requirements for hot work on walls, ceilings, or roofs	
<input type="checkbox"/> Construction is noncombustible and without combustible coverings or insulation. <input type="checkbox"/> Combustible material on other side of walls, ceilings, or roofs is moved away.	
Requirements for hot work on enclosed equipment	
<input type="checkbox"/> Enclosed equipment is cleaned of all combustibles. <input type="checkbox"/> Containers are purged of flammable liquid/vapor. <input type="checkbox"/> Pressurized vessels, piping, and equipment removed from service, isolated, and vented.	
Requirements for hot work fire watch and fire monitoring	
<input type="checkbox"/> Fire watch is provided during and for a minimum of 30 min. after hot work, including any break activity. <input type="checkbox"/> Fire watch is provided with suitable extinguishers and, where practical, a charged small hose. <input type="checkbox"/> Fire watch is trained in use of equipment and in sounding alarm. <input type="checkbox"/> Fire watch can be required in adjoining areas, above and below. <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No Per the PAI/fire watch, monitoring of hot work area has been extended beyond the 30 min.	
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NFPA 51B	

*AMI Note: According to NFPA 51B regarding contractor responsibility: Before starting any hot work, contractors and their clients shall discuss the planned project completely, including the type of hot work to be conducted and the hazards in the area.

**AMI Note: Bullet #6 under "Requirements within 35 ft (11 m) of hot work" is a requirement that listed or approved materials be used.

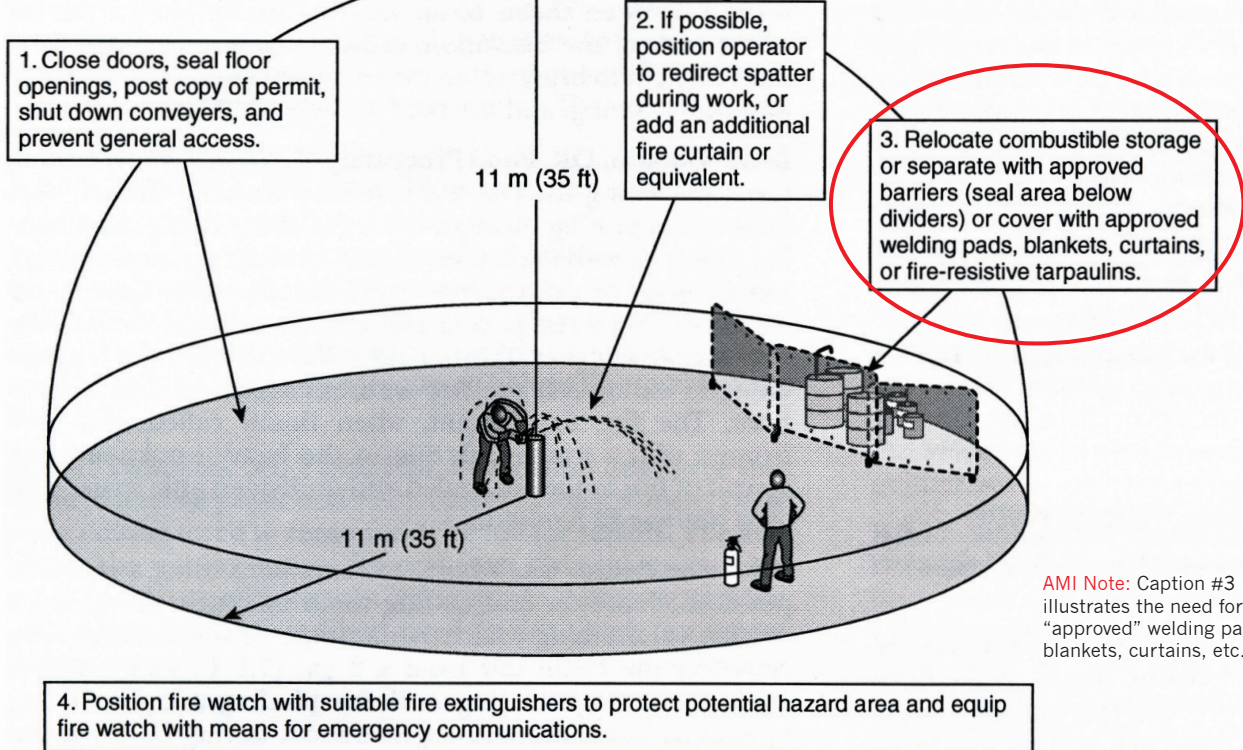
**When Safety is Critical, Trust Auburn Manufacturing Inc.,
the Leader in Fire Protection Fabrics**

First to have its hot work fabrics FM Approved to ANSI/FM 4950, the first performance-based standard for hot work fabrics — all made in USA.

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The Importance of Using Rated and Approved Fire Protection Fabrics

The 35-Foot Rule



AMI Note: Caption #3 illustrates the need for "approved" welding pads, blankets, curtains, etc.

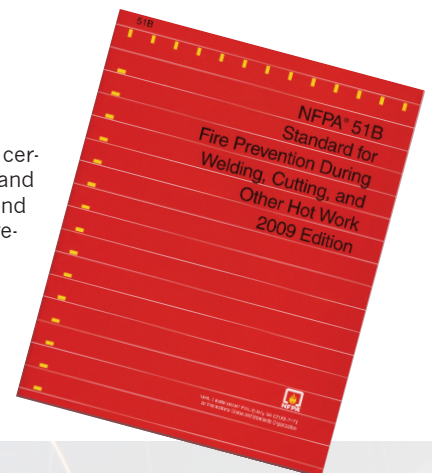
Requirement for Listed and/or Approved Welding Materials

NFPA 51B 2009 requires that welding curtains, blankets and pads be "Listed or Approved" (third-party certified) to ANSI/FM 4950. ANSI/FM 4950 is a new standard that tests and rates fabrics based on severity of use.

AMI's Suggested Wording for Updating Hot Work Policies to Incorporate NFPA 51B 2009 Requirements

"In accordance with NFPA 51B 2009 we require that all hot work safety fabrics be approved or listed by a certifying body using test procedures detailed in ANSI/FM 4950: Evaluating Welding Pads, Welding Blankets and Welding Curtains for Hot work Operations. In addition, hot work fabrics shall have the FM Approved mark and rating printed on the fabric in addition to "Uses and Limitations" labels, as per the certifying body's requirements."

A copy of NFPA 51B: Standard for Fire Prevention During Welding, Cutting, and Other Hot Work, 2009 Edition can be purchased by visiting: www.nfpa.org



Auburn Manufacturing, Inc.'s FM Approved hot work fabrics are all made in the USA – another reason to trust the safest name in extreme temperature textiles.